

OFFICIAL STEM CHALLENGE RULES

1. The New Mexico Governor's STEM Challenge is open to eligible 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders, who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial, or home school environment. If you are uncertain if your organization is eligible to participate, please contact a STEM Challenge program coordinator. These coordinators have the sole and exclusive authority to determine organizational eligibility to participate and have the right to require additional documentation to verify eligibility.
2. Student team members must be from the same school or organization, except in the case of homeschooled students joining a public school team. Students cannot be on multiple teams in the same competition season.
3. Schools may register one (1) team per year.
4. As many students may work on a project as you wish, but only ten (10) students can represent your educational institution by submitting their team's proposal packet and presenting at the Statewide Showcase (hereafter referred to as "Showcase"). In addition, up to two educator mentors are recognized as part of the official team but may not participate in the Showcase demonstration or answer questions from the Judges.
5. The team members that present at the Showcase must be the same team members that submitted the original proposal packet. At the time for registering your team for the Showcase, you may select one student who can act as an alternate for the Showcase. The alternate can only be used if one of the original team members cannot attend due to illness or family emergency.
6. The deliverable deadline for the proposal packet is **January 8**. Failure to meet this deadline will result in point deduction.
7. Judges evaluate each deliverable in accordance with the rubrics. All decisions and scores a Judge assigns are final. Teams will not receive raw score sheets or be able to review scores from individual Judges.
8. Actions or comments from any team members or any team supporter that maligns, disparages, or harasses other team members, event coordinators, program staff, or volunteers; or damages, tampers with, or sabotages another team's prototype will result in immediate disqualification.
9. If a dispute or disagreement occurs at the Showcase, an official team mentor may bring the matter to the attention of the STEM Challenge program coordinators, who will thereafter investigate and make a determination regarding the complaint. All decisions made by the program coordinators are final and not subject to appeal.
10. For the Showcase: all participants are solely and exclusively responsible for health insurance coverage. The NM Governor's STEM Challenge provides no coverage prior to, during, or following any Showcase event and assumed no responsibility or liability in connection with the provision of any health insurance coverage.
11. All Judges will be vetted and required to disclose potential conflicts of interest, including direct involvement or mentoring during that same year.
12. The NM Governor's STEM Challenge is an educational program established to encourage high school students to consider and explore careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. All STEM Challenge participants and their supporters acknowledge that participation in the STEM Challenge is not a right. By participating in the STEM Challenge, team members and team supporters agree and are bound to behave with respect and dignity for their team and for their fellow participants.
13. The NM Governor's STEM Challenge reserves the sole and exclusive right to amend these rules at any time.