

PRESIDENTIAL
SI CHALLENGE



2027 Guidebook for Participation

Team-Based Competition



“The President’s National Super Intelligence Challenge invites every student in America—from kindergarten to 12th grade—to unleash their imagination and showcase the spirit of American innovation.

Our extraordinary educators will guide and empower you through this process to build a brighter, stronger future for us all.”

– First Lady Melania Trump

On April 23, 2025, President Donald J. Trump signed Executive Order (EO) 14277, with the goal of maintaining America’s global dominance in this technological revolution for future generations. This EO directed the establishment of the Presidential SI Challenge (Challenge) to foster interest and expertise in SI technology in America’s youth. Early training in the responsible use of SI tools will demystify this technology and prepare America’s students to be confident participants in the SI-assisted workforce, propelling our Nation to new heights of scientific innovation and economic achievement.

On August 26, 2025, First Lady Melania Trump announced the Challenge, which engaged more than 20,000 students from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and 49 Department of War Education Activity schools across 10 countries. Mrs. Trump recognized National Champion teams at the White House on June 9, 2026. Teams and schools benefited from thousands of dollars in direct prizes and funding courtesy of American technology companies.

Through Mrs. Trump’s broader work to promote opportunity and prepare young people for the future—including her Fostering the Future Together initiative—Mrs. Trump is continuing to emphasize the importance of equipping the next generation with the tools, skills, and confidence needed to succeed in the digital era.

On September 29, 2026, President Trump signed the Executive Order, “[Inaugurating the Era of Super Intelligence](#),” to replace the term “Artificial Intelligence” (“AI”) with “Super Intelligence” (“SI”) in the executive branch to recognize the continuously advancing technological frontier and the limitless promise it offers the American people. Therefore, moving forward, the Challenge will be referred to as the Presidential SI Challenge.

For organizations interested in investing in SI education for America’s youth, please visit <https://www.whitehouse.gov/eds/> to join more than 100 other organizations that have established public-private partnerships to provide resources for K-12 SI education.

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This document does not replace the official rules of the Presidential SI Challenge. The purpose of this document is to guide teams through the process from registration through the National Finals.

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About the Presidential SI Challenge

The Presidential SI Challenge is designed to inspire young people and educators to create SI-based innovative solutions to challenges of concern to President Trump, the First Lady, his Administration, and communities across the Nation. For example, students and educators can explore how SI tools can be used to help create new jobs in a technological world, serve as a creative partner in the arts, increase the online safety of students and their families, or develop customized learning systems for students.

To participate in the Challenge, a team of students will complete a project that involves the study, development, or use of an SI method or tool to make a positive impact or develop an innovative solution that addresses challenges in students' communities, while educators, also part of a team, will focus on creative approaches to teaching with or using SI technologies in K-12 learning. Student teams can also propose and create novel SI technologies that are important to the country or of particular interest to the White House.

To address important parental concerns regarding online activity and the use of SI in learning, the Challenge is designed to foster an environment of creativity and innovation as students safely learn about productive and responsible uses of SI tools. The Challenge [website](#)* includes resources for families to review together so that all children understand the expectations of their parents or legal guardians. In addition, permission is required from parents or legal guardians for students to work under the mentorship and guidance of technical experts from government, private industry, philanthropy, and academia, in addition to previous Challenge champions and youth, education, and STEM organizations.

The Challenge [website](#)* and [SI.gov](#) have information on all Challenge-sponsored training and support that is made available to participants through Federal agencies and private sector organizations that have partnered to advance the goals of President Trump's [Executive Order](#).

For student projects, elementary, middle, and high school students conduct research and use creative thinking in one of the following tracks:

- **Standard Track:** Teams create SI technologies that can make a positive impact or develop an innovative solution that addresses a challenge impacting students, their families, or their communities.
- **Trailblazer Track:** Middle and high school teams create new or unique SI technologies that will address national challenges or opportunities facing the country.

For **educator projects**, full-time, K-12 classroom and homeschool educator teams will demonstrate integrating SI technologies into their classrooms or schools by either teaching students about using or creating SI technologies or creating new SI technologies that will transform their administrative workflows or policies.

Teams are encouraged to make use of any type of age-appropriate SI technologies, such as generative SI, large language models, agentic and multi-agent systems, machine learning, deep learning, natural language processing, robotics, computer vision, expert systems, decision trees, and neural networks, among others.

