

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

Privacy Statement

Application Terms

Your application

- 1.Submission of an application to the Crown in the Right of the State of New South Wales acting through the Premier's Department (the Department) (ABN 34 945 244 274) constitutes an acceptance by you of the STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program (Program) Guidelines and these Terms and you agree to be bound by both of them.
- 2.Your application must be submitted to the Department on or before **10:00 AEST Friday 31 January 2025.**
- 3.Applications may only be submitted using the method described in the Program Guidelines.
- 4.Applications that are incomplete or do not comply with the instructions provided in the application form and/or the Program Guidelines may be rejected by the Department. The Department may, in its sole discretion, accept or reject an application which is incomplete or does not comply with the Program Guidelines, or for any other reason.
- 5.You agree to bear the costs of preparing and submitting your application without recourse to the Department.
- 6.You confirm that all of the information provided as part of the application is true, correct and valid as at the date of your application.
- 7.You agree to indemnify the Department against and in respect of all damages, losses, expenses and costs (including legal costs on an indemnity basis) which arise out of or in relation to any incorrect or invalid information that you provide to the Department through this application.
- 8.If you are found to have made false or misleading claims or statements, or to have obtained improper assistance in relation to your application, the Department may exclude your application from the evaluation process. You should be aware that giving false or misleading information to the Department is a serious offence under the Crimes Act 1900 No 40(NSW).
- 9.An application submitted electronically will be treated in accordance with the Electronic Transactions Act2000 (NSW).
- 10.Assessment and approval of your application will be in accordance with the criteria outlined in the Program Guidelines.
- 11.Submitting an application does not guarantee approval under the Program. Approval is at the sole discretion of the Department.
- 12.The Department reserves the right to verify the information provided by you as part of your application and determine your eligibility for the Program.
- 13.You must seek the written consent of the Department before making any public announcement about the Program and the Department's and the State's role in the Program.
- 14.Nothing in this request for applications or your application will be construed as giving rise to any contractual obligations or rights, express or implied, (other than your agreement to these Terms and the Program Guidelines).
- 15.If your application is successful, the information provided in your application will form part of a funding agreement to be separately agreed and signed between your organisation and the Department.
- 16.If your application is unsuccessful, feedback will be provided. Unsuccessful applications will be notified via email and/or letter of the outcome of their application and will be offered feedback if requested. Unsuccessful applicants may reapply at any time if

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

material changes have occurred and you believe you are eligible under the Program Guidelines.

17. You are not eligible for any rebate until a funding agreement is agreed and signed.

18. Subject to the terms of any funding agreement entered into between you and the Department, the Department reserves the right to alter, amend, suspend, cancel or withdraw the Program for any reason and in any circumstances in its sole and absolute discretion and without notice to you.

Disclaimer

1. Subject to any applicable law, the Department makes no representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied, in relation to any information or material provided in the application form or the Program Guidelines including as to its accuracy, currency or reliability.
2. The information and material provided by NSW Government as part of the application form and Program Guidelines is of a general nature only and is not legal or other professional advice or intended to be comprehensive. You are responsible for determining the validity, quality and relevance of any information or materials and taking appropriate independent advice before submitting an application or entering into a funding agreement.
3. NSW Government does not accept responsibility for and excludes liability for any loss, damage, cost or expense howsoever caused (including through negligence or matters outside its control), which you or any person may directly or indirectly suffer in connection with your or such person's use of or reliance on, information or materials contained in the application form or the Program Guidelines.

