

Cane Quest Contest Rules



Explorers & Trailblazers

The contest will be held on December 10, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Oklahoma School for the Blind in Muskogee, OK. All contestants will receive a certificate of participation and a commemorative t-shirt. The winner for each contest age group and vision acuity level will receive prizes.

OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES:

1. Cane Quest is open to legally blind students in grades 7-12 who have received appropriate instruction in the use of the white cane, and who are both cognitively and physically able to walk independently for up to an hour at a time. To be eligible, a student's visual acuity must fall within the B1 through B2 classification range as defined by the United States Association of Blind Athletes.

-**Class B1** – No light perception in either eye up to light perception, but inability to recognize the shape of a hand at any distance or in any direction.

-**Class B2** – From ability to recognize the shape of a hand up to visual acuity of 20/600 and/or a visual field of less than 5 degrees in the best eye with the best practical eye correction.

2. Students must use a white cane for this contest, and must wear closed-toe shoes. We also recommend bringing water, sunscreen and a hat, or rain gear, depending on weather.
3. Cane Quest will be held rain or shine, but will be postponed or cancelled due to lightning.
4. Students will be divided into groups based on age and will rotate together through route(s). Each student is assigned a unique contestant number to wear while en-route for scorekeepers to refer to. At the end of the day, scores will be tallied for both Explorer groups (7-9th graders) and both groups of Trailblazers (10-12th graders). B1 and B2 contestants in the same age group will follow the same route, but will earn prizes separately based on their acuity. Students may elect to not do all routes.
5. Prizes will be awarded according to both age and visual acuity.
6. Explorers will a route that includes residential, light business and mall. Trailblazers will do a route that includes residential, business, bus and mall travel.
7. Students will be monitored throughout the route by certified orientation and mobility specialists and shadowed at all times by trained volunteers. Additional staff and volunteers also will be available on all routes to call for any needed assistance. Students are not required to be proficient at all skills and are encouraged to participate to build their skills. At any time during the contest, they may seek assistance if they are not confident performing a task.
8. Students may signal to request assistance at any time by turning their cane upside down. When given assistance, they earn no points for that skill. If a student feels they are unable to complete a route, they should turn their cane upside down and ask to be escorted back to the Center. They may not attempt that route again.

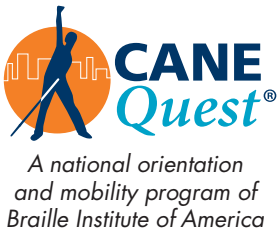
9. If a student goes off-route, they will first be allowed to self-correct or problem solve. If a student goes more than 10 feet off course, or appears indecisive on a direction for more than one minute, an O&M or their shadow will intervene as necessary.
10. If a student needs assistance at an intersection, the O&M will instruct the shadow to escort the student safely across. No points would be awarded for that crossing.
11. Cane Quest is not a race. Start times for each stage will be staggered five minutes apart so students may go at their own pace. If a student is unable to complete a route within 10 minutes after the maximum time allotted, they will be escorted back to the Center to ensure they are able to start on time. No points will be awarded for stations missed.
12. If a contestant is being held back by a slow walker in front of them, their shadow will indicate to the other shadow that the contestant needs to pass.
13. All routes will be located in the community surrounding the **Oklahoma School for the Blind** campus. Routes may include, but not be limited to, features such as finding a commercial storefront, using stairs, navigating various types of intersections and using an elevator or escalator.
14. If appropriate, the bus travel stage will be simulated by the **Oklahoma School for the Blind**. Additional spotters will be assigned to each bus to ensure students are monitored at all times. Students will not board city buses during this contest.
15. All judging is performed by certified O&M specialists. Three or more specialists will be stationed along each route, and each will be provided with a checklist of skills to be evaluated. Specialists will rank each contestant's performance on a scale of 1-4, according to specific definitions outlined in their scorer's training session. If a student does not perform a task or misses a station, it will be marked as "NP" for "not performed" and no score is earned.

One to four points are earned in the following ways:

- For how well a contestant independently uses proper travel techniques and procedures
- For how well a contestant independently uses appropriate self-advocacy skills
- For how well a student answers questions or performs tasks during the "checkpoint" stage of the route.

If a student's safety is at all endangered through no fault of their own and are assisted by their shadow or O&M specialist, points are still awarded based on skill level.





2015 PARENT PERMISSION FORM Explorers & Trailblazers



DUE DATE: OCTOBER 30, 2015

SUBMIT THIS COMPLETED PERMISSION FORM TO:

Oklahoma School for the Blind, 3300 Gibson St, Muskogee, OK 74403, Attn: Sherry Holder

Cane Quest seeks to motivate blind and visually impaired youth to practice proper safe travel techniques and overall orientation and mobility skills. It's designed to promote a student's confidence in any surrounding and build true mobility independence.

