***Sample Announcement***

***To***

***High School Chemistry Teachers***

Dear Colleague,

As chair of the **(Section Name)** Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS), I am pleased to announce that we will be participating in the 2021 U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad (USNCO). The primary goals of this program are to stimulate interest and achievement in chemistry among high school students throughout the United States and to provide recognition of outstanding young chemistry students, teachers, and schools.

My immediate task is to encourage you and your students to participate in this program. It is the responsibility of the **(Section Name)** section to nominate students from this area to take the USNCO national examination. In order to identify these students, we have decided to conduct a preliminary screening of students through **(Describe local process)**.

The national exam involves three parts administered to more than 1,000 students. Students can use past exams available at [www.acs.org/olympiad](http://www.acs.org/olympiad) to prepare.

I encourage your school to participate in this academic competition. All students who participate will be recognized and presented with a certificate; approximately 150 top scoring students receive recognition for outstanding performance at the national level. We hope this recognition will serve to stimulate interest in chemistry and to promote a positive attitude toward chemistry. (**Describe additional awards or recognition given by your Local Section**)

Students competing in the USNCO are eligible to be selected as members of the United States team for the International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO). For the past thirty-seven years, the United States has sent a team of four students to compete with nations around the world at the IChO. The students participate in both theoretical and laboratory examinations over several days. Gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded to the best performers, and the IChO provides students the opportunity to interact with their peers from other countries. This year the international event will be held in Osaka, Japan, July 24-August 2 2021.

**(Section Coordinator name)** has been appointed the USNCO Coordinator for this area. We encourage you to enter students from your school in this competition by completing and returning the enclosed registration form before **(Date)**. Thank you for helping promote chemical education in this country.

Sincerely,

Chair, **(Section Name)** Local Section, ACS

**(Be sure to list a contact name, address, and phone number)**