Privacy and disclosure

1. The Department collects the information in your application, which may include "personal information" for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998(NSW) (PIIP Act). The Department collects this personal information for the purposes of considering and assessing your application. If your application is successful, your information will also be used to provide the rebate(s) to you, to assist you in meeting your obligations and for reporting on the Program to which your funding relates.
2. Providing your personal information to the Department is voluntary, however, if you do not provide this information, we will not be able to assess your application and you will not be considered for the Program.
3. The Department may also disclose your personal information to the following third parties:
4. Smarty Grants (through Our Community Pty Ltd ABN 24 094 608 705), being the application portal providers that assist the Department to administer the Program;
5. Independent probity advisors assisting the Department with its general risk assessment of the Program;
6. Legal advisers and other advisers to the Department;
7. A credit assessment agency to help complete due diligence checks, and
8. Other New South Wales Government agencies (including but not limited to the Premier's Department) to help assess and administer the Program, monitor activity, assist organisations whose applications are successful in meeting their obligations, and introduce unsuccessful applicants to other support programmes that may be of assistance to them.

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

9. The Department may also use your information to promote and make announcements about successful applicants. Information (such as your company and business name, office location and CEO) will be used by the Department for media announcements and case studies which may be published on NSW Government websites and other social media accounts.
10. We may also be required to disclose information by law. For example, the Department is subject to the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (NSW) (GIPA Act), which means the information you provide may be required to be released in response to a request under the GIPA Act. We may also be required to disclose information to oversight and investigative bodies and to the Parliament of New South Wales.
11. By submitting this application form, you consent to the Department collecting, using and disclosing information about you in the manner described above.
12. You must comply with the PIPP Act in relation to any personal information disclosed to you by the Department in connection with this application or the Program Guidelines.
13. Please refer to website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/premiers-department/contact-us/privacy> for more information on the Department's privacy policy and your rights to access or correct the information.
14. All applications become the property of the Department on submission. The Department may make copies of the application for any purpose.

Instructions

Moving through the application form

- On every page of the form, you will find a **Form Navigation** contents box on the right-hand side. Click the page title link to jump directly to the page you want.
- You can also click **Next Page** or **Previous Page** on the top or bottom of each page to move forward, or backward, through the application.
- Do not use the Forward or Back buttons on your browser as you may lose your progress.
- Moving between pages using the Form Navigation, Next and Previous Page buttons will automatically save your application.
- You can also click the **Save Progress** button as you go.

Saving your application

- Moving between pages using the **Form Navigation**, **Next** and **Previous Page** buttons will automatically save your application. You can also click the **Save Progress** button as you go.
- You can start your application, save what you have done and return to it as many times as you like before the grant deadline.
- If you wish to leave a partially completed application, press **Save and Close** and log out. This will save your application as a draft.
- When you log back in and click on the **My Submissions** link at the top of the screen, you will find a list of applications you have started or submitted.
- You can reopen your draft application and continue where you left off.
- You can also download any application, whether draft or completed, as a PDF. Click on the **Download PDF** button located at the bottom of the last page of the application form.

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

Required fields and correct formatting

Questions with a red asterisk* are required fields. Some questions require a correct format to be considered a valid response, such as:

- Number and Currency fields can only accept numbers and a decimal point, not text (one hundred) or punctuation (, and \$)
- Dates must be in the Australian format DD/MM/YYYY
- Websites must be an active web address.

You will not be able to submit your application until all required fields are complete and in the correct format.

Attachments and support documents

- Please label each document clearly with 'Applicant ID - Institution Name - Document Name'. For example: SSCSP1122-0042-Institution X- Proof of competition registration.
- When uploading multiple attachments, wait for each file to upload before trying to attach another file. Files can be up to 25MB each, however, we do recommend trying to keep files to a maximum of 5MB - the larger the file, the longer the upload time.
- You are strongly encouraged to upload your attachments a few days before submitting your application.

Completing an application in a group or team

- Several people can work on an application using the same log-in details. If applicable, it's recommended to use a shared email address.
- It is important to ensure only one person is working on an application at a time. If two people are working on the same form at the same time, it will only save the progress of one person and someone may lose their work.

Submitting your application

- You will find a **Review and Submit** button at the bottom of the Navigation Panel. You need to review your application before you can submit it.
- Once you have reviewed your application you can submit it by clicking on 'Submit' at the top or bottom of the screen or on the navigation panel.
- You will not be able to submit your application until all the compulsory questions are completed and there are no validation errors.
- Once you have submitted your application, no further editing or uploading of support materials is possible.
- When you submit your application, you will receive a confirmation email with a copy of your submitted application attached. This will be sent to the email you used to register.