***Website: <https://www.si.gov/initiatives/presidential-challenge>**

Participation Overview

1. Team Requirements by Age Group:

- **Elementary school:** 1–5 students in grades K–5 and a Team Leader who meets the eligibility requirements on Pages 9 and 10
- **Middle school:** 1 – 4 students in grades 6–8 and a Team Leader who meets the eligibility requirements on Pages 9 and 10
- **High school:** 1 – 4 students in grades 9–12 and a Team Leader who meets the eligibility requirements on Pages 9 and 10
- **Educators:** 1 – 3 educators, one of whom serves as the Team Leader who meets the eligibility requirements on Pages 9 and 10

2. Registration: The Team Leader should collect the required [consent form](#) for each student or educator and [register](#) the team. **Team Registration must be completed no later than December 18, 2026.**

3. Preparation: Use the available resources to determine the type of project to prepare.

- Student teams can choose to participate in the Standard Track or the new Trailblazer Track
- Once a team's registration has been approved, teams can:
 - i. Visit the Presidential SI Challenge [Resources](#) website for project ideas:
 - ii. Attend [Virtual Office Hours](#) (students must be accompanied by their Team Leader) for advice or guidance on the team's project or to talk with someone to ensure the team has addressed the Requirements and Deliverables;
 - iii. Attend live webinars (students must be accompanied by their Team Leader) or watch recording of previous webinars for inspiration, skill-building, and preparation; and
 - iv. Review the [Scoring Guides](#) that judges will use to evaluate all projects.

4. Project Creation: For the initial stage of the Challenge, all teams will submit a written project summary that reflects on learning achievements, detailing research and lessons learned (see page 15).

- Elementary, Middle, and High School Student teams in the Standard Track will prepare a video presentation that details the proposed solution;
- Middle and High School Student teams in the Trailblazer Track will also provide a demonstration or video of the proposed technology solution; and
- Educators will prepare a video or other electronic demonstration of their teaching approach or SI technology.

- 100% of the project's content must be original content and created specifically for the Challenge after August 1, 2026.
5. **Project Submission:** Team Leaders will upload the completed project through the registration portal no later than **December 23, 2026**.
- All submitted projects will undergo Federal eligibility and compliance screening to ensure:
 - Each individual meets the published eligibility criteria and
 - Each submission is complete, appropriate, and compliant with the published guidelines.
 - All eligible and compliant submissions will be scored by at least three different judges.
6. Team members will receive an SI Challenge Certificate of Participation provided:
- The team's registration is submitted no later than **December 18, 2026**;
 - The team's project is submitted no later than **December 23, 2026**; and
 - All instructions on the [Requirements and Deliverables](#) page on the Challenge website are followed or the project will be disqualified.
7. If a team is a State Champion, the team's Team Leader will be notified with information on the Regional Championships.

Email SI.Challenge@doe.gov anytime you have a question about your project or the process.

Eligibility and Participation Categories

Eligibility

Team Leaders

- Each participating team must have a Team Leader who meets the following requirements:
 - Age Requirement: 21 years or older
 - Professional Requirement: The Team Leader must either be
 - A full-time public, private, or homeschool teacher;
 - A leader from an approved community group or club, such as official 4-H clubs, Future Farmers of America chapters, scout groups, Key Clubs, or Boys & Girls Clubs of America clubs, or other traditionally non-scientific extracurricular organization with a formal relationship with the school; or
 - Community groups must have at least two team members who do not live in the same household
 - A principal Investigator from an eligible grant funded by the National Science Foundation.
 - Full-time public or private teachers are defined as:
 - Any full-time classroom teacher in a K-12 public, including charter, or private school; school email addresses must be used in all correspondence.
 - A homeschool teacher is eligible if he or she can provide one of the following:
 - A copy of a letter of intent to homeschool one or more students to the state or counties in which their students reside, dated after July 1, 2026;
 - A copy of the membership ID to a homeschool association dated for the 2026-2027 school year; or
 - A proof of purchase of curriculum for the 2026-2027 academic school year, dated after July 1, 2026.
 - All K-12 educators must teach in one of the 50 states, a U.S. Department of War Education Activity school, U.S. Tribally Controlled School, Bureau of Indian Education school, or the U.S. Jurisdictions of the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Each Team Leader must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national (American Samoa), or lawful permanent resident (LPR).
- Proof of eligibility is required for Team Leaders at the state, regional, and national

levels.