The Contest will be held at Oklahoma School for the Blind on December 10, 2015.

All contestants will receive a certificate of participation. The winner for each contest age group and vision acuity level will be awarded prizes.

CONTEST DESCRIPTION:

1. Cane Quest, a program developed by Braille Institute, is open to visually impaired students in grades 7-12 who have received appropriate instruction in the use of the white cane, and who are both cognitively and physically able to walk independently for an hour at a time. A student should be familiar with the skills on the enclosed checklist, but does not have to have mastered all of them.
2. A student's visual acuity must fall within the B1 through B2 classification range as defined by the United States Association of Blind Athletes.
 - **Class B1** - No light perception in either eye up to light perception, but inability to recognize the shape of a hand at any distance or in any direction.
 - **Class B2** - From ability to recognize the shape of a hand up to visual acuity of 20/600 and/or a visual field of less than 5 degrees in the best eye with the best practical eye correction.
3. Students must use a white cane for this contest, and must wear closed-toe shoes.
4. Cane Quest will be held rain or shine, but will be postponed or cancelled due to lightning.
5. Students will compete in one of four groups:

Explorers	Trail Blazers
• B1; grades 7-9	• B1; grades 10-12
• B2; grades 7-9	• B2; grades 10-12
6. Students will be monitored throughout the route by certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists and assisted one-on-one by trained volunteers.
7. The route will include two basic environments: residential and light business or business.
8. All routes will be located in the community surrounding **Oklahoma School for the Blind**. Routes may include, but not be limited to, features such as finding a commercial storefront, using stairs, and navigating various types of intersections.
9. Points are earned for accurately completing each stage using proper travel techniques and procedures within the assigned time slot.
10. All judging is performed by certified O&M specialists.

Student's Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____ Unit/Apt. No. _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Explorers & Trailblazers

Name of School _____

Name of School District _____

Student's Age _____ Student's Grade _____ Student's T-Shirt Size (circle one) Adult S M L XL XXL
Youth S M L

O&M Specialist's Name _____

A separate skills checklist must be completed by your child's Orientation & Mobility Specialist to validate skill level and visual acuity.

PHOTOGRAPH, EDITORIAL AND RECORDING RELEASE

I hereby authorize Oklahoma School for the Blind ("OSB") and Braille Institute of America, Inc. ("BIA") to photograph, videotape, or otherwise record by visual, audio, electronic or manual means, the visual likeness and/or voice or other sounds created by the above named contestant (collectively "Reproductions"). OSB and BIA may use or permit to be used the Reproductions in any CD, DVD, exhibition, display, publication, solicitation or promotional or educational material or on any website including without limitation OSB and BIA's website, Facebook, or YouTube without compensation to the contestant, the contestant's heirs, successors or assigns.

LIABILITY RELEASE

As the parent or guardian of _____ ("Minor"), I hereby give permission for the Minor to participate in Cane Quest ("Event"), sponsored by OSB, to be held on December 10, 2015.

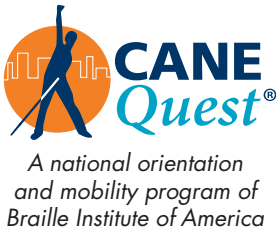
1. I know the Event is an orientation and mobility competition taking place on public streets. I believe the Minor to be qualified and physically fit to participate in the Event.
2. I fully understand that: (a) the activities of the Event, including but not limited to, walking along public thoroughfares, crossing streets, and accessing stairs, involve certain risks and dangers which may result in serious bodily injury, including permanent disability, paralysis or even death ("Risks"); (b) these Risks and dangers may be caused by the Minor's own actions or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the Event or non-participant motorists, the conditions of streets and highways, the routes selected for the travel, the rules of the Event, and/or the negligence of the "Releasees" named below; (c) there may be other risks not known to me or that are not readily foreseeable at this time; (d) the social and economic losses and/or damages that could result from those Risks could be severe and could permanently alter the Minor's future.
3. I consent to the Minor's participation in the Event and hereby accept and assume all such Risks, known and unknown, and assume all responsibility for any losses, costs and/or damages following such injury, disability, paralysis or death, even if caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the Releasees named below.
4. On behalf of the Minor and me and our respective personal representatives, heirs and assigns, I hereby release, discharge and covenant not to sue OSB and BIA, its officers, directors, employees, members, Event participants and volunteers, sponsors, promoters or advertisers, owners and lessees of the premises and vehicles used to conduct the Event, orientation and mobility specialists, consultants and other persons or entities who give recommendations, directions, or instructions regarding the premises or Event, and all of the directors, officers, agents, and employees of the foregoing (all collectively referred to as "Releasees") from and for all liability, claims, demands, losses, injuries or damages arising from the Event or related travel, including, but not limited to, emotional distress, property damage and medical expenses, caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the Releasees or otherwise.

