

Saturday, May 18

Coast Guard Chapter, Blacks In Government, 2024 Youth STEM Competition

Get ready for an epic STEM competition hosted by the Coast Guard Chapter of Blacks In Government in May 2024!

Welcome to the Coast Guard Chapter, Blacks In Government, 2024 Youth STEM Competition!

Join us online on **Sat May 18, 2024**, at **10:00:00** for a fun and educational event celebrating science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

This competition is open to all individuals in grades 9th through 12th interested in showcasing their skills and creativity in STEM fields. Whether you're a student, professional, or hobbyist, there's something for everyone at this event.

Get ready to participate in exciting challenges, network with like-minded individuals, and learn from industry experts. Don't miss out on this opportunity to engage with the STEM community and showcase your talents! **Register now** to secure your spot and be part of this innovative and inspiring event.

This year's theme is "The Water Crisis in America, How Do We Fix It?"

Cash awards to be given as follows (at a minimum): 1st Place: \$350; 2nd Place: \$100, 3rd Place: \$50
Any donations collected minus Event Brite fees, 100% will be used to increase cash awards.

Registrants must meet the following conditions to confirm contest entry:

- Must be a high school student in grade 9, 10, 11, or 12.
- Agree to provide email address to receive additional contest information.
- Agree to complete and submit entry form and background information form by April 9th.
- Agree to provide copy of birth certificate by May 1st.
- Can not have ever been a 1st place winner at a National Blacks In Government STEM competition.

Register via Event Brite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/867462261977?aff=oddtcreator>.

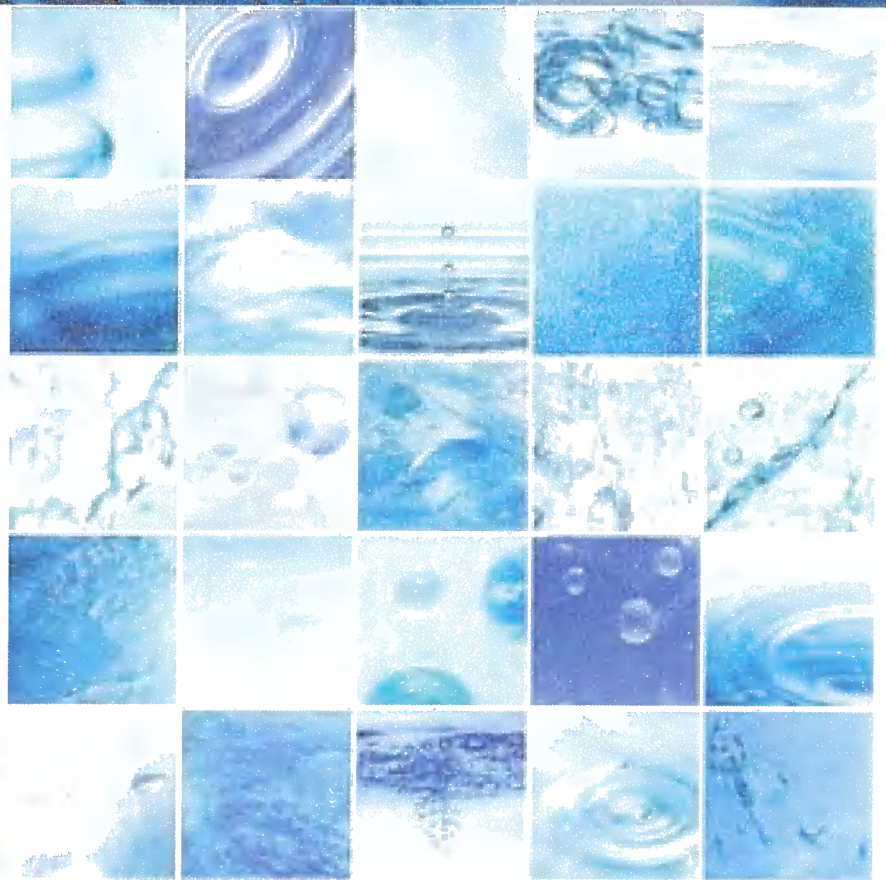
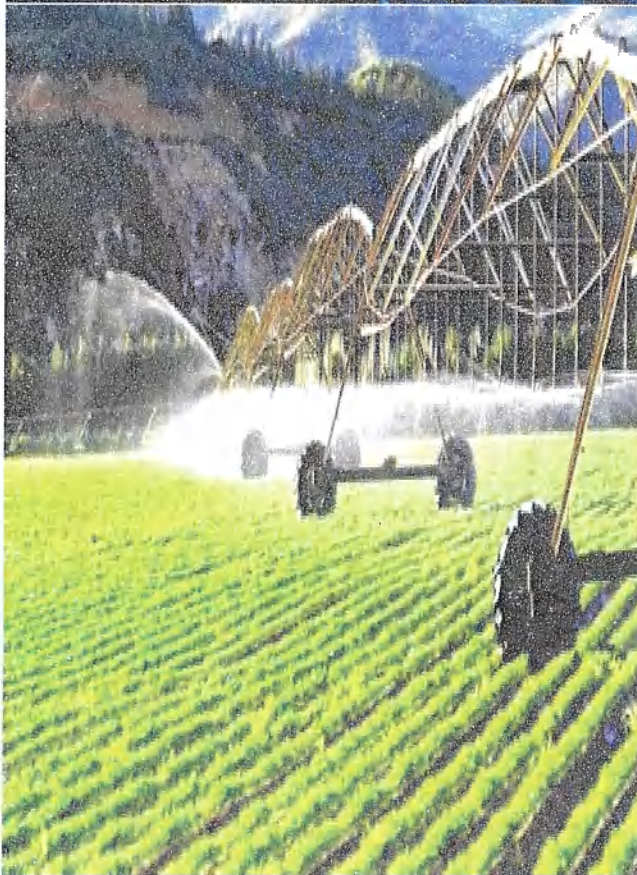
Contact LaShanda Jones with questions at biguscg@gmail.com or (206) 815-0250