Need help?

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

- If you need more help using this form, please read the [Help Guide for Applicants](#) and [Applicant Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).
- If you have any questions regarding the eligibility criteria or the program, please contact the **Office of the Chief Scientist and Engineer via email to raap.grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au**
- At the Department, we are committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. We encourage people with disability to apply. If you have a disability and require more information on adjustments and assistance to apply, please contact us. Assistance in completing this application can be found at [Communities and Justice](#), [People with disability Australia](#) or [legal aid](#). If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander check out [Aboriginal Affairs](#) or your country's [Aboriginal Corporation](#) to get assistance in the preparations of applications and grant program processes.

Before you begin

Please read the Program Guidelines and understand the requirements before proceeding with your application. Guidelines can be found at [STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program | Chief Scientist \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Introduction

Overview

The STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program (Program) aims to support high-tech, high-impact research by NSW students attending domestic and international research competitions, that align with the 20-Year NSW R&D Roadmap (the Roadmap):

https://www.chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/508935/FINAL-Report-20-Year-NSW-R-and-D-Roadmap_WEB_DPS.pdf. Teams of student researchers attend competitions to increase their skills in real-world applications; to improve collaboration with international colleagues; and to create interest and excitement about their fields with the community, industry partners and fellow students. Exposing students to competitions that address high impact problems also encourages them to consider graduate studies to pursue higher degrees and Honours programs in science and engineering.

This round of the Program will be considered on an open competitive basis to support NSW students to attend domestic and international research competitions between April 2025 and December 2025.

Successful applicants will be awarded funds from a maximum available pool of \$100,000 (excluding GST) with the final amount decided at the Department's discretion. Each successful applicant can apply for and receive up to \$10,000, at the discretion of the Assessment Panel.

Please note, the application must be prepared by a student who is a competition attendee or team organiser, and co-signed by a suitable university staff member. Funding is available to competition teams NOT individuals.

Eligible Applicants

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

Types of organisations or entities eligible to apply

1. Applicants **must** be enrolled or employed at a NSW university or public sector research institution.
2. The applicant's organisation must have an Australian Business Number (ABN).

Types of organisations or entities ineligible to apply

1. You are not eligible to apply for the Program if you are:
 - Insolvent;
 - an individual;
 - a partnership;
 - an unincorporated association; or
 - a Commonwealth, state, territory or local government agency or body excluding government corporate entities.

Program Key Dates

Activity

Timeframe

Applications open

10:00 AEST Friday 16 August 2024

Applications close

10:00 AEST Friday 31 January 2025

Notification of outcome

March 2025

Allocation of funds

Within 60 days of the funding agreement being exchanged

Earliest start date of the competition

1 April 2025

End date of the competition

31 December 2025

Departmental Contact Details

The NSW Office of the Chief Scientist & Engineer:

raap.grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au

Applicant Information

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

* indicates a required field

University/Institution Association Details

University/Institution/Association name *

Trading name (if different from University/Institution/Association)

University/Institution/Association primary address *

Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

University/Institution/Association postal address *

Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

University/Institution/Association website *

Must be a URL.

ABN Details

Does your University/Institution/Association have an ABN? *

- Yes
 No

Is your University/Institution/Association registered for GST? *

- Yes
 No

ABN Details

Provide your University/Institution/Association's ABN *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register
ABN
Entity name

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

ABN status
Entity type
Goods & Services Tax (GST)
DGR Endorsed
ATO Charity Type More information
ACNC Registration
Tax Concessions
Main business location

Must be an ABN.

You are not eligible to apply for the STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program

Based on your response above, you are not eligible for this program. If you have any questions regarding the eligibility criteria, please contact OCSE: raap.grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au

Do you understand? *

Yes I understand that I do not meet the mandatory criteria for the STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program and therefore I am ineligible to apply.

