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## **ARPA Institute Invention Competition**

**I. Program Objectives:** The ARPA Institute Invention Competition is a research and development level contest designed to encourage young scientists and university students active in science, engineering, mathematics, technology and creative invention, while stimulating their problem-solving abilities. This prestigious challenge also recognizes innovations, inventions and the productive relationship among young scientists, students and their mentors that is essential to economic growth and leadership.

**II. Organizer:** ARPA Institute of Los Angeles, California, USA.

**III. Sponsors:** The Ministry of Education & Science of Armenia and the ARPA Institute of Los Angeles.

**IV. Requirements:** The invention, a reduced-to-practice idea or workable model, must be the work of a young scientist (age not more than 35), graduate student or team of maximum 4 students, or a team with their university advisor. If it is a machine, it must be operable. If it is a chemical, it must be complete with evidence of successful application of the idea. If it is a new robot, full data on its capabilities, function and operational features must be submitted. In addition, the invention should be reproducible and should have potential in becoming a product. The entry must be the original idea and work product of the young scientist(s), student or student/advisor team, and may not have been (1) made available to the public as a commercial product or process or (2) been patented or published more than 1 year prior to the date of submission to the competition. The entry submitted must be in English, accompanied by all the required personal information.

**V. DEADLINE: DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES:** The Invention must be submitted in English. The format should be PDF and it should be uploaded in the right website prior to the deadline, mentioned in the ARPA Institute website. Please upload the submitted material by going to the following address:

([http://www.arpainstitute.org/Invention\\_Compition.html](http://www.arpainstitute.org/Invention_Compition.html)),

the ARPA website. If you have any questions please e-mail them to [info@arpainstitute.org](mailto:info@arpainstitute.org)

**VI. Tips/Requirements for the preparation of the entries:**

The following suggestions may help in preparing entries. Although these will not guarantee a winner, they are traits consistently found in past winning applications:

- **TYPED** or prepared on a word processor, with all pages numbered.
- **CLEAR** and to the point. What is your invention? It is important to articulate what the invention is and why it is an invention and has advantages over existing similar devices/inventions. The

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judges want to know specifically what is different and somehow better than the existing technology/system. After writing your submission, consider asking a colleague to read it for clarity. It may also help to have someone who is not familiar with your work review it and see if it is understandable to the non-expert.

- **BREVITY.** The more concise the better, without losing sight of the important features and characteristics. Avoid jargon. Superfluous materials (i.e., research papers done on another subject matter that are submitted as appendices) detract from a strong entry. In order to get maximum scoring points, be sure that your submission covers all requested information in sufficient detail.
- **COMPLETE.** A checklist is included below for your convenience.
- **CONVINCING.** It is up to you to convince judges (who could be engineers, scientists, mathematicians, doctors, environmentalists, physicists or professors of other fields) that your entry is the best of many high quality inventions. Although the judges are experienced people, they may not be familiar with your particular project or specialty. Describe your work in the most positive, comprehensible manner, understandable to a scientifically literate person.

**VII. CHECK LIST: In addition to the specific details about the invention, the application must be submitted in one single pdf document and include:**

- Completed and signed Young Scientist or Student Information
- Completed Advisor Information (For graduate students, if any)
- Student Essay and Advisor Letter following the outlined format (if applicable)
- Diagrams, illustrations, graphs, photos, slides, or videos of the invention (clearly labeled)
- The signed Young Scientist or Student/Advisor Release Form

**VIII. Requirements: The below described should be carefully followed as guidelines for a full and acceptable submission:**

- Introduction** – Describe your invention in a brief but complete manner: About 1 page:
- Complete analysis and comparison of your invention with similar existing works/patents** – The advantages of your invention over existing similar works in the international literature should be described and discussed. Also clearly and concisely explained should be the value of the invention, its significance and contribution to the world. About 3 pages
- The objectives and functions of the invention** – Give a brief description of the invention: what is it? What it does? How it works? Why is it important? How can it become a commercial product? ~ 1-2 pages
- The detailed description and explanation of the invention:** Describe the invention characteristics with data from actual experimentation or at least simulated experimentation, graphs showing the results and their significance, pictures of the apparatus and while you are performing the experimentation, schematics and comparative studies of the innovation in your invention, the differences and advantages with respect to other similar works, especially underlining the advantages, with specific proofs/evidence. About 6 pages.



