



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
 State Superintendent of Education

September 2, 2020

Alabama
 State Board
 of Education

MEMORANDUM

Governor Kay Ivey
 President

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

Jackie Zeigler
 District I
 Vice President

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EAM*
 State Superintendent of Education

Tracie West
 District II

RE: Governor's App Challenge

Stephanie Bell
 District III

The Alabama State Department of Education is pleased to support the Governor's App Challenge. This is a statewide computer programming competition for students in Grades K-12 with the goal of providing students the opportunity to gain recognition for their mastery and application of computer programming and design. The App Challenge is intended to highlight the value of computer science and STEM education.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
 District IV
 President Pro Tem

The Governor's App Challenge accepts computer programs (or apps) written in any programming language and for any platform, including desktop, web, mobile, Raspberry Pi, and others. The competition is open to all students, regardless of coding experience, who meet the eligibility requirements. Students are eligible to participate as individuals or in teams of up to three members. The App Challenge is designed to promote innovation and engagement in coding and computer science. The deadline for students to register online is **January 15, 2021**. Please see the attached flyer for additional information.

Tommie T. Stewart, Ph.D.
 District V

In order for the App Challenge to be successful, the role of local education agency technology coordinators will be vital in supporting the app submission process and providing teachers technical assistance as needed. The rules, scoring rubric, timeline of important dates, and additional resources to guide you through the progression of events can be located on the [App Challenge Website](#).

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.
 District VI

Jeff Newman
 District VII

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
 District VIII

Important Details:

- Students must register online by January 15, 2021. Apps do not have to be completed to register.
- Participating schools will determine a winner by grade band and submit the name of the winner to the District Level by January 29, 2021.
- For more information about the Governor's App Challenge, please visit the official App Challenge website at: <https://bit.ly/2020ALGovAppChallenge>.

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
 Secretary and
 Executive Officer

City and County Superintendents of Education
Page 2
September 2, 2020

Thank you for your cooperation and support to ensure that the Governor's App Challenge is a great experience for all of our students that desire to participate. If you have questions concerning the App Challenge, please email ALGovAppChallenge@gmail.com or you may contact Ms. Amanda C. Dykes by telephone at (334) 694-4761.

EGM/ACD/RH

Attachment

cc: City and County Technology Coordinators
Dr. Daniel Boyd
Mr. Larry Raines
Ms. Dawn Morrison
Ms. Amanda C. Dykes

FY20-2148

A blue banner for the Alabama Governor's App Challenge. On the left is a smartphone displaying various app icons. The background is filled with numerous colorful icons representing different app categories like education, health, and entertainment. In the top right corner is the official seal of the Office of the Governor of Alabama. The main text is centered and reads "Join the 2020 Alabama Governor's App Challenge" in large, white, bold letters with a drop shadow.

Join the 2020 Alabama Governor's App Challenge

The Governor's App Challenge is a statewide computer programming competition for Alabama students. The goal of the Challenge is to allow more students to gain recognition for their mastery and application of computer programming and design!

How do students enter their app?

Teachers will submit student projects (video and written responses) to the school for judging. Teachers will also submit the app for the student development teams by **January 15, 2021**.

Submission Requirements

A complete submission will include the following components:

1. **Submission Form:** App information must be submitted via form.
2. **Written Response:** The written response should be typed, double spaced PDF, in a standard 12-point font (Times, Calibri or Arial). The written response must be submitted in pdf format. The total response should not exceed 750 words.
3. **Demonstration Video:** Students must create a 1-2 minute video, showcasing what the app does and how it works.

See rules for more details of the requirements

Judging

Each School Board District will have a 3 or 4 person panel consisting of industry and/or education professionals from within the district that will be responsible for judging student apps. Cash prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each grade band at the state level judging round during the Computer Science Summit in **April 2021**.

Important Dates

January 15, 2021 - All teams must submit their information.

January 29, 2021 - Schools must submit grade band winners to the appropriate District Technology Coordinator.

February 19, 2021 - District Technology Coordinators must submit grade band winners to the LEA form.

March 12, 2021 - School Board District Judging Panels must submit grade band winner's complete portfolio.

April 2021 - Grade band winners must be prepared to present their app at the CS Summit.

For more information email: algovappchallenge@gmail.com.

A blue banner at the bottom of the page with the text "Every great app was once just a great idea." in large, white, bold letters with a drop shadow. The banner is decorated with various colorful app icons along the bottom edge.

Every great app was once just a great idea.