

Vertical Three Conference & CTS Ministry Expo Statement on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Vertical Three Conference is actively following the growing concern about the coronavirus (COVID-19) as it relates to our upcoming Vertical Three Conference and CTS Ministry Expo in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma this summer in July. **Since our conference is months away, everything is proceeding as originally planned.**

However, we recognize that state competitions fall within the eight-week window of time when large public meetings are being discouraged. To alleviate the uncertainty regarding state competitions, the 2020 CTS Ministry Expo will be open to multiple entries in all categories from each state. In effect, every participant at the state competition can advance to the national. Recognition of finalists during the awards ceremony will still be limited to one entry per category, per age group from a state, or the top two entries in Bible events.

All competition entries and fees must still be submitted through the State CTS program. So individual contestants need to comply by the state deadlines for entry registration. State CTS leaders must forward the registration forms and fees to the Vertical Three office by the week after the state competition registration deadline. (Do not wait until June 1.) We need the additional time to work out any logistical challenges related to the competition schedule. Entries that typically go directly to the national (e.g., TruthQuest, Creative Writing, etc.) must still be submitted to Randall House before June 1.

In the coming weeks and months, we will continue to monitor and reevaluate the information available to us, making any necessary adjustments in partnership with the Executive Office of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.