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- Experimentation and numerical/experimental data:** Present and show clearly the results of your research and analyses from comparative studies and experiments. Be concise but complete and clear, understandable for the non-expert. About 5 pages.
- Description of the comparative advantages of the invention:** Especially important is the comparisons with similar patents/works/experiments showing specific advantages and significant differences of yours versus the other. There should be significant evidence that clearly proves the advantages of your invention over existing similar systems/apparatus/product : About 2 pages.
- Conclusions** – Write your final remarks that summarises the important characteristics that differentiate and what you have presented with what is available. About 1 page.

Submit your completed application form and supplementary material, if any. Upload the completed application to the address cited in the Internet link below:

<http://www.arpainstitute.org/Invention%20Competition.html>

**IX. Eligibility:** All young scientists of Armenia who are no more than 35 years of age, or any graduate students who are enrolled, or have been enrolled, full time in any recognized university in Armenia, at least part of the 12-month period prior to the date the entry is submitted. In the case of a team, all scientists and/or students in the team must satisfy requirements and, submit the required forms filled out and signed for fulltime student by the required signatories.

**X. Awards:** The winner of the competition will receive a monetary award of \$5000. The award and the participation Certificates will be handed out during a specially organized event, the date, time and place of which will be announced in the ARPA Institute website after all the submitted inventions have been evaluated by the committee of experts.



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**X. Required Subdivisions:**

**SECTION A. Young Scientist/Student Information (If a team, list all participants)**

**Title of Invention:**

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Last Name	First Name	Father's Name
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Last Name	First Name	Father's Name
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Last Name	First Name	Father's Name
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Last Name	First Name	Father's Name
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**Address**

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**Telephone Numbers**

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**College or University Name & Address:**

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**Current Academic Status**

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**Acceptable Categories: As listed on the announcement for the given year.**



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**SECTION B: Literature Search**

An international literature and/or patent search is an essential component for determining originality of the idea presented (research should include US, European and other international publications and patents). Complete the statements below and make sure all entrants sign below. The total number of pages submitted should not exceed 20 pages in A4 format, with margins not less than 2.5 cm and 11 font size.

**SECTION C: (For Students) Advisor Information**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Father's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address e-mail address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Numbers Title

**SECTION D:** (For Students) Statement of the Advisor, regarding role he/she played and the significance of invention.

**SECTION F:** Statement of the student (s) enrollment status

I certify that the following student(s) are currently or previously enrolled in the following university.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Last Name First Name Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name First Name Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Advisor's Name Signature

**XI. The ARPA Institute, as the Principal administrator of the invention competition, will ensure the unauthorized disclosure of information submitted by the entrants. Nevertheless, it must be recognized that: the reviewing and judging process will be conducted by individuals, some of whom will not be associated with ARPA. In view of the above considerations, each entrant and his or her advisor (if any) must read and sign this release form.**

**The undersigned scientist/student(s) hereby acknowledges that he or she is voluntarily submitting the invention ideas titled: "The Best Invention In The World", (as an example title) to**

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**the administrators of the ARPA Invention Competition for award consideration. The undersigned student(s) (and the advisor, if any) hereby release the ARPA Institute, its Board members and the volunteer judges from any and all liabilities in connection with the use or disclosure of any information contained as part of the submission. It is further agreed that in the event the submitted inventive idea is selected for an award, the ARPA Institute shall have the right to use the entrant's name, photographs or other likeness and a brief description of the inventive idea in publications to the extent it deems appropriate. Notwithstanding its release, no license or any right is granted hereby to the ARPA Institute to use such inventive idea(s) or inventions commercially or to license or grant any rights to them to any third party.**

**Please be advised that in order to protect the right to obtain patent protection, the inventor must file a patent application within one year of the date of disclosure or commercial use of the invention. To protect such rights internationally a patent application must be filed before any publication or commercial use. We recommend that you begin the patent process immediately, if you have any concerns. Or talk to a lawyer for the most appropriate action.**

Scientist/Student Name	First Name	Signature
Scientist/Student Name	First Name	Signature
Student/Scientist Name	First Name	Signature
Advisor's Name (if any)		Signature