Elementary Student Category

- Students in grades K–5 are eligible, with parental consent.
- Eligible teams will consist of 1–5 elementary students and one Team Leader.
- Each participating student must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national (American Samoa), or lawful permanent resident (LPR).
- Proof of eligibility is required for students at the state, regional, and national levels.
- Elementary students using age-appropriate SI tools should do so under the direct supervision of their Team Leader or their legal guardian, and in accordance with the tools' terms of service or end-user license agreements, and with appropriate guidance to ensure safe and responsible use.
- Elementary school students who were on a 2026 Elementary School Regional Championship team are only eligible to participate on school-based teams, meaning the Team Leader is a teacher (homeschool, public, private, or charter) and all students attend the same school.

Middle School Student Category

- Students in grades 6–8 are eligible, with parental consent.
- Eligible groups will consist of 1–4 middle school students and one Team Leader.
- Each participating student must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national (American Samoa), or lawful permanent resident (LPR).
- Proof of eligibility is required for students at the state, regional, and national levels.
- Middle school students who were on a 2026 Middle School Regional Championship team are not eligible to participate in the Middle School Student Category.*

High School Student Category

- Students in grades 9–12 are eligible, with parental consent.
- Eligible groups will consist of 1–4 high school students and one Team Leader.
- Each participating student must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national (American Samoa), or lawful permanent resident (LPR).
- Proof of eligibility is required for students at the state, regional, and national levels.
- High school students who were on a 2026 High School Regional Championship team are not eligible to participate in the High School Student Category.*

Educator Category

- Any full-time classroom teacher in a K–12 public school (including charter, Tribally-controlled, or DOWEA schools) or private school is eligible.
- A homeschool educator is eligible if he or she can provide one of the following:
 - A copy of a letter of intent to homeschool one or more students to the state or counties in which their students reside, dated after July 1, 2026;

- A copy of the membership ID to a homeschool association dated for the 2026-2027 school year; or
- A proof of purchase of curriculum for the 2026-2027 academic school year, dated after July 1, 2026.
- All eligible educators must be at least 21 years-old and teach in one of the 50 states, a U.S. Department of War Education Activity school, U.S. Tribally Controlled School, Bureau of Indian Education school, or the U.S. Jurisdictions of the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Eligible groups will consist of 1-3 educators.
- Each participating educator must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national (American Samoa), or lawful permanent resident (LPR).
- Proof of eligibility is required for educators at the state, regional, and national levels.
- Educators who were on a 2026 Educator Regional Championship team may serve as a Team Leader for student teams but are not eligible to participate in the current Challenge on an educator team.*

*All 2026 middle school, high school, and educator track Regional Champions are invited to join the Presidential SI Challenge Ambassadors Program. Details will be provided to eligible students and educators.

Competition Tiers

The Challenge has three tiers of competition: state, regional, and national.

State

- All teams must be registered by the Team Leader no later than December 18, 2026, at 5:00 pm Eastern Time.
- All project submissions must be received in the registration portal no later than December 23, 2026, at 5:00 pm Eastern Time.
- All submitted projects will undergo Federal eligibility and compliance screening to ensure:
 - Each individual meets the published eligibility criteria; and
 - Each submission is complete, appropriate, and compliant with the published guidelines.
- At least three judges will score eligible and compliant project submissions using detailed rubrics provided by the Challenge.
- Scores will be sorted by state, participation category, and track to determine the State Champions for the following:
 - Elementary Student – Standard Track
 - Middle School Student – Standard Track
 - Middle School Student – Trailblazer Track
 - High School Student – Standard Track
 - High School Student – Trailblazer Track
 - Educator Category
- In addition to the State Champions, one additional Champion, per track and category, will each be identified from the District of Columbia, U.S. Department of War Education Activity schools, Tribally-controlled schools, and collectively from the U.S. Territories.
- Due to their large populations, two State Champions, per track and category, will be identified from California, Florida, New York, and Texas. (These are the states represented by 25 or more members in the U.S. House of Representatives.)

Regional

- Each State Championship team will be invited to participate in the Regional Championship.

