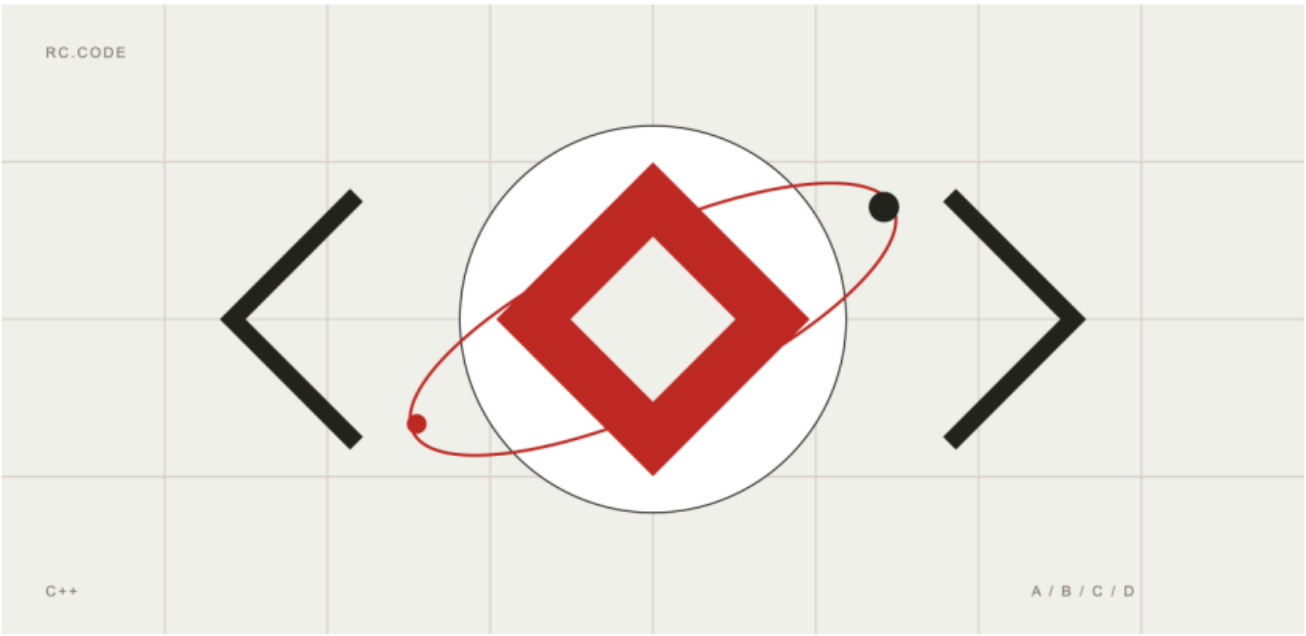
RC.CODE / C++

C++

Competition Rules

Groups A, B, C and D · Version 3



RC.CODE World Programming Competition · 1 October 2026
Revised · 18 November 2026

Event codes

RCCA	RC.CODE C++ Group A
RCCB	RC.CODE C++ Group B
RCCC	RC.CODE C++ Group C
RCCD	RC.CODE C++ Group D

C++ Competition Rules

Event codes: RCCA (Group A), RCCB (Group B), RCCC (Group C), RCCD (Group D)

These rules apply to the online preliminary rounds and online final of the C++ event in RC.CODE World Online.

Competitors enter individually. Competitors in China enter the preliminary rounds and qualify under the China notice. Competitors from other countries and regions may register directly for the online final through the official registration system, or contact RC.CODE to learn about local arrangements.

1 Eligibility

Group	Maximum age on the reference date
C++ · Group A	10 years
C++ · Group B	12 years
C++ · Group C	15 years
C++ · Group D	18 years

Age is the age in completed years on 1 September of the year in which the season begins. This date applies throughout the season. Younger competitors may enter an older group. Competitors must register under their real identities. They may enter only one group per language in a given session and may not enter the same event through more than one institution. They may compete in different languages, but qualification cannot be transferred between languages or groups.

2 Contest format and scoring

All groups have 90 minutes to complete the entire paper. The maximum raw score is 400 points.

Question type	Number	Raw points
Single-answer multiple choice	5	20 per question; 100 in total
Programming tasks	5	300 in total

Programming tasks 1 to 5 are worth 40, 40, 60, 60 and 100 points respectively. Each multiple-choice question has one correct answer. A correct answer earns 20 points. An incorrect or blank answer earns zero, with no deduction. Programming tasks are scored against the criteria or test groups stated in each task. Partial credit is available up to the maximum for that task.

C++ programs must read input and produce output as specified in the problem statement. They are evaluated in the designated environment. Follow the explicit requirements in each problem statement for data ranges, output format, error tolerances and any required algorithm. Equivalent implementations that meet those requirements can earn credit.

The C++ Competition Syllabus (Official Version 3) defines the topics covered. Before the contest, complete identity verification and check that you can log in, edit, run, save and submit.

3 Answering and submitting

Choose either module to start. You must finish and submit it before opening the other module. Once you submit a module, you cannot reopen or change it. Within an open module, you may switch questions and may edit, run, save or submit individual programming tasks. You may still revise them until you submit the module. The timer continues while you read, run or debug.

Before submitting a module, check that your answers and projects have been saved and uploaded successfully. You may submit a module with unanswered questions. Each question is scored on the version the platform has received when you submit the module.

An earlier, higher score does not replace it. An answer received with the module is scored even if you did not submit it individually.

Submitting both modules completes the paper. You cannot change or resubmit it. Check the platform for the submission ID and confirmation of success for the entire paper. When time expires, the platform submits the paper automatically.

Submitted modules stay locked. For all other answers it uses the latest version received in full before the deadline.

4 Results, qualification and awards

RC.CODE uses equating, a method used in internationally recognised examinations, to report results on a scale of 200 to 800. There is no single publicly available conversion formula. Equating makes scores comparable across sessions and test versions within the same programming language and group.

Eligible competitors with valid results are ranked by their official scaled scores. Rankings, qualification and awards are calculated separately for each language, group and session. Percentages use the number registered at the registration deadline.

The number of places is rounded up. Competitors tied at a cutoff all qualify or receive the same award, as applicable.

One online preliminary round is held each month in China. The top 60% in each session qualify independently. Competitors who have already qualified may enter again. They count towards that session’s total and are scored and ranked as usual. Their qualifying places do not pass to other competitors. In the final, the award cutoffs below are cumulative. Each competitor receives only the highest award for which they qualify.

Final award	Cumulative cutoff
Gold	Top 3%
Silver	Top 10%
Bronze	Top 20%
First Prize	Top 40%
Second Prize	Top 70%
Third Prize	All other eligible competitors with valid results

5 Contest conduct

Work independently. Impersonation, plagiarism, sharing questions or answers, consulting outside materials, using communication tools, generative AI or remote assistance, disrupting others, and damaging equipment are prohibited. Switch off communication and photography devices and store them as the test centre directs. External storage devices, software and programming platforms require authorisation.

Confirmed cheating, including impersonation or plagiarism, voids the result for that session and any qualification or award earned from it. Serious disruption or repeated violations may result in the competitor being stopped from continuing. If action affects other sessions or eligibility, the organising committee will explain the facts and grounds in writing. Tell an invigilator before leaving your seat, or if you feel unwell or need equipment support.

Staff may not solve problems or edit programs for competitors.

6 Public notices and rule revisions

The season notice on the official website sets out season dates, sessions, registration, admission and late-arrival requirements, and exact deadlines. Rule corrections are announced centrally and specify the version and the scope of the correction.