



SOUTHWESTERN  
MICHIGAN COLLEGE

## Innovation Expo 21-22 Rules and Criteria

Welcome inventors and innovators to the 21-22 Innovation Expo sponsored by Southwestern Michigan College and SW MiSTEM Network! We are looking for students to solve a problem they find ***in and/or around their home***, and then virtually present their solution to a panel of judges. The problem can be inside or outside. Possible projects could include, but are not limited to, organization, efficiency, making everyday tasks simpler, etc. Be creative, observant, use your imagination!

The top three projects in each age group will be determined by scores based on rubrics, and will receive recognition in a virtual ceremony to be announced. Each of the winners will receive a \$10 gift card and a frameable certificate of achievement.

All projects will be presented via video upload to a google form. Upon registration, contestants will receive a link to upload their videos and will receive other project resources.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/InnoXPO22> . To complete the form, you will need a project title, participants' names, age level, school district, and contact information.

Project presentations will be **no longer than 3 minutes**. Projects can be done individually or in small teams. We suggest no more than four students per team to encourage equal participation.

Projects will be judged according to the following criteria

### GRADES 3-5

- A realistic problem for this age group has been identified and clearly defined.
- An original solution, either invention or innovation, provides evidence that it solves the problem.
- Challenges encountered and how they were overcome were identified.
- Testing of the product was demonstrated.

- Presentation: good eye contact, explanation of project and solution, well organized, and well rehearsed.
- Video is within the time limit.

## GRADES 6-8

- A realistic problem for this age group has been identified and explained why it is a problem.
- Project represents a problem with some complexity..
- Challenges encountered and how they were overcome were identified.
- Design process was explained with appropriate support..
- Consideration was given to potential customers, marketing, and potential impact of the solution.
- Project offers an original solution.
- Evidence of testing and data collection were present.
- Presentation: good eye contact, explanation of project and solution, well organized, and well rehearsed.

## GRADES 9-12

- Project represents a problem with some complexity.
- Consideration was given to potential customers, marketing, and potential impact of the solution.
- Challenges encountered and how they were overcome were identified.
- Project offers an original solution.
- Prototype is true to life and has been tested. It doesn't have to work, but it should accurately portray what a working model could look like.

- Design process was explained with appropriate support.
- Display (if used) is attractive and tells the story of the project. Data from testing is displayed and if in charts/graphs, all axes are labeled well. Explanation of how the data drove the design process. Grammar and spelling are correct.
- Presentation: good eye contact, well spoken, well-rehearsed. If more than one person, all must participate equally.

## Undergraduate

- Project represents a problem with complexity.
- Consideration given to potential customers, how it may be marketed, how the solution will improve lives.
- Project offers an original solution and demonstrates its testing. Prototype is true to life. It doesn't have to work, but it should accurately portray what a working model could look like. Project exhibits an understanding of the design process, how the prototype took shape, how the team (if more than one) worked together. Credit is given to supporters.
- Display (if used) is attractive and tells the story of the project. Data from testing is clearly displayed and if in charts/graphs, all axes are labeled well. Presentation explains how the data drove the design process. Grammar and spelling are correct.
- Presentation: good eye contact, well spoken, well-rehearsed. If more than one person, all must participate equally.