



2021 Team Policy Debate Intent of the Resolution

CCA develops its Team Policy Debate Resolution with the expectation that debates conducted under it will address the specific policy area covered by the selected topic. The language of the resolution has been crafted to make clear the intent of the CCA Debate Rules Committee as to what are, and what are not, acceptable grounds for debate. In an attempt to clarify the intent of the resolution, refine student research, and avoid confusion and the disappointment of losing topicality rulings, this letter of clarification is provided.

The CCA Team Policy Debate Resolution for the 2021 tournament season is as follows:

Resolved, The United States Federal Government Should Reform the United States Postal Service.

The Constitution of the United States provides for Congress the power to “establish post offices and post roads” in Article I, Section 8, Clause 7. Today, the United States Postal Service (USPS) is an independent establishment of the federal government that operates thousands of retail locations and is required to provide prompt, reliable, and efficient services to the public. For many decades, strong opinions about the mission, responsibilities, oversight, management, and operations of the USPS as an exercise of this power have been a constant fixture in our national political debate.

Judge Instructions:

Judges will be instructed in the following manner regarding topicality:

The affirmative team must satisfy the following regarding **topicality**. (Whether or not the plan’s reforms succeed is a question of solvency, significance, or inherency.)

- ***The United States Federal Government***
- ***attempt to reform***
- ***The United States Postal Service***

The affirmative case must satisfy these points to be a topical case. If the affirmative case does not satisfy these points, it is not topical. The affirmative team should enter the round prepared to show how and why their case fulfills the resolution. In the event of a topicality challenge, the affirmative must *convince the judge* that their case is topical. It is not enough that you believe it to be so.

Special note:

Debaters are encouraged to study closely the “*Policy Debate Criteria & Competitor Standards*” regarding the terms “Extra Topicality” and “Effects Topicality” to ensure that they apply these terms and the competition criteria described in this document appropriately as needed.