KATY, TX (KTRK) -- Some local students are competing against some of the brightest young minds in the United States.

Fifteen students from Beckendorf Junior High in Katy are heading off to Illinois for the National Science Olympiad competition on Saturday. They will compete against 60 teams from around the country in a variety of science tests in lab settings, engineering events, even a crime-solving scenario in which they use their skills to solve a crime.

It's the first time a Houston area team has ever gone to the national competition.

We'll have more on this team of talented students in a live report on Eyewitness News at 4pm.

(Copyright ©2010 KTRK-TV/DT. All Rights Reserved.)