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT 2024 STEM COMPETITION

Theme: *“The Water Crisis in America, How Do We Repair it?”*

9th thru 12th Grade



For more information, contact:

Name: LaShanda Jones

Phone: (206) 815-0250

E-mail Address: biguscg@gmail.com

Registration Deadline: April 5, 2024

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/867462261977?aff=odtdtcreator>

Blacks In Government promotes equity in all aspects of American life, excellence in all we do, and opportunities for all Americans



**BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**BIG Science, Technology, Engineering, Math
Program Construct**

OBJECTIVE: To encourage and help prepare high school students to pursue a college education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

GOAL: To provide academic and social support to participants so that they have the competencies to become successful STEM professionals. This program will create a link between informal learning and school-based learning.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Nurture curiosity.
2. Encourage students to take advanced courses.
3. Challenge students with advanced procedures.
4. Provide active learning projects that combine ideas with technical skills.
5. Prepare participants for rigorous and competitive scientific scholarships.

TARGET AUDIENCE: High school students in the 11 regions of Blacks In Government

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

1. Advancing STEM concepts and professions
2. Innovation at the frontier of informal learning
3. Broadening participation
4. Fostering collaborations

STEM PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Training for Chapter/Regional STEM Program Managers: BIG chapter/region STEM managers and volunteers will be provided with professional development opportunities related to the mission, goals, and purposes of the BIG STEM program. Workshops will be held virtually and in-person (when possible) throughout the year leading to the BIG STEM competition.

Career Counseling, Academic Tutoring, and Mentoring: BIG chapters partner with professional engineers, college students, and parents to provide tutoring and mentoring opportunities for students.