Project Lead Contact Details

(Student who is a competition attendee or team organiser)

Project Lead Name *

Title First Name Last Name

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Student who is a competition attendee or team organiser

Project Lead Job Title/Position *

Project Lead Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Project Lead Primary Email *

Must be an email address.

Secondary Contact Details

(Suitable university staff e.g Faculty/Staff member)

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

University/Institution/Association Name (if different to above)

Secondary Contact Name *

Title First Name Last Name

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Suitable university staff e.g. Faculty or staff member

Secondary Contact Job Title/Position *

Secondary Contact Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Secondary Contact Primary Email *

Must be an email address.

Adverse Findings and Legal Proceedings

Is the organisation and/or any of the executive(s) subject to adverse or legal findings? *

- Yes
 No

Please provide details of adverse findings or legal proceedings *

Competition Information

* indicates a required field

Competition Information

Competition name *

Purpose of competition - Describe the aim of the competition and the major focus/topics *

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Location of competition *

Start date of competition *

Must be a date and between 1/4/2025 and 31/12/2025.

End date of competition *

Must be a date and between 1/4/2025 and 31/12/2025.

Number of attendees (total number in team) *

Must be a number.

Attendees - List name(s) of the applicant team (including title and faculty/school) applying for sponsorship funding and identify which team members are attending the competition *

Note, we understand this is subject to change

Eligibility

* indicates a required field

Eligibility Questions

The applicant is enrolled or employed at a NSW university or public sector research institution *

- Yes
- No

The competition research area falls under at least one of the following categories.

Tick as many that apply *

- Mathematical, information and computing sciences
- Physical, chemical and earth sciences
- Engineering, environmental sciences and energy innovation
- Biological and biotechnological sciences

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

This funding request is for student competition research projects held between April 2025 and December 2025. *

- Yes
- No

The applicant is only applying once this funding round *

- Yes
- No

Confirmation of competition registration. *

- Yes, the applicant(s) has confirmed attendance at the competition
- No, the applicant(s) has not yet received their competition registration but has received special approval from OCSE to apply for the Program

Provide documentation to support this e.g. an email or letter stating your team has been registered to attend the competition or the approval received from OCSE

Provide documentation

Please upload a copy of the document confirming your registration *

Attach a file:

Contact OCSE

Please contact OCSE: raap.grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au to get approval. Then, upload a copy of the approval you received from OCSE *

Attach a file:

You are not eligible to apply for the STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program

Based on your response to the eligibility question/s, you are not eligible for this program. If you have any questions regarding the eligibility criteria, please contact OCSE: raap.grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au

Do you understand? *

- Yes I understand that I do not meet the mandatory criteria for the STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program and therefore I am ineligible to apply.

Assessment Criteria

* indicates a required field

Assessment Criteria

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

Value of competition - Demonstrate the value of competition to the participants, institution and the broader community of NSW *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Evidence of support for competition - Demonstrate support (financial and/or in-kind) from applicant's institution, philanthropists, industry partners and/or the Commonwealth Government *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Alignment with the 20-Year NSW R&D Roadmap - Demonstrate how the Competition aligns with the themes of the 20-Year NSW R&D Roadmap (the Roadmap). Please refer to the table and link below. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Further information on the Roadmap can be found here: https://www.chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/508935/FINAL-Report-20-Year-NSW-R-and-D-Roadmap_WEB_DPS.pdf

20-Year NSW RD Roadmap Themes

Software

Smart materials

Artificial Intelligence

Circular economy

Data analytics

Nuclear science

Quantum computing

Biochemical technologies

Blockchain

Cell technologies

Robotics

Genetic and molecular technologies

Communications, Sensing, Internet of Things

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

Renewable generation

Semiconductors

Energy storage

Nanotechnology

Power to X

Diversity, equity and inclusion (1) - Demonstrate how diversity, equity and inclusion will be considered and implemented in the preparation and participation of the competition *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Diversity metrics may include gender, ethnicity, cultural and linguistic background, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, neurodiversity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious beliefs, socio-economic background and geographical location