I have read this Release, and understand that by signing it, I give up substantial rights I and/or the Minor would otherwise have to sue or recover damages for losses occasioned by the Releasees' fault. I sign this release voluntarily.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Print Name



2015 CONTEST APPLICATION FORM Explorers & Trailblazers



DUE DATE: OCTOBER 30, 2015

ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY SPECIALISTS, TO SUBMIT A STUDENT APPLICATION

Complete this skills checklist and attach a signed and completed Parents' Permission Form and submit to: Oklahoma School for the Blind, 3300 Gibson St, Muskogee, OK 74403, Attn: Sherry Holder

Cane Quest seeks to motivate blind and visually impaired youth to practice proper safe travel techniques and overall orientation and mobility skills. It's designed to promote a student's confidence in any surrounding and build true mobility independence. **This form must be completed by an Orientation & Mobility Specialist** to validate the student's skill level and visual acuity. A separate form must also be signed by a parent or legal guardian for a student to participate.

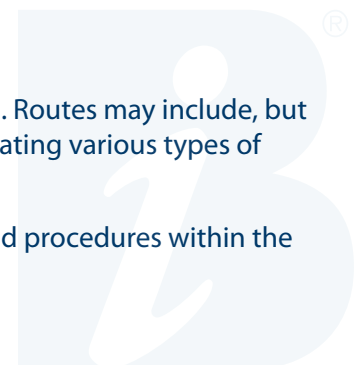
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10. All judging is performed by certified O&M specialists.



CONTESTANT'S NAME: _____

Student Name _____

O&M Specialist's Name _____

Specialist's Address _____

Specialist's Telephone _____ Specialist's E-mail _____

Name of School _____

Name of School District _____

Student's Age _____ Student's Grade _____ Vision Classification: B1 _____ B2 _____

SKILLS CHECKLIST FOR CANE QUEST

This checklist is to be completed by a certified Orientation & Mobility Specialist. Each of the following skills should be assessed on a scale of 1-4, with 1 representing poor and 4 representing excellent, and based on average expectations for a student at grade level. Students are not required to be proficient in all skills to participate. Contestants are encouraged to seek assistance at any time during the contest if they are not confident performing any task. All skills apply to all eligible students in grades 7-12 grade, except where specified for Trailblazers only.

Please circle one:

Protective Techniques	1	2	3	4
Dropped Objects	1	2	3	4
Sighted Guide Techniques	1	2	3	4
Cardinal Directions	1	2	3	4
Care of the Cane	1	2	3	4

CANE TECHNIQUES

Two Touch Technique	1	2	3	4
Touch and Drag Technique	1	2	3	4
Shoreline/Guideline Technique	1	2	3	4
Three-point Touch Technique	1	2	3	4
Constant Contact Technique	1	2	3	4
Diagonal Technique	1	2	3	4

RESIDENTIAL TRAVEL

Travel a variety of specified routes	1	2	3	4
Reversing routes	1	2	3	4
Travel around a rectangular block	1	2	3	4
Cross residential streets	1	2	3	4
Cross 4 way stops	1	2	3	4
Cross in a clockwise direction	1	2	3	4



CONTESTANT'S NAME: _____

Cross in a counter-clockwise direction	1	2	3	4
Systematically relocate sidewalk	1	2	3	4
Reposition self on sidewalk and continue walking in desired direction	1	2	3	4
Use self correction techniques	1	2	3	4
Use appropriate cane techniques for moving around obstacles	1	2	3	4
Execute a route using directional instructions	1	2	3	4
Follow audio directions	1	2	3	4
Use landmarks for orientation	1	2	3	4

LIGHT BUSINESS and BUSINESS TRAVEL

Identify street layouts	1	2	3	4
Traffic patterns	1	2	3	4
Types of intersections	1	2	3	4
Cross at accessible signals	1	2	3	4
Cross signal intersections parallel to a major street	1	2	3	4
Identify the available sensory cues	1	2	3	4
Use appropriate cane techniques for negotiating obstacles	1	2	3	4
Solicit assistance for the purpose of orientation or making transactions	1	2	3	4
Locate a specified business	1	2	3	4
Locate, approach stairs both going up and going down, descend and ascend safely with appropriate cane skills	1	2	3	4

Trailblazers Only (grade 10-12)

Bus Travel Skills	1	2	3	4
Cross major signal intersections with left turn signals	1	2	3	4

Student's Signature: _____

Orientation and Mobility Specialist's Name: _____

Orientation and Mobility Specialist's Signature: _____

Date: _____