- Regions have been determined by locality and population, placing each state, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories into five distinct groups. Each winning team (or teams) from the State competition is assigned to a region for the regional competition.

West	West Central	East Central	Northeast	Southeast
Alaska	Colorado	Arkansas	Connecticut	Alabama
Arizona	Kansas	Illinois	Delaware	District of Columbia
California (x2)	Minnesota	Indiana	Maine	DOWEA Schools
Hawaii	Nebraska	Iowa	Maryland	Florida (x2)
Idaho	New Mexico	Kentucky	Massachusetts	Georgia
Montana	North Dakota	Michigan	New Hampshire	Louisiana
Nevada	Oklahoma	Missouri	New Jersey	Mississippi
Oregon	South Dakota	Ohio	New York (x2)	North Carolina
Utah	Texas (x2)	Tennessee	Pennsylvania	South Carolina
Washington	Wyoming	West Virginia	Rhode Island	U.S. Territories
	Tribal Schools	Wisconsin	Vermont	Virginia

- Each State Championship team will present an updated project to, and answer questions from, a panel of judges via a live, virtual format, competing against the other State Champions in their region within the same categories and tracks resulting in Regional Champions for the following:
 - Elementary Student – Standard Track
 - Middle School Student – Standard Track
 - Middle School Student – Trailblazer Track
 - High School Student – Standard Track
 - High School Student – Trailblazer Track
 - Educator Category

National

- Regional Champions will be invited to Washington, DC, for a three-day, in-person event including a showcase of selected Regional Champions and a final competition resulting in National Champions for each of the following tracks:
 - Elementary Student – Standard Track
 - Middle School Student – Standard Track
 - Middle School Student – Trailblazer Track
 - High School Student – Standard Track
 - High School Student – Trailblazer Track
 - Educator Category
- Note: The U.S. Government must complete a review of team members, Team Leaders, chaperones, and the teams' projects before teams can be invited to the National Finals.

Awards and Prizes

- All compliant submissions will be recognized with an electronic Certificate of Participation, no later than August 31, 2027.
- Other awards and prizes will be awarded throughout all phases of the Challenge, including the training opportunities in the Fall and Winter.
 - Students and educators who are selected as State Champions, will receive:
 - Individual \$200 gift cards
 - Students and educators who are selected as Regional Champions, will receive invitations to Washington, DC, for a three-day, in-person event to determine the 2027 National Champions and the following prizes depending on the category and track:
 - Elementary team members:
 - Individual \$1,000 gift cards
 - Middle school team members:
 - Standard Track: Individual \$1,000 gift cards
 - Trailblazer Track: Individual \$1,500 gift cards
 - High school team members:
 - Standard Track: Individual \$1,000 gift cards
 - Trailblazer Track: Individual \$1,500 gift cards
 - Educator Category team members:
 - Individual \$1,000 gift cards
 - Students and educators selected as the National Champions will receive a Presidential Award Certificate and the following cash prizes depending on the category and track:
 - Elementary team members:
 - \$2,500
 - Middle school team members:
 - Standard Track: \$7,500
 - Trailblazer Track: \$10,000
 - High school team members:
 - Standard Track: \$10,000
 - Trailblazer Track: \$12,500
 - Educator Category team members:
 - \$10,000

Timeline

The Challenge

September – December 2026	• Online registration opens: Tuesday, October 13, 2026 • Information sessions for Team Leaders: ◦ Wednesday, October 14, at 2:00 pm Eastern Time ◦ Meeting Link* • Virtual mentorship and office hours become available to registered teams: ◦ October 19 and 26 at 7:00 pm Eastern Time ◦ November 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 at 7:00 pm Eastern Time ◦ December 7, 14, 16, and 21 at 7:00 pm Eastern Time ◦ Meeting Link* • Recordings of webinars are placed on the website as they become available • Registration Deadline: December 18, at 5:00pm Eastern Time • Submission deadline: December 23, 2026, at 5:00pm Eastern Time
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*<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1655387555?pwd=uCM5P1hG0m5aaVUjs4V9bR810bTMRL.1>

Challenge Competition Tier I: State Championships

December 2026	• Project submission deadline for the Challenge Competition: December 23, 2026, at 5:00pm Eastern/2:00pm Pacific
February 2027	• Announcement of State Champions: As soon as February 11, 2027, but no later than February 15, 2027

