


THE BIG BANG UK YOUNG SCIENTISTS & ENGINEERS COMPETITION RULES & ELIGIBILITY 2023/24



GENERAL RULES

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1. Entry to The Competition is free and open to students studying in UK.
 2. Competitors can only enter one project into The Competition, either as an individual or as part of a team.
 3. Entrants must be aged between 11 and 18 when the project is entered, and in full-time state funded secondary education or who are home educated or who enter as part of a community group.
 4. Young people who attend independent or private schools, independent colleges or independent sixth forms are not eligible to enter The Big Bang Competition 2023 or showcase projects in the Big Bang Project Gallery. However, to support state-funded schools - joint entries can be submitted from teams comprising an equal number of independent school/partner state school students, via the state school entry.
 5. An entrant may take part in The Competition if they are aged 19 whilst in full-time state funded secondary education or training when the project is entered.
 6. Projects will be entered into one of three categories according to the entrant(s)'s school year in the academic year 2023/24:

CATEGORY	ENGLAND & WALES	NORTHERN IRELAND	SCOTLAND
Junior	Years 7-9	Years 8-10	Years S1-S3
Intermediate	Years 10-11	Years 11-12	Years S4-S5
Senior	Years 12-13	Years 13-14	Year S6

7. Entry into The Competition is through the online heat only. Online entry will open in October 2023 and close Wednesday 27 March 2024 at 5pm.
8. We will only consider projects that have been submitted into The Competition; projects that have not been submitted will not be reviewed by judges.
9. Plagiarism is prohibited. The project entry must be the original work of the entrant(s) only.
10. It is the responsibility of the entrant(s) to inform Big Bang Education CIC of any change to their contact details. Failure to do so may result in the entrant not receiving notification of results or other correspondence.
11. The judges' decisions are final and no appeals will be heard or correspondence, relating to result determination, entered into.
12. Big Bang Education CIC reserves the right to revise these rules and regulations at any time. Should it be necessary to do so, The Competition organisers (Big Bang Education CIC) will make every effort to communicate any changes to interested parties as quickly as possible.
13. There will be one winner in each category (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) and an overall winner in each stream, Science, Engineering or Technology.



14. Runners-up may also be allocated within each category and stream.
15. There will be one winner for each special award. Special awards may have other rules / criteria which are different to the core Big Bang Competition prizes and will only be awarded where these criteria have been met.
16. The winners will be announced at The Competition Awards Ceremony at The Big Bang Fair.
17. A full list of prize winners will be published on The Competition website and in any other publications selected by the organisers.
18. Entrants should submit a written entry or a short video.
19. Video entries must be up to 3 minutes long and a file size no larger than 300MB. Judges will not review videos past the 3-minute mark.
20. Written entries will be submitted via an online form template provided by the Competition. Entrants must keep to the following word count:
 - Project overview: 150 words
 - Project concept: 300 words
 - Project process: 400 words
 - Project outline: 400 words
 - Next steps and reflections: 350 words

PROJECT WORK CONDUCT RULES

21. Any projects involving interaction with humans or use of hazardous substances or devices must be in keeping with national health and safety guidelines and those of the entrant's educational institution.

TEAM-SPECIFIC RULES

22. Projects can be completed by teams of any size.
23. If not all team members are able to attend judging, then those who do attend must represent the whole team and inform the judges which area of the projects they focused on themselves.
24. All team members must be eligible to enter The Competition even if all members are not able to attend judging or the Award Ceremony.
25. If not all team members are able to attend the Award Ceremony for any reason, then the school or college has responsibility for appropriate allocation of any prizes awarded.
26. Where teams have members spread across categories, the entire team will be allocated based on the category appropriate to the highest year group.



For more tips, ideas and resources, head to
www.thebigbang.org.uk/competition