



# America's Top Young Innovators Competition

## Official Rules

1. Participants aged 10-18 years from any country can participate in the America's Top Young Innovators.
2. Incomplete, illegible, and forged applications will not be accepted.
3. Entries that are sent through unauthorized sources or which are altered, reproduced, or fraudulent in any way will be automatically made void without any intimation.
4. The organizers – 'Top Young Innovators' and 'DiscoverSTEM' reserve the right to select or reject any participating entries without assigning any reasons.
5. Participating individuals/teams shall preserve the confidentiality of information and communication shared by the organizer and shall not use or publish it further for any other purpose.
6. Participating individuals/teams are advised not to wait till the last day to submit their entries. The organizers will not be held responsible for non-receipt of submissions occurring due to server downtimes.
7. Participating individuals/teams shall avoid sharing any proprietary information through their entries. The organizers will not be responsible in case of any patent rights violations if the innovation is still awaiting patent rights or is in the process of patent filing.
8. By submitting their entries, participants confirm that their idea is original and is not copyrighted by any other individual or company. Participating individuals/teams also confirm that there are no violations of any existing copyright or any other third-party rights, including but not limited to copyrights, patents, trademarks, trade secrets, or any other proprietary rights or any material of an obscene, indecent, libelous or otherwise unlawful nature and does not infringe the rights of others.
9. Participants will need to maintain all the detailed supporting documents or media files related to their idea.
- 10. We strongly recommend you file a provisional or non-provisional patent application before submitting your entry to protect your innovations. Once submitted, your innovations are shared with judges for evaluation and will be made public. We assume no liabilities of any kind whatsoever if you submit your idea or innovation without filing for the patent application. If you need support in filing a patent application, please contact us.**
11. Participating individuals/teams are solely responsible for the accuracy and originality of any information provided by them in their submissions. Further, the participants understand that any violation will lead to instant disqualification, without any intimation to the participants.
12. The organizers have the right, without any intimation or limitation, to publish the information provided in the submissions on promotional collaterals, including but not limited to websites, emailers, or other publications; without any payment or remunerations, except where prohibited by law.



13. The organizers reserve the right in their sole discretion to amend the proposed schedule and/or format of the contest and the broadcast of the final event. If any of the amendments are done, the updated schedule and revised format will be informed to the participants.
14. The organizers have the right to postpone or cancel the competition or amend the rules, and dates of the competition at any given time. The organizers shall have no liability whatsoever for any loss or inconvenience caused to any participant due to any amendments, modifications, postponement, or cancellation of the competition.
15. Participating individuals/teams will maintain all the detailed supporting documents or media files of their ideas and solutions at all the stages of the competitions for reference, promotional, or record purposes. Judges and organizers of the competition have the right to review the documentation at any given time of the competition.
16. Any decision taken by the organizers on any aspect at any given point of time of the challenge will be considered final and binding to all the participants, without any reservations.
17. The Participating individuals/teams shall indemnify and keep indemnified organizers against any claim raised by any party regarding the submission made by the participants. The participants shall be liable to indemnify the organizers for all costs and expenses they may have to incur against such claims.

## **Fee Waiver Eligibility**

Any participant seeking a fee waiver must meet the eligibility criteria. The participant's parents or guardians (having a family of four) with a total annual income of USD 36,000 or less will be considered for a fee waiver. They must submit supporting documents like Income Verification Documents, Tax Returns, Employment Documents, Social Security Benefits Statement and other related documents to process their fee waiver application.

## **Additional Entry Requirement:**

Do not include any branded products, trademarks, or logos in the entry video, other than trademarks or logos owned by Sponsor or Promotional Partner. Entries that contain a trademark or logo or promote any brand or product other than those belonging to Sponsor or Promotional Partner may be disqualified at the Sponsor's sole discretion; however, the Sponsor may choose not to disqualify an Entry Video that includes a trademark or logo if the Sponsor determines in its sole discretion that the inclusion of such trademark or logo is incidental. A student may be asked to sign an affidavit stating that he/she was not paid a fee, either monetary or in-kind, to promote an included trademark, logo, or branded product. Entry Videos must not defame, misrepresent or contain disparaging remarks about Sponsor or its products, Promotional Partner or its products, or other people, products, or companies. Entry Videos must not invade the privacy or publicity rights of any person, living or deceased, or otherwise infringe upon a person's personal or proprietary rights.



## Disputes / Governing Law:

Except where prohibited, Participants agree that: (a) any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Contest, or any prizes awarded, or the determination of winners, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, and exclusively by the regional court; (b) any and all claims, judgments and awards shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, including costs associated with entering this Contest and in no event will Participants be permitted to obtain attorneys' fees or other legal costs; (c) under no circumstances will Participants be permitted to obtain awards for and Participants hereby waive all rights to claim punitive, incidental and consequential damages and any other damages, other than for actual out-of-pocket expenses, and any and all rights to have damages multiplied or otherwise increased; and (d) Participants' remedies are limited to a claim for money damages (if any) and Participants irrevocably waive any right to seek injunctive or equitable relief.

All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation, and enforceability of these Official Rules, the rights, and obligations of Participants, or the rights and obligations of the Releasees in connection with the Contest, shall be governed by, and construed by the regional laws.

## General Safety Guidelines:

These recommendations are for your general understanding and should not be used in place of expert counsel or common sense. Make sure to conduct in-depth research on your scientific notion.

1. Do extensive research on the scientific topic to comprehend any associated risks.
2. Human blood or bodily fluids, animals, live ammunition, weapons, explosives, dangerous plants, or radioactive material are all prohibited.
3. Body parts should not be put in jeopardy. Avoid looking at the sun, infrared, or UV sources directly.
4. Avoid tasting any non-food items as well as food items that may have been contaminated.
5. Put on protective attire before giving your presentation (such as gloves, eye protection, an apron, ear protection, etc.).
6. Keep quantities of hazardous materials to a minimum, and always have waste containers for the disposal of such materials.
7. Adhere to all local fire and safety laws and ordinances; exercise caution when heating any type of material; and keep a fire extinguisher on hand at all times.
8. Inspect each motor carefully to ensure that all of the components are solid and that the safety nuts are attached tightly.
9. Always confirm whether particular demonstration components call for you to acquire state and/or municipal licenses. Always get the required licenses before starting your demonstration.
10. Always run through your demonstration before you record it.
11. The National Science Teachers Associations' safety recommendations can be found at: <http://static.nsta.org/pdfs/ScienceActivitySafetyChecklist.pdf>