Monthly STEM Meetings: Students attend monthly meetings with STEM advisors and mentors. At these meetings, students are provided with mathematics and science workshops, assistance with science/mathematics fair projects, career counseling sessions, self-esteem workshops, goal-setting and problem-solving activities, computer literacy instruction, and technical writing seminars.

Computer/Technology Instruction: The ability to use technology as a tool is essential for engineers, scientists, and mathematicians; STEM students must have robust technical and computer capabilities. Students participate in computer and technology tutorials, use scientific and graphing calculators, utilize the Internet for research, and access computers and technology



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for practice and personal use.

Experiential Learning: To make students more aware of careers in the sciences, Chapter sponsors field experiences that enable students to interact with engineers, mathematicians, and scientists in their professional environments. Field trips should be planned according to students' interests and research projects.

Incentive Awards: Students who maintain at least a B average in mathematics, science, and English will be eligible to receive incentive awards. Students will also receive certificates and other tangible acknowledgments of their participation and achievements in the BIG STEM Program.

Saturday Academies: To assist students in improving and developing their problem-solving skills in math, engineering, and science, BIG partners with universities and colleges to sponsor Saturday Academies. These programs consist of academic tutorials and hands-on projects that help students develop their knowledge of scientific concepts and applications. Students conduct research, write summaries, and participate in related discussions.

Science Fairs, Engineering Projects, and Mathematics Competition: Chapters/Regions partner with existing programs to provide students with scientific methodology instruction and guidance in researching and preparing their designated STEM research projects. With guidance from STEM partners, students develop science and engineering research projects for entry in science/technology fairs and competitions and, ultimately, the BIG National STEM project.

BIG National STEM Competition: The National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG) sponsors an annual STEM competition for 9th – 12th-grade students to compete for scholarships and awards. The program provides high school students with the chance to develop STEM skills and demonstrate their expertise and creativity.

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2024 STEM

Student Competition

Competition General Rules

****Provide these rules to all contestants****

The official theme is: *"The Water Crisis in America, How do we Repair it?"* Students must understand the rules and guidelines of the STEM Competition. They should also be made aware of the guidelines for scoring.

The Blacks In Government STEM Competition is divided into three competition levels—Chapter, regional, and national. You must compete at the Chapter and regional level to compete at the national level. If a chapter or region has only ONE entrant, the chapter president or the regional council president (as appropriate) must submit a written endorsement to the Regional Chair or National Program and Planning Committee Chair (as appropriate). Chapters and Regions must also provide the judge's score sheets and master score sheet to the Regional Chair and National Program and Planning Committee Chair, as appropriate.

NATIONAL FIRST PLACE WINNERS ARE INELIGIBLE FOR FUTURE CONTESTS.

1. Contestants must be in grades 9 through 12 and must be in good academic standing.
2. Contestants must build innovative projects with guidance from SMEs/mentors.
3. Contestants must give a 4- to the 6-minute oral presentation on how they developed their project during the competition at the local, regional, and national levels.
4. Contestants not providing a presentation will be disqualified.
5. Birth certificate and a copy of an essay describing how students developed their project "MUST" be presented to the Chapter, Regional, and National Committee Chairs before the competition.

PROJECT

STEM Competition theme: *"The Water Crisis in America, How do we Repair it?"* The requirements take into account the scope and spirit of the competition. Participants will use technology to demonstrate a water system in action. The project will help students learn how to use logical and creative-thinking skills and create narratives. They will get practical experience with science and technology while exploring their creativity simultaneously.

All submissions must have creative, artistic, and educational value and be interactive, exciting, and appealing visually.

1. All submissions will be evaluated for creativity, visual presentation, and technical implementation to develop the project.
2. Projects will be no longer than 3 minutes long.
3. A 4–6-minute oral presentation is required. Every 15 seconds under 4 minutes or over 6 minutes will incur deductions from the overall score.

