

| Competition Name | Host Organization | Theme, Subject or Skill | Link | Student Group Size | Grade(s) Eligible | Geography | Region | 2024 Deadline for Entries | Deadline for Entries (historical) | Entry Format | Notes |
|---|--|---|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|---|--|--|
| BizInnovator Innovator Competition | Jacobson Institute at University of Iowa | problem-solving, collaboration, and risk-taking, and to become critical thinkers | https://jacobsoninstitute.org/innovator-competition | 1-4 | 9,10,11,12 | national | | | Mid-April and Mid-November | First round: 1-page summary; photo of applicant & product Finalist round: Zoom presentation | Students can compete more than once in an academic school year; there's a fall and spring competition |
| BUILD Design Challenge | BUILD.org | Social, Emotional Learning, Design Thinking, Community Problem Solving, 21st Century Skills, Confidence, Empathy, Public Speaking | https://build.org/challenge | 3-5 Team and 25-30 Class | 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 | national | | | At the discretion of teacher, any time | n/a | Engage your students by teaching them empathy, prototyping and testing, to solve real life problems with this impactful 10 hour experience. Enhance your own professional development with the one hour Design Thinking training offered by BUILD and receive a professional development certificate. Enable your students to achieve future career potential by encouraging entrepreneurial skills. |
| Cooper Hewitt | Smithsonian Design Museum | Power of design to change the world | https://www.cooperhewitt.org/design-competition-design-challenge/ | 1-3 | 9,10,11,12 | national | | | mid Feb. | sketch and short answer questions | |
| Council for Economic Education: National Personal Finance Challenge | Council for Economic Education | Financial literacy | https://www.councilforeconed.org/npcf-2/ | 3-4 | 9,10,11,12 | state contest rolls up to a national contest | | | Deadlines vary depending on the state | online quiz, case study, presentation | Students must compete on a state level before qualifying for the national contest |
| Destination Imagination | Destination Imagination | Problem Solving, Creativity, Communication, Collaboration | https://www.destinationimagination.org/challenge-experience/challenge-previews/ | 2-7 | K, 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | global | | | February-April depending on region | teams build physical designs to solve problems | There are multiple different challenges a team can enter; technical, engineering, scientific, fine arts, improv, service learning, and early learning. Cost is \$165/team |
| Diamond Challenge | University of Delaware Horn Entrepreneurship | business innovation or social innovation | https://diamondchallenge.org/ | 2-4 | 9,10,11,12 | global | | | Round 1 entries due in December | executive summary, pitch deck, pitch video | |
| Digital Presentation Skills Challenge | DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America), Knowledge Matters | digital presentation skills | DECA/Knowledge Matters Presentation Skills Challenge | 1 | 9,10,11,12 | national | | | end of Jan. | digital presentation video | Open to any student member of a high school DECA chapter. Open to any DECA chapter that has at least one active license to a Virtual Business simulation. |
| Disability is Diversity Challenge | DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America), MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association) | strategy, marketing communications, diversity, equity and inclusion | Disability is Diversity - MDA | 1-4 | 9,10,11,12 | national | | | mid Feb. | 4-minute video presentation | Open to DECA members |
| Entrepreneur of Tomorrow Challenge | DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) | entrepreneurial proposal for a new product concept in clothing, beauty, home, health, food or entertainment | DECA-21-FIDM-Challenge.pdf | 1-3 | 9,10,11,12 | national | | | early Feb. | 4-minute video presentation | Open to DECA members |
| FBLA (Multiple competitions) | Future Business Leaders of America | demonstrate career competencies, business knowledge, and job skills, expand leadership skills | FBLA COMPETITIVE EVENTS – Future Business Leaders Of America-Phi Beta Lambda (fbla-pbl.org) | Depends on Contest | Middle school through college | regional, national | | | varies | written proposals and presentations | |
| FlexFactor | Lorain County Community College and Cuyahoga County Community College | creativity, identifying and solving real world problems, teamwork, presentation skills, persuasive pitch | https://www.lorainccc.edu/college-credit-for-highschool/flexfactor-fhes-manufacturing/ | varies | 9,10,11,12 | regional | Northeast Ohio (Lorain County) | | varies | Prepared pitch presentations | Includes two field-trips, one to Lorain County Community College and the other to a local manufacturing company. |