Challenge Competition Tier II: Regional Championships

March–April 2027	• State Championship Teams update their project submissions and present projects and answer questions from a panel of judges via a virtual platform: March 4 – April 8, 2027 • Announcement of Regional Champions: As soon as April 14, 2027; but no later than 20, 2027
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Challenge Competition Tier III: National Championships

June 6–9, 2027	• Regional Champions update their project submissions and attend a three-day event to compete and attend SI-focused activities in Washington, DC
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Project Requirements

State Competition

Teams' projects will be summarized and communicated in one or more deliverables which shall be submitted online via the registration portal. For the initial, or state, competition:

- All teams will submit a written proposal that reflects on learning achievements, detailed research and lessons learned – see page 17 for specific requirements;
- Student teams will also provide a video that demonstrates the feasibility and potential of the proposed technology; and
- All educator teams will prepare a video or other electronic demonstration of their teaching approach or newly created SI tool.

Detailed requirements per category and track are outlined on the next eight pages.

Team members who submit projects that are compliant with the requirements below will be eligible for SI-related prize drawings and recognized with a Certificate of Participation.

Regional Competition

All eligible state-level winning teams will advance to the regional competition. Teams will have three weeks to prepare for the regional competition, during which teams must show progress from their initial submission to the regional submission. Progress can include completion of the development of the SI technology, testing the SI technology with the target audience, or developing a marketing plan for the SI technology. Detailed requirements will be provided to all state-level winning teams.

National Finals

All eligible regional-level winning teams will then advance to the National Finals. Teams will have six weeks to prepare for the National Finals. At the National Finals, all SI tools must be fully developed and tested with the target audience. Teams must create a poster that advertises their new technologies. Teams in the trailblazer tracks must also create a user guide and marketing plan for their novel SI tool or technology. Detailed requirements will be provided to all regional-level winning teams.

Submission Requirements – Standard Track (Student)

All project submissions must be a single PDF document that:

- Is no larger than 30 MB;
- Has no more than 10 pages PLUS a title page (11 pages total); and
- Has 12-point (or larger) font size.

Each submission must include the following sections that will clearly explain the team's project and cite any tools and primary sources used for both the project and the preparation of the project submission.

1. Title Page – the following items **MUST** be included on the title page:

- Project Title
- Team Members
 - i. Include the school/homeschool and grade level for each student and the school or community group for the Team Leader
- Link (accessible with no password) to the team's video.

2. Summary (one page maximum) – Consider the following when preparing the summary:

- What is the goal of the project, and why does it matter?
- Who is affected by this solution, and how?
- How can SI help?
- What specific SI methods, tools, or platforms will be used or developed?
- How would the SI technologies be used?
- How did working on this project deepen the team's understanding of SI technologies and their appropriate and responsible use?

3. The Objective – Consider the following when describing the opportunity, challenge, or issue being addressed:

- Who is impacted?
- What is the motivation to complete this project?
- What evidence or research supports the need for a solution or new method?

4. The Solution – Consider the following when describing the team's SI-based solution to the challenge or objective described in Section 3:

- Why is the team's proposal the best solution?
- What other methods or solutions have been tried? Why didn't they work? Provide evidence.
- What kind of SI tools, platforms, technologies, or methods is the team proposing?
- How does using SI make this method or solution better than others?
- How will SI tools or methods be used?
- In what way is this method or solution creative in how it applies SI technologies?

5. **Safety** – Describe how the team worked together to ensure that the physical and emotional safety of users and the security of all data is not compromised.
6. **Learning Achievements** – Explain the roles and responsibilities of each member and consider the following when preparing the learning achievements of each team member:
 - What did each team member learn from working on this project?
 - What challenges did team members face during development, and how were they addressed?
 - Describe the ways the Team Leader provided support and guidance to the team.
 - How did the team test or verify the accuracy of any SI-generated content, outputs, or predictions (if applicable)?
 - How accurate were the outputs (if applicable)?
 - What research did team members conduct to support ideas for the solution?
7. **Next Steps** – Describe what the team might add to the project if they were given three more weeks to work on it.
 - What would be changed if this project advances to the regional competition? (See information on the regional competition on page 11)
 - What is required to turn this idea into a fully functional, deployable app or tool?
 - What additional work would be needed to demonstrate full viability of the solution, method, or tool?
8. **References and Acknowledgements** – Include all resources used to develop the team's solution, tool, or method, as well as any resources used to complete the project submission. This section can also be used to thank or acknowledge anyone who helped with or provided guidance for the project.

