



Capital District

Invention Convention

Submission Directions

Entering

Students submit a disclosure form that includes a written description of the invention and a diagram. Please use the Invention Convention **online** disclosure form, which can be accessed from the Capital District Invention Convention website at <http://www.misci.org/events/invention-convention/>

Please use the 2017 online forms! If you use forms from a previous year it will be rejected. Sample disclosures from previous competition years are available online.

Research and Design

This stage is most important in the competition process. If you are new to the competition or would like to enhance the project, please schedule a classroom visit by a local patent professional or a practicing scientists/engineer. These volunteers from the community will share their perspective on careers that relate to inventing, and will also explore the process of invention with students.

To schedule a classroom visit contact:

Lou Mazzone
GE Global Research
518-387-7283
mazzone@ge.com

Please have your students ***thoroughly research their idea to determine if the invention is already patented or being sold on the market***, as the judges will be doing the same on their end. Inventors **must** represent, in the eyes of the judges, a significant improvement over the current product.

Important things to remember!

- **Student teams are not allowed.** Each student should submit his/her own disclosure. Team entries will be disqualified.
- Please make clear to your students the judging criteria used to determine semifinalists and the top 25 inventors. Please see the rubric that you may use in your classroom to assist with this project. You may download this online at <http://www.misci.org/events/invention-convention/>

Judging Criteria

- **Overall Impression**
 - **Creativity...** Does the invention show imaginative problem solving?
 - **Originality...** Does the invention provide a novel solution?
 - **Complexity...** Does the invention show significant depth and attention to detail?
 - **Innovation...** Is this a pioneering invention or a significant improvement?
- **Presentation**
 - **Statement of problem...** How well was the problem stated?
 - **Statement of solution...** How well does the solution address the problem statement?
 - **Schematic Diagram...** How effective was the diagram in illustrating the idea?
- **Invention Relevance**
 - **Impact...** How significant is the problem being solved?
 - **Practicality...** Could this invention be made into a working device?
 - **Contribution...** Does the invention solve a problem of importance to others?

Inspire your students to be unique! ***Please review the submissions to make sure inventions are not duplicates of other student work before they are submitted.***

Entry Forms

The next step is to ask students to complete the online submission forms. ***Forms are due by March 10th***, submit early to avoid any issues!

Stage 1 Judging

At this stage of the competition, students do not need to actually build the invention to enter, but should describe it as completely as possible in their disclosure.

Students enter by Division:

- Edison for grades K-2
- Steinmetz for grades 3-5
- Coolidge for grades 6-8

The first round of judging will occur in early March. At this time entries will be narrowed down based on the judging criteria.

Announcement of Semifinalists

Late March-Early April

Teachers, students and parents will be notified of semifinalists in their school. Students can then begin work on their model.

Student models will be dropped off at miSci on **April 23, 2017 (1 to 4 p.m.)** or **April 24, 2017 (3 to 7 p.m.)**

Stage 2 Judging

Early May

In Stage 2, judges will consider how closely the model reflects the original diagram and will select the top 25 finalists, who will be announced at the May 18, 2017 Invention Convention ceremony. One hundred semifinalists will be selected to build models of their inventions, for display at miSci from **May 5 – May 17, 2017**.

Invention Convention Ceremony

A reception honoring the semifinalists will be held at the miSci on **May 18, 2017 (5:30 to 7:00 p.m.)**. At that time, 25 students will be announced as finalists.

Invention Convention 2017 Schedule:

March 10, 2017 - Deadline for submitting online invention disclosure forms at:

<http://www.misci.org/events/invention-convention/>

March 2017 – Regional Semifinalists are selected.

April 23, 2017 (1 to 4 p.m.) or **April 24, 2017 (3 to 7 p.m.)** – Models are dropped off at miSci

May 6 – May 18, 2017 – Models are displayed at miSci

May 18, 2017 (5:30 to 7:00 p.m.) – Awards Ceremony and Reception

Need more information?

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