

February 18



The Washington ProStart Invitational

The Washington ProStart Invitational® is the country's premier secondary school competition focused on restaurant management and culinary arts. Annually, student competitors put their skills to the test in front of industry leaders, NRAEF Trustees, state hospitality associations, and family and friends - all with hopes of earning a coveted scholarship from one of the nation's premier culinary and restaurant management programs.

How the Competition Works

The Washington ProStart Invitational is the finale of high school competitions hosted by Washington Hospitality. For each respective competition – culinary or management – students must impress judges from leading industry corporations, colleges, and universities with skills they've developed through ProStart.

Competition Rewards

The top five teams from the culinary and management competitions are awarded generous educational scholarships to help further their careers in the restaurant and foodservice industry. In 2016, more than \$1.4 million in scholarships was awarded to students by the NRAEF and leading academic institutions.

The ProStart Invitational is composed of two distinct competitions – management and culinary – that showcase the most important skills needed on either side of the restaurant and foodservice industry.

Management

Management teams develop a proposal for the next promising restaurant concept and present it to a panel of industry judges. Next, their problem solving skills are tested as they quickly solve challenges faced by managers daily.

Culinary

The culinary competition highlights each team's creative abilities through the preparation of a three-course meal in 60 minutes, using only two butane burners, and without access to running water or electricity. There is no room for error as they are evaluated on taste, skill, teamwork, safety and sanitation.

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Invitational