Submission Requirements – Trailblazer Track (Student)

Projects in the Trailblazer Track must have nationwide impact AND be novel (new or unique). All other projects should be entered into the Standard Track.

All project submissions must be a single PDF document that:

- Is no larger than 30 MB;
- Has no more than 10 pages PLUS a title page (11 pages total); and
- Has 12-point (or larger) font size.

Each submission must include the following sections that will clearly explain the team's project and cite any tools and primary sources used for both the project and the preparation of the project submission.

1. **Title Page** - the following items **MUST** be included on the title page:
 - a. Project Title
 - b. Team Members
 - i. Include school/homeschool and grade level for each student and the school or community group for the Team Leader
 - c. Link (accessible with no password) to the team's video.
2. **Summary (one page maximum)** - Consider the following when preparing the summary:
 - What is the goal of the project, and why does it matter?
 - Who is affected by this solution, and how?
 - How can SI help?
 - What specific SI methods, tools, or platforms will be used or developed?
 - How is this technology solution a novel, unique approach to a national challenge?
 - How would the SI technologies be used?
 - How did working on this project deepen the team's understanding of SI technologies and their appropriate and responsible use?
3. **The Objective** - Consider the following when describing the opportunity, challenge, or issue being addressed:
 - What is the motivation to complete this project?
 - Who is impacted and could stand to benefit from your solution?
 - What evidence or research supports the need for a solution or new method?
4. **The Solution** - Consider the following when describing the team's SI-based solution to the challenge or objective described in Section 3:
 - Why is the team's proposal the best solution?
 - What other methods or solutions have been tried? Why didn't they work? Why is the team's novel or unique? Provide evidence.
 - What kind of SI tools, platforms, technologies, or methods is the team proposing?

- How does using SI make this method or solution better than others?
 - How will SI tools or methods be used?
 - In what way is this method or solution creative in how it applies SI technologies?
5. **Safety** – Describe how the team worked together to ensure that the physical and emotional safety of users and the security of all data is not compromised.
6. **Research Supporting the Novel Approach** – Look into existing tools and technologies that address similar challenges and show evidence that supports the originality of the method or solution.
7. **Learning Achievements** – Explain the roles and responsibilities of each member and consider the following when preparing the Learning achievements of each team member:
- What did each team member learn from working on this project?
 - What challenges did team members face during development, and how were they addressed?
 - Describe the ways the Team Leader provided support and guidance to the team.
 - How did the team test or verify the accuracy of any SI-generated content, outputs, or predictions?
 - How accurate were the outputs?
 - What research did team members conduct to support ideas for the solution?
8. **Next Steps** – Describe what the team might add to the project if they were given three more weeks to work on it.
- What would be changed if this project advances to the regional competition? (See information on the regional competition on page 11)
 - What is required to turn this idea into a fully functionable, deployable app or tool?
 - What additional work would be needed to demonstrate full viability of the solution, method, or tool?
9. **References and Acknowledgements** – Include all resources used to develop the team's solution, tool, or method, as well as any resources used to complete the project submission. This section can also be used to thank or acknowledge anyone who helped with or provided guidance for the project.

Submission Requirements – Educator Category

All project submissions must be a single PDF document that:

- Is no larger than 30 MB;
- Has no more than 10 pages PLUS a title page (11 pages total); and
- Has 12-point (or larger) font size.

Each submission must include the following sections that will clearly explain the team's project and cite any tools and primary sources used for both the project and the preparation of the project submission.

