



Congressional App Challenge FAQs

- **What is the Congressional App Challenge?**

Established by Members of the U.S. House of Representatives in 2013, the Congressional App Challenge is a nationwide event that invites high school students to compete by creating and exhibiting their software application, or “app,” for mobile, tablet, or computer devices on a platform of their choice. The competition is designed to engage the creativity of students and encourage their participation in computer science.

- **Who can participate?**

High school and middle school students who live in or are eligible to attend public schools located in Washington, DC’s Congressional District can participate. To confirm your eligibility, please visit <http://www.congressionalappchallenge.us>.

- **What if I don't live in the Washington, DC Congressional District?**

You can enter your home address on <http://www.congressionalappchallenge.us> to see if your local Congressman/Congresswoman is participating in the competition.

- **Can home-schooled students participate?**

Yes. Any high school or middle school student who lives in Washington, DC’s Congressional District or is eligible to attend public high school in the district can compete.

- **Can students submit in teams?**

Yes. The maximum team size is four students, two of whom must reside in or be eligible to attend public high school in Washington, DC’s Congressional District.

- **When can I register and how can I submit my entry?**

Participating students must first confirm eligibility and register on <http://www.congressionalappchallenge.us>. All entries must be original in concept, design, and execution.

- **When will the contest occur?**

Students must submit their apps by October 30, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. to be considered.

- **What must contestants submit for consideration?**

Participating students must submit a demonstration video of their app along with a copy of the source code for inspection by the judges.

- **How will my app be judged?**

Apps will be judged based on the following criteria: Quality of the idea, including creativity and originality; implementation of the idea, including user experience and design; and demonstrated excellence of coding and programming skills.

- **How will the winners be recognized?**

The winner from Washington, DC's Congressional District will be featured on <http://www.congressionalappchallenge.us>, and the winning app will also be on display in the U.S. Capitol to honor the winners from across the country. All applicants will receive an official Congressional certificate to note their participation.

- **Does my app or program need to be fully functional to submit?**

No. Each student must submit at least a video that describes a well-thought-out idea for an app and some source code that implements the idea to some degree. The degree to which your app is fully functional will certainly be considered by the judges when selecting a winner, along with the other factors listed above.

- **What if I still have a question that isn't listed on this list of FAQs?**

Contact Cierra.Jay@mail.house.gov with any further questions on the app competition for Washington, DC's Congressional District.