



## OFFICIAL RULES FOR THE 2022 INVENTION CONVENTION COMPETITION

The mission of our Ohio Convention Program is to inspire curiosity, confidence, invention and creative problem-solving in K-12 students. The Invention League makes every effort to ensure an enjoyable, rewarding, inspirational and educational experience for every participant.

**Eligibility.** The Invention Convention Program is open to Ohio students grades K-12. Invention League reserves the right to eliminate grade levels from the competition should not enough entries be submitted for that grade level as determined by the Invention League. Each district or approved program leader is solely responsible for choosing its student representatives for OIL competitions. There are a limited number of entry invitations for each district/program leader. Students in K-12 may compete as an individual or as part of a team of 2, but not both. Students who are family members of Invention League or Contractors ARE eligible to participate and win but CANNOT be granted cash or college savings awards. Students who are family members of employees of Invention League Sponsors ARE eligible to compete and win cash and college savings awards. Invention Convention award winners from previous years may compete again but entering a completely new invention.

**Registration Deadline.** Students selected to represent their district or program must complete the Official Ohio Invention Convention Student Registration by the deadline, details of which will be provided ONLY through the educator/program leader each year. Registration must be completed in its entirety for a student to be eligible to participate. It is the responsibility of the student and parent or guardian to complete their registration fully no later than 5:00 PM on designated deadline day. There will be no extensions or exceptions to the registration deadline. **Registration instruction/deadlines will be provided 2-4 weeks in advance of the deadline.**

### Participation Requirements:

1. All Participants must complete and upload all required items including a video submission sharing their invention process and prototype into their registration to participate. Students advanced to Round 2 State Finals must appear in a virtual Zoom Judge Room on their reserved date and time to present their prototype and invention process to judges and answer questions.
2. K-12 participants are required to complete a Student Journal/Logbook, documenting their invention process including the steps of: Identifying, Researching/Understanding, Ideating, Designing, Building, Testing and Communicating. Teams only need to complete one Journal or Logbook but must include both signatures. The Journal/Logbook is a necessary step to document each participant's creative process and is evaluated by judges. K-12 students can use the "official" Invention Convention Program Journal/Logbook available [HERE](#) or create their own Journal as long as it contains the prototype requirements, necessary signatures and all elements of the "official" Journal/Logbook
3. Students must create a prototype "Model" of their invention. The model does not have to work but must illustrate how the invention would work if it were operational. Models must be limited in size to fit on a 2' X 3' tabletop. If invention prototype is larger than allowed dimensions, student can create a small scale model to display. If invention is intended to be used in specific environments, conditions and/or is too large, students could incorporate and share video of the prototype in use within their video submission and further levels of competitions. Students should have their prototype, display board and must appear in their video submission. Students advanced to round 2 State Finals virtual "Zoom" Judge Rooms are required to have the above items in their session as well.

**Judging and Evaluation:** Judging will consist of 2 separate rounds.  
**Preliminary Round 1** -Judges from a variety of industries will view and evaluate student video submissions and their invention process per [rubric](#). Each video will be scored a minimum of two times.

**Honda State Finals Round 2-** Students advanced to Round 2 will reserve a date and time in June to present their prototype, display board and support materials in virtual Judge "Zoom" Rooms with two judges in each room, an OIL representative and 5-6 inventor peers. Each inventor (or team) will have the opportunity to share information about their invention and invention process, followed by questions from their peers and judges. Students must be present for their reserved judging period to be eligible to win. Students should independently present during Zoom judging session without adult interjection. Participants will be judged in their grade level or grade level range. Evaluations will be based on student interviews, the invention prototype, supporting materials and the individual student or team presentation of the invention. Students will be evaluated on: 1) Communication, 2) Invention Process, 3) Research of problem and market research. Student scores are not published and are the property of the Ohio Invention League. Inventions will be evaluated against other inventions presented in this year's OIL hosted competitions. All judges' decisions are final.

**Awards:** Awards and award values are subject to change without notice.

Over \$30,000 is awarded in prizes and College Savings awards are presented annually. College savings awards may be awarded in the form of an investment through a CollegeAdvantage 529 Savings Plan or similar plan and through a company acting as the plan administrator. College savings awards are not transferable, cannot be redeemed for cash, and must be used by the recipient for higher education. College savings awards will be paid according to the plan administrator's policies and procedures in place at the time the student wishes to use the college savings award. Student winners and their parents/guardians will be required to provide certain information to the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority in order to receive their prize and set up their college savings award. **College savings award paperwork will be sent via email to the email address listed in the registration system. Parents/guardians must submit their student's completed paperwork in accordance with the instructions provided in webinar instructions for award winners. College savings award paperwork NOT returned to OTTA by the deadline will be forfeited.** For team entries, both members must be present at judging for both team members to be eligible for college savings awards and other prizes. Awards won by team entries will be divided equally between the team members. For winning teams, each team member must complete applicable college savings award paperwork by the deadline. Additional prizes may be awarded at each event in the form of certificates or gift cards. Students/parents/guardians are wholly responsible for safeguarding these prizes. The Invention League cannot reissue lost or stolen prizes.

**Intellectual Property Rights.** The Invention League does not profit in any way from any invention submitted by participants. Invention League, its affiliates, sponsors, board members and officers have no rights, privileges or interest in any invention idea submitted as part of the Invention Convention Program. Participants are cautioned that the awards ceremony is open to the public. As a result - all inventions will be deemed to be "publicly disclosed" at the convention, which may make it necessary for participant inventors to take steps to secure certain intellectual property rights in their inventions. "Public disclosure" is defined as the time any idea has been offered in an open environment. The Invention League strives to highlight additional resources that can assist students, teachers and parents with the protection of their intellectual property and has involved the US Patent and Trademark Office in the convention project. In addition, the Patent and Trademark Office website, <http://www.uspto.gov>, provides helpful information. However, the Invention League makes no representations, expressed or implied, regarding the protection of participants' intellectual property. All participants that wish to protect their invention assume sole responsibility for securing intellectual property rights.

**Photo Release:** Participants must obtain parental permission – via parent/guardian signature in Invention League’s Official Invention Convention Program Registration in the online registration system (zFairs) in order to be eligible to compete for college savings awards. By signing this registration form or completing the online registration for their student - the parent/guardian permits reasonable use of their child’s name, photograph, or likeness, image, voice and/or interview, in all manner and media existing now or in the future; including the sale of likeness as donations for purposes of program fundraising; releasing The Invention League, sponsors and promotional partners from any and all claims, liabilities and/or damages arising directly or indirectly out of their participation.

**These rules are subject to change as needed and without notice.**