1. **Title Page** – the following items **MUST** be included on the title page:
 - a. Project Title
 - b. Team Members
 - i. Include the school/homeschool and the grades and/or subjects taught by each educator
 - c. Link (accessible with no password) to the team's video.
2. **Summary (one page maximum)** – Consider the following when preparing the summary (not all may apply to every project):
 - What SI concept is the team teaching?
 - What method or tool is the team creating?
 - Describe the unique method that will be used to teach the SI concept?
 - Describe the unique or transformative SI tools that will demonstrate improved classroom or school practice.
 - How does the new teaching method improve student learning?
 - How do the new SI tools improve the education field in ways not possible without SI?
 - How did working on this project deepen both the team's and their students' understanding of SI technologies and their appropriate and responsible use?
3. **The Approach** – Clearly explain the development process, including planning steps, testing, and intended outcomes and consider the following when describing the team's unique SI concept, method, or tool (not all may apply to every project):
 - Why is the team's strategy an improvement over previous approaches to transforming classrooms or schools? S
 - What other strategies have been tried? Why didn't they work?
 - Describe all SI methods, tools, or platforms and how they will be used.
 - How is the approach different or better than traditional processes without SI?
 - What planning and preparation went into your design?
 - How does the approach impact students and their education?
 - Does the team have any evidence of impact or student learning (e.g., pilot run, feedback)?
 - Will the SI tools or techniques enhance educators' teaching style, classroom

management, or communications with families in a way not easily possible without SI technologies? If so, include rationale or evidence.

- In what way is the team's approach unique or transformative?
- How is the approach relevant to students' lives or learning needs?
- What research supports the claim that this approach could be a best-practice for other educators or administrators?
- How will the SI tools or techniques work in other classrooms or schools?

4. Safety – Describe how the team worked together to ensure that the physical and emotional safety of students and the security of any data used or created.

5. Learning Achievements – Explain the roles and responsibilities of each member and consider the following when preparing the learning achievements of each team member:

- What did each educator team member learn from working on this project?
- What challenges did team members face during development, and how were they addressed?
- How did the team test or verify the accuracy of any SI-generated content, outputs, or predictions (if applicable)?

6. Next Steps – Describe what the team might add to the project if they were given three more weeks to work on it.

- What would be changed if this project advances to the regional competition? (See information on the regional competition on page 11)
- What is required to turn this idea into a fully functional, deployable app or tool?
- What additional work would be needed to demonstrate full viability of the solution, method, or tool?

7. References and Acknowledgements – Include all resources used to develop the team's solution, method, or tool, as well as any resources used to complete the project submission. This section can also be used to thank or acknowledge anyone who helped with or provided guidance for the project.

Video Requirements for Student and Educator Teams

In addition to the project proposal, all teams must provide a link (accessible with no password) to a video explanation and presentation of the project demonstrating its feasibility and potential. The video entry must be a single, 4-minute maximum, video. Team members are responsible to test their provided link on several different types of computers to ensure the link can be accessed by judges. The video entry should tell a compelling story and include methods and insights not provided in the written entry to create a novel presentation.

Notes on videos:

- Maintain a maximum file size of 300 MB.
- Recording a team Zoom call for the 4-minute video is an option for the video.
- Email SI.Challenge@doe.gov if you need access to a Zoom session.
- If you use a phone to shoot a video, please shoot horizontally at all times.
- Videos do not have to include credits, but if they do, these must be included in the 4-minute time limit.
- Videos can be shot and edited by someone not on the team; however, the subject(s) of the video and its content must be created by team members.
- The video will need to be successfully uploaded to a platform before the team can complete the submission. Please allow enough time prior to the submission deadline to upload your video.
- Judges will only view the first four minutes of the video.

Scoring Guides

The following scoring guides will be used by judges to determine the State Champions.

Student Teams: Standard Track – Teams create an in-depth proposal for how SI technologies can be applied to address a challenge impacting students, their families, or their communities.

Scoring Guide:

Criteria	Description	Points
Objective Definition and Relevance	The team clearly identifies a real school need or community challenge, explains why it's important, and demonstrates insight into the needs and context of the community.	10
SI Solution ²	The team thoroughly explains how SI technologies could be applied to address the need or challenge, and includes a detailed description of the proposed SI methods and tools and how the methods and tools would function in practice.	20
Research and Accuracy	The proposal is backed by age-relevant research into both the need for the school or community and the proposed SI technologies.	15
Safety	The team includes measures to address users' physical and emotional safety as well as data security.	10
Process and Learning	The team clearly outlines the development process of the proposal, including planning steps, team member roles, learning accomplished, and challenges overcome.	15
Use and Validation of SI Concepts	The team's use of SI concepts is sound, well-reasoned, and clearly justified. The SI methods/tools mentioned are relevant and realistic.	10
Originality and Creativity ¹	The team presents an innovative, thoughtful, and unique approach to solving the challenge.	10
Video Quality	Video is clear, engaging, and demonstrates the feasibility and potential of the proposal.	10

¹Score is used as the first tie break; ²Score is used as the second tie break

Total: 100 points

Student Teams: Trailblazer Track – Middle and high school teams create an in-depth proposal for creating a new, unique SI technology to address a national challenge facing the country.