| FPSI Global Issues Problem Solving | Future Problem Solving Program | promotes written and verbal communications skills | Global Issues Problem Solving (GIPS) – Future Problem Solving Program International (fpspi.org) | 4 | 4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | national/international | Ohio (plus 37 other states and 19 countries) https://www.fpspi.org/slider/find-an-affiliate/ | | Different for each affiliate (by state) | written proposals and presentations | There are fees to enter. |
| FPSI Scenario Performance | Future Problem Solving Program | an individual competition in which students create and tell a futuristic story | Scenario Performance (ScP) – Future Problem Solving Program International (fpspi.org) | 1 | 4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | national/international | | | Different for each affiliate (by state) | See affiliate | |
| FPSI Scenario Writing | Future Problem Solving Program | an individual competition in which students develop short stories related to one of FPSPI's five annual topics. | Scenario Writing (SW) – Future Problem Solving Program International (fpspi.org) | 1 | 4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | national/international | | | Different for each affiliate (by state) | See affiliate | |
| FPSP Community Problem Solving | Future Problem Solving Program | an individual or team competition in which students tackle global problems through a six-step problem solving process | https://www.fpspi.org/community-problem-solving/ | 1-4 | 4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | regional, national, global | Ohio (plus 37 other states and 19 countries) https://www.fpspi.org/slider/find-an-affiliate/ | | Different for each affiliate (by state) | written proposals and presentations | There are fees to enter. |
| Future Prize | Future Design School | designing solutions to real world problems | Future Design School - Future Prize | Team (Exact Number Unspecified) | 4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | North America | | | contact for more info | contact for more info | Teams will start at a local competition level and then move up levels |
| Global Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge | Global Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge | Receive a challenge at 8 AM on day of competition, have 12 hours to create a solution. Challenges are related to social issues. | https://entreplanet.org/GYEC/ | 3-8 | 9, 10, 11, 12 | global | | | April 13 | business plan, pitch video | Specific Competition Details only shared on morning of the competition day |

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| Innovate WITHIN | STARTed Up Foundation | elevator pitch | https://www.innovatewithin.org/ | 1-3 | 9,10,11,12 | regional | Indiana | | early Feb. | video pitch | Starts local, then moves to regional before becoming an Indiana state-wide final round |
| Intuit Hour of Finance Challenge | Intuit | Financial literacy | https://www.intuit.com/solutions/education/hour-of-finance/challenge/?cid=em_cee_click_us_hour-of-finance_cn_newsletter_learnmore_educators_button_na_jntuit-edu | as a class or school | 9, 10, 11, 12 | national | | | April | game | Students are competing on behalf of their school. Based on the school size/number of students who participate, the school is grouped with other schools of similar size |
| Intuit's Social Innovation Challenge | Intuit | Design for Delight - social | https://www.intuit.com/company/corporate-responsibility/job-readiness/design-for-delight/ | 2-8 | 9,10,11,12 | regional then national | | | March | | Need to take or participate in the Design for Delight Foundations course that will help you and your team create innovative solutions during the challenge. |
| Invention Convention Worldwide | Invention Convention | 21st Century Skills, Confidence, Solving Problems | https://inventionconvention.org/home-page/ | check affiliate | check affiliate | North America | | | Check affiliate | Check affiliate | |
| Invention League | Ohio Invention League | 21st Century Skills, Confidence, Solving Problems | https://www.inventionleague.org | 1-5 | K, 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | regional | Ohio | | early April | ZFairs Platform | Qualifying Students will move through Levels, State Virtual Showcase Summer of 2022 |
| Inventionland Education National Contest | Inventionland Institute | presentation skills, public speaking and critical thinking | Invention Contests - Inventionland Education | contact sponsor | contact sponsor | national | | | tbd | In person and virtual | Must complete the local competition first; can work with a Inventionland rep to create a school/district contest: https://inventionlandeducation.com/contactus |
| Lead4Change Challenge | Foundation for Impact on Literacy and Learning | collaboration and teamwork, problem solving, creativity and communication | Project Submission Rules - Lead4Change | 3+ | 6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | national | | | Feb. and Apr. | Registration form; 3 pics of team in action; video and written submission optional; | Teachers must register teams here: https://www.lead4change.org/register |