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2024 STEM

Student Competition

7. Students will be provided with their workspace, Each team will have access to one electrical plug for charging.
8. Practice time will be available preceding the competition.

Project Construction

Animations will be interactive narratives that tell a story and build an environment. Entries to the animation category will be judged 0:

1. **Innovation and Uniqueness:** How creative and unique is the story being told or the presentation's approach?
2. **Visual Presentation:**
 - How immersive is the world that has been created? An "immersive experience" pulls individuals into a new, augmented, or more engaging reality via technology. Creation requires using one or more technologies together. (Attachment 2)
 - How complex or impactful is the flow of the visual representation, camera movements, and general composition?
3. **Technical Implementation:**
 - How detailed is the technical implementation?
 - Does the entry make use of technical concepts to create the project?
 - Is the creativity observed, making it easy to understand?
 - Does the project make use of audio, video, and other technical tools and special effects?
4. **Usefulness:** Does the narrative educate, inform, or entertain?
5. **Oral:** 4- to 6-minute presentation

Project Compliance

1. Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate U.S. copyright laws. Any entry copied from an existing project, narrative, or image created by someone other than the contestant violates the competition rules and will not be accepted.
2. All projects will be inspected for compliance with the rules before the competition.
3. Failure to comply with the guidelines will result in disqualification.
4. Individuals who advance to a regional/national competition are allowed to make improvements to their projects.

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2024 STEM

Student Competition

Penalties

Each student will be penalized 10 points for the following reasons:

1. If the student fails to provide a 1- to 2-page written narrative describing how his or her project was developed.
2. If the student required written entry document does not follow the national guidelines for entry.
3. If the student entry does not relate to the current STEM Competition theme: "*The Water Crisis in America, How do we Repair it?*"

Disqualification

Students will be immediately disqualified for the following reasons, and they will not be able to resubmit their entry for reconsideration.

1. If any of the projects appear to have inappropriate or *plagiarized* content.
2. If the contestants do not provide a demonstration.
3. If the student's paperwork was not received by the required submittal date.

Protests

Individuals may challenge/protest a decision or rule interpretation of the youth competition during the *Chapter and Regional* competitions using the following guidelines:

1. In chapter competitions, the protestor must challenge a decision within 72 hours by notifying the Chapter Program and Planning Chair (CPPC). Once an opposition is made, the CPPC shall notify the contestants potentially impacted by the challenge/protest immediately.
2. If the challenger does not receive the answers required, a written appeal request must be sent via email to the Regional Program and Planning Chair (RPPC) within seven (7) days of the chapter's decision. The written appeal should include all the facts and arguments that would support reversing the decision. The RPPC will make a decision and email a response to the challenger within seven (7) days of receipt of the appeal.
3. If the RPPC fails to comply within seven (7) days or the challenger is unsatisfied with the response, the challenger has seven (7) days to forward the appeal to the National Program and Planning Chair (NPPC). Once the appeal is submitted to the national level, the NPPC will determine the appropriate chapter, regional, and national officers required to vet the challenge/protest on a case-by-case basis.
4. Protests made at the national competitions must be submitted by the Regional Program and Planning Chair (RPPC). The protestor must challenge a decision within 72 hours by notifying the National Program and Planning Chair (NPPC) in writing via email. The protest must be based on facts with documentation.

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2024 STEM

Student Competition

5. The decision made at the national level will be the final and binding decision. The NPPC will provide a written justification for the final decision to the challenger, CPPC, and the RPPC within seven (7) days of receipt.