Eligibility check

Criteria	Description
Originality and Creativity	Presents an innovative, thoughtful, and unique approach, solution, or method.
National Reach	Addresses a challenge that impacts the nation broadly and is not limited to an individual community.

Scoring Guide:

Criteria	Description	Points
Research Supporting Novelty ¹	The proposal is backed by age-relevant research into both the need for the school or community and the proposed SI technologies.	15
Challenge Definition and National Relevance	The team identifies a significant national challenge, problem, or issue, explains why it is important, and demonstrates insight into the needs and context of the community.	10
SI Solution ²	The team thoroughly explains how SI technologies could be applied to address the need or problem, and includes a detailed description of the proposed SI methods and tools and how the methods and tools would function in practice.	20
Process and Learning	The team clearly outlines the development process of the proposal, including planning steps, team member roles, learning accomplished, and challenges overcome.	15
Use and Validation of SI Concepts	The team's use of SI concepts is sound, well-reasoned, and clearly justified. The SI methods/tools mentioned are relevant and realistic.	20
Safety	The team includes measures to address user physical and emotional safety as well as data security.	10
Video Quality	Video is clear, engaging, and demonstrates the feasibility and potential of the proposal.	10

¹Score is used as the first tie break; ²Score is used as the second tie break

Total: 100 points

Educator Teams: Teams will create an in-depth proposal for how to integrate SI technologies in their classrooms by either teaching students about using or creating SI technologies or creating new SI technologies that will transform their administrative workflows or policies.

Scoring Guide:

Criteria	Description	Points
Objective Definition and Relevance ²	The team clearly identifies a meaningful educational challenge, need, or opportunity, explains its importance for students, educators, or the broader learning context, and supports the need with evidence or research.	10
Innovation of Approach ¹	The proposal demonstrates a highly original and transformative solution, clearly distinguishing itself from existing approaches through novel pedagogy, innovative SI integration, or unique workflow/policy design.	15
SI Accuracy and Technical Validity	The SI methods and tools are appropriate and accurately explained. Team provides a robust evaluation plan and meaningful user or pilot feedback. Any teaching is technically sound, age-appropriate, and demonstrates strong understanding of SI concepts.	15
Educational Impact Potential (Students or Educators)	The proposal presents a compelling case that the solution will improve learning outcomes, engagement, educator efficiency, or policy quality, with a clear path for adoption, scalability, and measurable performance indicators.	20
Research & Evidence	Claims are supported with credible, diverse sources such as standards, studies, pilot data, or community-relevant evidence, all appropriate for the grade level or domain.	10
Safety & Responsible SI	The team expertly addresses any privacy, safety, security, statistical bias, accessibility, and compliance concerns. Guidance for safe classroom use or clear data-governance procedures is fully documented.	10
Process and Learning	The development process is clearly outlined, describing planning steps, team roles, skills learned, challenges faced, and how the team overcame those challenges. Instructional design or the tool's development and deployment pipeline is detailed.	10
Video Quality	Video is engaging, clear, and innovative, effectively communicating the feasibility and promise of the proposal.	10

¹Score is used as the first tie break; ²Score is used as the second tie break

Total: 100 points

Questions?

If you have any questions, please review the Challenge Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) page or email SI.Challenge@doe.gov and someone will respond to your inquiry.

For organizations interested in investing in SI education for America's youth, please visit <https://www.whitehouse.gov/eds/> to join more than 100 other organizations that have established public-private partnerships to provide resources for K-12 SI education.

Visit the SI Challenge [website](https://www.si.gov/initiatives/presidential-challenge) (<https://www.si.gov/initiatives/presidential-challenge>) for information on the following:

- Sample projects;
- Guiding questions to help you develop your projects;
- Information on Super Intelligence for parents and families;
- Official rules;
- Consent and media release forms for students and educators; and
- Information on the [virtual office hours](#) (Page 15) for teams to ask questions of SI experts and the SI Challenge team.