| National Youth Business Competition | i.Invest | General Business Products, Technology, Socially Conscious Products | https://www.investcompetition.com/ | | 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 | national | | | May | Concept Profile and Pitch Video | \$39 application fee, must be able to participate in 3-day virtual bootcamp if selected. Need a demonstrable product or service. |
| Odyssey of the Mind | Odyssey of the Mind | Creative Problem Solving | https://www.odysseyofthemind.com | 2-7 | K, 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | global | | | Determined by Local Region | Presentation | Must purchase a membership for your school or community group first. There are multiple age group divisions and multiple contests within each age roup |
| Ohio STEM Learning Network | Ohio Stem Learning Network | The Design Cycle, Pitch | https://designchallenge.osln.org/ | | K, 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | regional | Ohio | | early Jan. | Virtual Submission followed by live presentation and pitch | |
| Ohio STEP State Competition | The Ohio Academy of Science | Critical Thinking, Communication, Research, Innovation, Grit, STEM, Entrepreneurial Mindset | https://www.ohiosci.org/ohio-step/ | 1-3 | 9, 10, 11, 12 | statewide | Ohio | | Registration: mid Dec. Submission: Feb. | 1) Written Summary (@3 pages) and pitch video; 2) Written Plan (@10-12 pages) and Extended Pitch Video | Options for the Extended Pathways are STEM Commercialization Plan or STEM Business Plan with different requirements. Students must use the program Workbook for complete Action Steps and our Template for the complete requirements to accurately complete a Plan for competition |
| Paradigm Challenge | Project Paradigm | Kindness, Creativity, Collaboration | https://www.projectparadigm.org/ | individual or team | K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 | global | | | May | Poster, Video, website, invention, public message, or any other type of idea | |
| People of Play - Young Inventor Challenge | People of Play | creativity, innovation | https://www.chitag.com/yic | 1-2 | 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | virtual | | | late Oct. | video pitch, optional* in person in IL | \$25 registration fee |
| Seton Hall University, Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, Pirates Pitch Competition | Seton Hall University | idea creation | https://www.shu.edu/undergraduate-admissions/pirates-pitch-competition.cfm | 1 | 10,11,12 must have 3.0 or better | national | | | late Oct. | Written idea then pitch live. | note new web address. |
| Social Impact Leader of Tomorrow Challenge | DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America), National Pediatric Cancer Foundation | Communication and Collaboration • Creativity and Innovation • Critical Thinking and Problem Solving • Initiative and Self-direction • Media Literacy | Social Impact Leader of Tomorrow Challenge | 1-4 | 9,10,11,12 | national | | | early Feb. | Upload video, Fundraising Campaign, Social Media Component | Must register with the Foundation: https://nationalpcf.org/deca/ |
| Solve For Tomorrow: An Idea that Can Change the World | Samsung | elevator pitch | https://www.youngentrepreneursinstitute.org/k-12-programs/pitch-challenge-overview/northeast-ohio-pitch-challenge/ | 1-4 | Public School; grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 | National | | | late Oct. | Phase One: Written Entry; Phase Two: complete a teacher activity plan and video; Phase Three: Student Video | Teachers enter on behalf os students |
| Stukent+DECA Social Media Marketing Challenge | DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America), Stukent | social media | Stukent + DECA Challenge - Stukent - Stukent | 1 | 9,10,11,12 | national | | | early March | Students participate in a social media simulation | |
| Technovation Girls | Technovation Girls | Join Technovation Girls and learn how to use technology like mobile apps and AI to solve a community problem YOU care about. You'll work as part of a team of girls like you and get support from a mentor who will help keep you motivated and on track. | https://technovationchallenge.org/curriculum-landing-page/ | 1-5 | ages 8-18 | International | | | mid April | Pitch video, technical video, business plan, code | |

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| thinkBIG! Challenge | Veale Youth Entrepreneurship Forum | business idea and executive summary | https://www.vealeentrepreneurs.org/thinkbig-challenge-23-24/ | 1-4 | 9,10,11,12 | regional | Northeast Ohio | | mid Jan. | online, slide deck with video submission round, live pitch round | Two tracks: Innovation or Small Business |
| World Series of Innovation | NFTE (Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship) | solving real world problems, creativity, collaboration, innovation | https://innovation.nfte.com/challenges | 1-4 | Ages 13-24 | national | | | early Dec | Online entry form | Multiple challenges available |
| Young Entrepreneur Pitch Challenge | Young Entrepreneur Institute | elevator pitch | https://www.youngentrepreneurinstitute.org/k-12-programs/pitch-challenge-overview/northeast-ohio-pitch-challenge/ | 1-4 | K, 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | regional | Ohio | 2/20/2024 | mid Feb. | video submission | |