

App Challenge Information Webinar

The Office of Congressman Adam Smith
August 24, 2023



Opening Remarks

Congressman Adam Smith



Constituent Services

Keelyn Bessmer, Constituent Service Representative



Application Process



How to Apply

- To be eligible to participate in the Congressional App Challenge, you must be a **middle or high school student** at the time of app submission.
- Students may register as **individuals or as teams** of up to four. No more than four students are allowed to form a team.
 - If competing as a team, at least half of the teammates must be eligible to compete in the district in which they are participating in.
- Students may compete in the district they reside in or the district they attend school in.
- Students can use any programming language and any platform.
- **Application due on Nov 1st!** Visit CongressionalAppChallenge.us to register!



Benefits

- Winning apps are eligible to be displayed in the US Capitol Building and featured on the House of Representatives' website, House.gov.
- Winning students are invited to #HouseofCode Capitol Hill Reception in Washington D.C.
- Extra credit for your class
- Great on your resume
- Good learning experience



Judging Process



Criteria

- **Ideology:** Issue or need is relevant to the app.
- **Impact:** App provides a strong explanation of its impact.
- **Structure:** Video is innovative and explains all aspects of the app.
- **Function:** App is functional.
- **Code:** Code is effectively explained.
- **User Interface (UI):** App is navigable and highly innovative in design and interface.

Rubric

CONCEPT					
	1	2	3	4	5
IDEOLOGY	Does not address an issue or a need	Briefly addresses an issue or a need	Issue or need is moderately relevant	Issue or need is relevant	Issue or need is extremely relevant
IMPACT	App is unoriginal or does not aim to be impactful	App lacks in explaining a clear impact	Impact of app is broad and/or basic	App provides a strong explanation of its impact	Immense usage of creativity is featured as impact is explained
STRUCTURE	Video does not follow time limit and/or is difficult to view	Video has some technical issues, cuts, or is confusing	Video is mostly organized and explains some aspects of the app	Video is organized and explains all aspects of the app	Video is innovative and engaging
					/15

TECHNOLOGY					
	1	2	3	4	5
FUNCTION	App lacks any functionality	App contains snippets of code/action	App works, yet encounters errors	App is fully functional	App is functional with complex features
CODE	Video does not explain code	App is not effectively explained technically	Code is partially explained with few areas of confusion/error	Code is effectively explained	Explanation of code indicates immense understanding
UI	App lacks design and seems difficult to use	App is rudimentary in design and experience	App is navigable with basic access to features	App has aspects of design and navigation	App is highly innovative in design and interface
					/15

Score:	/30
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New Requirement: GitHub Code

Panel

2022 Winner: Subhadra Vadlamanti

Judges: Todd Enders, Farah Ali, and KC Merchant



What made you interested in tech?



**What did you enjoy
about the App Challenge
program?**

Any advice to the new applicants?



Q&A



Resources

- <https://www.congressionalappchallenge.us/students/learn-to-code/>
- <https://www.congressionalappchallenge.us/students/past-winners/>
- https://adamsmith.house.gov/congressional-app-challenge_1

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