

Second Annual Boulder Flatirons Rotary Four Way Test Speech Contest

Date: April 2027- TBD

Boulder Public Library Main Branch, 1001 Arapahoe Ave. Boulder, CO
Eldorado Room



The Registration Deadline is March 15th. Registration is limited to the first 15 students.

1. What is the Rotary Four Way Test speech contest for high school students?

Students give a 5 to 7 minute speech that illustrates Rotary International's Four Way Test and how it applies to their lives, activities, goals, and/or interests.

The purpose of the speech is to address an ethical issue using the principles of Rotary International's Four Way Test. Students are challenged to identify a topic about which they feel passionate and to adopt a point of view from which they will seek to persuade others. The subject matter should be from the speaker's personal experience or general knowledge. There are no restrictions regarding the choice of topic as long as it is not blatantly offensive.

Each question in the Four-Way Test should be addressed during the speech. Each section should be specifically stated, as the intent of the speech is to use the 4 Way Test to resolve an ethical issue. Each section could be used to prove either a positive or negative point.

2. Why should I participate?

Our world is in a state of change. People talk about ethics, yet little time is spent applying them in a thoughtful way. The more opportunities we take to do this, the easier and better our decisions become. This is an opportunity that allows you to critically examine ethical principles

and apply them during a transitional time in your life. You will develop your thinking as well as public speaking skills, and have the opportunity to win scholarship money.

3. Who can participate?

Boulder County High School Students

4. What if I would like to participate, but am nervous or need support?

Rotary mentors, who are not part of the judging committee, are available for drop in speech development support at the Boulder Public Library Main Branch. Feel free to stop by between 4:30 and 7:00 on **(dates will be available once they are scheduled for 2026-2027 contest)** for help on developing your ideas, crafting your speech, practicing it in front of a group, or anything else you may need.

5. How am I judged?

Contestants' speeches will be scored on content of speeches and presentation skills including eye contact, enthusiasm and volume control. Students will receive a copy of the rubric and will be scored by a team of judges. AI is NOT to be used in speeches. We recommend that you not use note cards during your speech.

6. Who judges?

A panel of members of the Boulder Flatirons Rotary Club will judge the students at the Club competition on **April __, 2027 (Official Date TBD)**.

7. What is the deadline to sign up for this competition, and how do I sign up?

Registration is limited to the FIRST 15 who register. Registration deadline is March 15, 2027. Fill out the registration form at <https://forms.gle/QoZqPn3xH1zEQ27a6>

8. What is Rotary International?

Rotary is a service organization that works to make the world the best place it can be. By completing service projects locally and all over the world, Rotary exemplifies Service Above Self. Some of Rotary International's projects include efforts for disease prevention and treatment; polio eradication, peacebuilding and conflict prevention, improve water/sanitation/hygiene, expansion of quality health care, facilitate community economic development, improving basic education and literacy, and supporting the environment.

9. How do I get more information about the competition?

Contact the Speech Contest Committee at boulderflatironsrotaryclub@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!