ROUNDING INSTRUCTIONS

University of Houston Math Contest 2026

In all contest exams except SmackDown, the answer is a fill-in-the-blank format.

- If a question is multiple choice, just choose the best answer and type 1 for A, 2 for B, 3 for C, 4 for D, 5 for E, or 6 for F. No rounding rules are needed unless indicated in the question.
- If a question is NOT multiple choice, rounding is required as indicated below. Sample answers are given in the chart.
  - Answers must be rounded to the nearest ten-thousandth (four places after the decimal point).
  - If five or more digits are submitted after the decimal point, the answer will be marked wrong even if it is mathematically equivalent to the correct answer.
  - Trailing zeros after the decimal are implied up to the ten-thousandth place, which allows for shortcuts for integers and some decimals.
  - Acceptable characters are the digits 0 through 9, the decimal point, and the negative sign. Do not type anything else. (Units appropriate to the question will be implied in your answer.)

If the solution is:	**The following answer(s) will be accepted:**
8	8 8.0 8.00 8.000 8.0000
$\frac{1}{2}=0.5$	0.5 0.50 0.500 0.5000 .5 .50 .500 .5000
$-\frac{1}{3}=-0.333333333\ldots$	-0.3333 -.3333
$\frac{7}{9}=0.777777777\ldots$	0.7778 .7778
$7\pi=21.991148575\ldots$	21.9911 (See notes below chart.)
$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}}=1.224744871\ldots$	1.2247 (See notes below chart.)
$\frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{3}}=1.290994448\ldots$	1.2910 1.291 (1.291 is accepted since trailing zeros are implied after the decimal.)

- **Do NOT round prior to obtaining the final result, as this may result in an incorrect answer.**
  Two such examples are shown below.
  - For $7\pi=21.991148575\ldots$
    The correct rounding to the nearest ten-thousandth is 21.9911. Do not first round π to 3.1416 and then multiply by 7; you obtain 21.9912, which would be counted as incorrect.
  - For $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}}=1.224744871\ldots$
    The correct rounding to the nearest ten-thousandth is 1.2247. Do not round each square root before dividing.
    $\frac{1.7321}{1.4142}\approx 1.224791401\ldots$; this rounds to 1.2248 and would be counted as incorrect.

Additional contest information can be found at https://mathcontest.uh.edu.