Diversity, equity and inclusion (2) - Do any team members identify as one or more of the following? Tick all that apply *

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female | <input type="checkbox"/> Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) | <input type="checkbox"/> Speak a language other than English as a primary language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-binary or gender diverse | <input type="checkbox"/> Neurodiverse | <input type="checkbox"/> From a low socio-economic background |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> From regional or remote areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Any other backgrounds that might need support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Gender Diverse or Asexual (LGBTIQ+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Disability or chronic illness | |

Any other backgrounds that might need support

Please explain below *

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Total Amount Requested. *

Must be a dollar amount.

Please indicate how much funding you are requesting (ex GST) from the OCSE. Please note that each successful applicant can apply for and receive up to \$10,000.

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

Budget

Estimated budget of attending the Competition - List budget allocation in fields below (list in-kind contributions separately)

- Please include any in-kind or matched funding.
- Funding Sources may include the Institution's own contribution to the competition and grants received by other collaboration partners.
- In-kind or matched funding sources may include any non-cash items such as venues that have waived their fees.
- Please fill out the Expense Amount and Funding Source Amount columns separately.
- Please note, the grant funds must be spent on the research component of the competition. Examples include (but are not limited to) lab consumables, research materials, outreach, any other research expenditure. The grant funds **must not** be used on *competition registration, travel, accommodation, visas, insurance, salary, infrastructure, capital or the purchase of significant assets (including the creation of digital assets or software), or any other non-research related expenses.*

Refer to the following budget example:

Expense Item

(\$)

Funding Source

(\$)

Project Materials

\$10,000

OCSE STEM grant

\$10,000

Competition Fees/Registration

\$2,250

Fundraiser

\$2,250

Accommodation

\$10,500

Self-funded

\$10,500

Airline Tickets

\$12,000

Fundraiser

\$12,000

Car Hire & Fuel

\$3,080

Faculty/university

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

\$3,080

Meals

\$2,300

Faculty/university

\$2,300

Total Expenses

\$40,130

Total Funding

\$40,130

Expense Item	\$	Funding Source	\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$

Budget Totals

Total Expenses *

\$

This number/amount is calculated.

Total Funding Amount *

\$

This number/amount is calculated.

Additional Information

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Feedback, Evaluation and Communication

* indicates a required field

The Department regularly examines its programs to ensure they are achieving their intended outcomes and providing benefit to people in NSW. We will evaluate the Program to:

- study the implementation of the Program
- measure how well the outcomes and objectives have been achieved.

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

Are you happy to be contacted by the Department within one year for research related to the evaluation of the Program? *

- Yes
 No

Sign up to receive email updates on new grant programs and newsletters promoting our programs:

1. Receiving emails on new grant programs *

- Yes
 No

2. Receiving newsletters promoting government programs *

- Yes
 No

Declaration

* indicates a required field

I confirm that:

- I have read and understood the Terms.
- I have read and understood the Program Guidelines with respect to assistance under this Program.
- I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the applicant.
- The applicant agrees to the Terms and the Program Guidelines.
- The information provided in this application is true, correct and valid as at the date of submitting this application.

Project Lead

(Student who is a competition attendee or team organiser)

Note, this must be the same project lead listed in Section 4. Applicant Information.

I agree to the Application Terms *

- Yes
 No

Project Lead Name *

Title First Name Last Name

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Date of Declaration *

STEM Student Competition Sponsorship Program 2025

Form Preview

Must be a date.

Secondary Contact

(Suitable university staff e.g Faculty/Staff member)

Note, this must be the same secondary contact listed in Section 4. Applicant Information.

I agree to the Application Terms *

- Yes
 No

Secondary Contact Name *

Title First Name Last Name

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Position *

Date of Declaration *

Must be a date.

NOTE: Please ensure you click Submit Application when you are ready to submit. Applications must be submitted prior to the round closing date to be eligible for consideration.

Once you have submitted your application you cannot make any changes.