



## Rules and Requirements

### Eligibility

- Any full-time student enrolled in a U.S. college or university is eligible to enter. A full-time student is anyone who has been enrolled full time between June 2019 and June 2020.
- In the case of a team, at least one member of the team must be enrolled as a full-time student. The remaining team members must be enrolled as full-time or part-time students. A part-time student is anyone who has been enrolled part time between June 2019 and June 2020.
- Non-U.S. citizens are eligible as long as they are enrolled in a U.S. college or university and can meet the student eligibility status.
- Entries are ineligible if the invention (1) has already been patented or disclosed by another party/inventor, or (2) you have been issued a patent for the invention more than one year prior to the date of submission to the competition.

### Application

The application consists of: General student and adviser/professional reference information, an essay including a brief description or abstract of the invention, a letter of recommendation from the faculty adviser/professional reference, a literature/patent search and summary, and any relevant supporting or supplemental materials you wish to submit (examples: charts, graphs, videos, articles, samples, etc.). The entry must be written in English.

Each entry must be the original idea and work of the student or student/adviser team and must not have been (1) made available to the public as a commercial product or process, or (2) patented or published more than one year prior to June 2020.

The invention must be a reduced-to-practice idea or working model and must be the work of a student or team of students, either as a class project or an independent project. The invention must be capable of being reproduced.



**Adviser/Professional Reference**

If you do not have an adviser, you must designate an individual to serve in the capacity of an adviser/professional reference for purposes of the competition. That person must submit a letter on your behalf. Your adviser may be a counselor, faculty member or professional connection who knows you and with whom you feel comfortable describing your invention/research.

**Public Disclosure**

Entering the Collegiate Inventors Competition® does not require you to make any “enabling” disclosures; that is, we do not ask you to give us information that would allow a person of ordinary skill to duplicate your invention. As such, we do not view your entry as a public disclosure. In addition, all individuals reviewing your entries are bound by nondisclosure agreements that require them to keep the details confidential. The National Inventors Hall of Fame® only uses the titles and very short descriptions of the inventions for publicity purposes.

**For more information about eligibility requirements, contact [collegiate@invent.org](mailto:collegiate@invent.org).**



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