

What is the IChO?

General

The International Chemistry Olympiads (IChO) are competitions in which students from secondary education schools measure their performance when working on theoretical and experimental tasks from the field of chemistry. With this competition, the international relations are promoted through the field of school chemistry. Moreover, a comparison of certain aspects of school knowledge is made possible in the individual states. The International Chemistry Olympiads also serve the purpose of forming personal relationships between budding natural scientists from different countries. Each participating country sends a team, consisting of four adolescents. German teams have been taking part in these school competitions since 1974.

The preparatory and selection process in Germany

With an offer of tasks and two seminars, especially interested and able students are requested to become involved with new issues which go beyond the context of school chemistry. The procedure comprises four steps. The selection and preparation for the IChO itself is an interesting and motivating experience for the participants.

Prizes and Promotion

The fourth round of the competition is also considered a selection procedure for the study Foundation of the German People. Additionally there are also opportunities for research projects at home and abroad as well as money prizes. The Chemistry Olympiad is fostered by former participants. They founded Förderverein (activities: Publisher of the magazine "Fascination Chemistry", promoter of State seminars and students' competitions on the secondary level and offers of internships in firms and research institutes).