



# 2021 Rules for the Biz Bee

1. Each team will consist of three members. All three members must be employees of the participating company or members of the organization. A business may choose to sponsor a team from a nonprofit or educational agency. Exceptions must be brought to the Biz Bee Committee for review.
2. Team members will be identified as 1, 2, 3; the designated speller will rotate. Team member #1 will be the designated speller in the first round; team member #2 will be the designated speller the second round; team member #3 will be the designated speller the third round, etc. Team members can collaborate and use paper to write words down.
3. Words used in the Biz Bee will be selected from the 2015 Webster's Third New International Dictionary. Study guides are available online at [www.myspellit.com](http://www.myspellit.com).
4. The pronouncer will pronounce the word, give the definition of the word, the MC will use it in a sentence, and the pronouncer will pronounce the word once more.
5. Team members may ask for one additional pronunciation of the word, but no more. Team members may ask for the language of origin.
6. Team members may collaborate on the spelling of the word. The designated speller must begin spelling within 20 seconds, and completely spell the word in 60 seconds.
7. If a team does not know how to spell the word, it may either *\*(a) remove the word from circulation and get a new one (each team has the opportunity to throw out three words during the evening: \$100 the first time, \$200 the second time and \$300 the third time), or \*(b) pass the word to another designated team and get a new word for the cost of \$50. Only one pass can be purchased per team. The decision to pass or throw out a word must be made prior to any attempt to spell the word.*

*\*One free \$50.00 word-pass will be awarded to the team with the best decorated supporter table. There will be a team drawn out of a hat for a \$50 word pass.*

8. Having started to spell a word, the designated speller may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning, but in the retracing, there can be no changes of letters in the sequence from the first spelling. If letters, or their sequence, are changed in the respelling, the team will be eliminated.
9. Upon missing the spelling of a word, the team immediately drops out of the competition. However, during the first round only, upon missing a word, a team may buy back into the competition for \$100. This entitles them to compete in the second round.
10. When the teams are reduced to two, the elimination procedure changes. At that point, when one team misspells a word, the other team shall be given an opportunity to spell that same word. If the second team spells that word correctly, plus the next word on the pronouncer's list, that team shall be declared the winner.
11. If one of the last two teams misspells a word and the other team, after correcting the error, misspells the new word, then the misspelled new word shall be referred to the first team. If that team succeeds in correcting the error and then correctly spells the next word on the pronouncer's list, that team shall be declared the winner.
12. If both teams misspell the same word, both shall continue in the contest, and the team that first misspelled the word shall be given a new word to spell. The competition shall then continue under rules 11 and 12. *\*This rule only applies to the final two teams. The third place team at no point re-enters the contest after misspelling.*
13. Any question relating to the spelling of a word shall be referred to the judges immediately. The deadline for making a protest is before the team affected would have received their next word had they stayed in the competition. When only two teams remain, a protest must be made immediately before the second team has started to spell the word given them, or if both have missed the same word, before the correct spelling is announced to the audience.
14. No "passes" or word "throw outs" may be used during the final rounds, when only two teams remain.
15. The judges are in complete control of the Biz Bee. Their decisions shall be final on all questions.
16. A \$2,000 donation to Literacy Council of Alaska will be assessed on any team having or using a printed or electronic dictionary during the spelling competition.

Thanks for supporting Literacy Council of Alaska!  
The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Biz Bee is generously co-sponsored by:

