

## 2015-2016 FUTURE CITY COMPETITION FACT SHEET

- The annual Future City Competition for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students is held from September 2015 through February 2016.
- More than 40,000 students from 1,350 middle schools are participating nationwide in the regional competitions. The winning team from each qualifying regional competition receives a trip to the Future City National Finals at the Capitol Hilton, February 2016.
- State of Illinois has 25 teams registered for the 2016 competition.
- The date of the competition is- Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
- The State of Illinois competition will be held at the University of Illinois at Chicago-Student Center West Building located at 828 S. Halsted Street, Chicago, IL 60607.
- Admission is free.
- Future City, a STEM program, is reaching girls and underserved students(2015)
  - 46% of participants are girls.
  - 33% of participating schools have 50% or more of their students enrolled in the reduced or free lunch program.
- Future City is a program of DiscoverE, a consortium of professional and technical societies and major U.S. corporations.
- Major funding for the National Finals comes from Bechtel Corporation, Bentley Systems, and Shell Oil Company. Additional program funding is provided by CH2M Hill, EA, and PMIEF.
- Student teams, led by an educator and volunteer mentor, research and design a
  solution to a city wide challenge that changes each year. This year's challenge—Waste
  Not, Want Not- Solid Waste Management Systems of the Future. Competing teams
  are judged by panels of volunteers from the engineering community on five program
  deliverables:
  - 1. Narrative: In only 500 words teams must describe their city of the future;
  - 2. Model: With only a \$100 budget teams build a model of their city to scale with at least moving part using mostly recycled materials.
  - 3. Presentation: Teams have only 7 minutes to impress the judges by showcasing what they've learned and plan for the future.
- The top prize at the National Finals is \$7,500 for the organization's STEM program plus a trip to U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama for the official team members, awarded by Bentley Systems. The first runner up team is awarded a \$5,000 scholarship for the organization's STEM program, provided by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE). The second runner up is awarded a \$2,000 prize for the organization's STEM program, provided by IEEE-USA. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> placed teams will receive an Honorable Mention and \$750 for their organization's STEM program, provided by Ohio University and CH2M Hill.
- Thirty-seven regional final competitions will be held in January 2016. Participating regions include: Alabama; Arizona; California (Northern); California (Southern); Florida (South); Florida (Tampa Bay); Georgia; Great Plains, Idaho; Illinois (Chicago); Indiana; Iowa; Kentucky; Louisiana; Michigan; Mid-Atlantic; Minnesota; Nebraska; Nevada

- (Southern); New England; New Jersey; New Mexico, New York (Albany); New York (City); New York (Western); North Carolina; Ohio; Oklahoma; Pennsylvania (Central); Pennsylvania (Philadelphia); Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh); South Carolina; Texas (Central); Texas (Houston); Texas (North); Washington; and Wisconsin.
- DiscoverE works year-round to sustain and grow a dynamic engineering profession critical to public health, safety, and welfare. The foundation supports engineering outreach, education, and celebration through a network of thousands of volunteers in its partner coalition of more than 100 professional societies, major corporations and government agencies. Together we meet a vital need: introducing students, parents, and educators to engineering, engaging them in hands-on engineering experiences, and making science and math relevant. The foundation and coalition are actively putting the E in STEM.
- For more information, visit <a href="https://www.discovere.org">www.discovere.org</a>.

For more information:

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