STEM Competition Scoring Categories

Scoring procedures at all levels of the competition will be identical and based on a point system. Projects will be judged on five criteria: user interface design, creative interactivity, user experience, usefulness, and oral presentation. A team of three judges with technical and non-technical expertise will evaluate the demonstration. Before the presentations, judges will be allowed to interview each contestant for 10 minutes. The following point value of each category equals a possible 100 points:

CATEGORY	EXPLANATION	POINTS
1. Innovation and Uniqueness	The story being told or the approach of the presentation is unique. Creative and engaging content Strategic uses of technology (interactive software/tools).	30
2. Visual Presentation	The flow of the visual representation, camera movements, and general composition is impactful Connected events, actual or imaginary, presented in a logical sequence of moving images and special effects	20
3. Technical Implementation	Technical implementation is intricate Uses technology to simplify or structure the project Creativity makes it easy to understand the narrative/storyline Makes use of audio, video, and other technical features	15
4. Usefulness	Provides useful information (educational, informative, and entertaining)	15
5. Project Development Journal	Evidence of a design process Professionally organized and easy to understand	10
6. Oral presentation*	4- to 6-minute presentation on how they researched and developed their project	10
TOTAL		100

***Calculations Committee will deduct three (3) points for every 15 seconds under four (4) minutes or over six (6) minutes.**

ATTACHMENT 2: Technology Suggestions

NAME	DESCRIPTION	URL	COST
NCH Software	YouTube Video Media	https://www.nchsoftware.com/software/video.html	Free
Storyblocks	Includes libraries of already existing videos with opportunities to combine and create own unique project	https://www.storyblocks.com/video -	Free
Vimeo	Similar to YouTube	https://vimeo.com/	Free
Filmora Video Editor	Create & edit your videos just in minutes	https://www.iskysoft.us/lp/filmora-video-editor/bing.html?msclkid=1e6df033507a196e98daafee36765845&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=FilmoraWin_SS_US_pid(1598)%2BRlsa_Bing&utm_term=video%20creator%20free%20download&utm_content=video%20creator-Windows	Free
Video Editor	Video and audio editor	http://www.videosoftdev.com/	Free
SKETCHAR's	SketchAR is an AI-based mobile app and a platform for developing people's creativity through the unique interactive approach of AR drawing, photo editing, and gamification.	Enhance your creativity using AI+AR (sketchar.tech)	Free
The 9 Best Coding Games to Build Your Programming Skills	Coding games help you learn faster with hands-on practice and experience. Plus, they are a fun way to test your programming skills!	The 9 Best Coding Games to Build Your Programming Skills (makeuseof.com)	Free
Adobe Premiere Pro	Turn raw footage into flawless productions with the industry-leading video editing software.	https://www.adobe.com/products/premiere.html	Cost

NOTE: This list is not all-inclusive. Participants are encouraged to use whatever technology will bring their water system into an immersive environment.

BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT
Official Entry Form for STEM Competition

PLEASE PRINT

Contestant Information

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Grade _____ School _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Statement of Conformity to Rules

I have studied the Official Rules of the STEM competition and fully understand and agree to be bound by them. I understand that the final ruling on all protests will be made by the Competition Chairperson.

Contestant's Signature _____ Date _____

**The following is to be completed by the Chapter
President and STEM Competition Chairperson**

Chapter Statement

We submit the enclosed entry form in full compliance with the Official Rules of the STEM Competition

Chapter Name _____

Chapter President (Signature) _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Chapter STEM Chair (Signature) _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Address _____

E-Mail Address _____

Regional Council Statement

We submit the enclosed entry form in full compliance with the Official Rules of the STEM Competition

Regional Council (i.e., Region I) _____

Council President (Signature) _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Regional STEM Chair (Signature) _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____



**BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT (BIG)
NATIONAL STEM COMPETITION**

PARTICIPANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION
(Please Print)

Student's Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ * City/State/Zip _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Name: _____

Phone: (day) _____ (night) _____

Email address: _____

If I cannot be reached, please notify _____ Phone: _____

Please list any food allergies: _____

Medical Insurance Company _____ Policy # _____

Is the student currently taking medicine or treatment? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, explain: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

NOTE: This form is required and must be completed on each regional winner and submitted to the National Program and Planning Chair along with all other required documents.

