

Invented in Utah 2010 - Inventor Challenge

Invented in Utah is a non-profit organization whose primary goal is to promote and recognize creative innovation in the state of Utah by providing opportunities for education and connecting inventors with the resources they need to bring their ideas to fruition. As part of this, Invented in Utah holds two events annually: the Inventor Symposium and the Inventor Challenge. Both of these events are designed to empower inventors with the information and contacts for local business that can help them move forward.

FAQs - General Overview

How do I submit my idea?

Submission can be made online at: www.inventedinutah.com/submit.

Alternately, applications may be submitted using the following options:

Email: submission@inventedinutah.com
Mail: Invented in Utah, 100 South 300 West, Provo, UT 84606
Fax: 801.373.1097

There is a modest \$20 submission fee required by all inventors (or inventor teams) to cover processing and event costs. The submission fee is a one time fee paid at the time of submission.

Up to 5 additional pages of supporting information can be submitted.

How many Ideas can I submit?

The submission fee will allow for up to 5 submissions. You may submit as many ideas as you would like, but an additional fee is required for each additional increment of 5 submissions.

Who is eligible?

The Challenge is open to anyone that resides in the State of Utah at the time of submission. (Entrants under the age of 18 require parent or guardian permission)

Are there any restrictions on what I may submit?

There are very few. It should be a new idea that is original to you. Ideally, the submitted idea should not be available in the marketplace and not have generated any retail sales.

FAQs - Schedule

What are the deadlines?

The submission deadline is September 7th, 2010. Late entries will be accepted until September 10th with an additional \$5 late fee.

When will I be notified that I have been selected?

All inventors will receive an email notification regarding their status. The names of advancing inventors will be posted on the website by the Tuesday following the close of submissions.

FAQs - Protection

Who retains the rights of the submitted ideas?

'Invented in Utah' does not seek any ownership interests in any of the ideas submitted to this event. By submitting, the entrant in no way gives up ownership of or rights to intellectual property in any degree.

How shall I protect my idea?

It is the sole responsibility of the entrant to protect his/her ideas. We strongly encourage entrants to make the following efforts to protect their ideas:

- keep a well documented 'idea' journal, and
- file for a provisional patent and/or a full patent.

Invented in Utah does everything it can to keep our entrants' ideas confidential. However, there is no way to fully eliminate all concerns with an event like this. If you are uncertain about disclosing your idea, you should seek legal counsel before entering. Some of our sponsors provide intellectual property consulting and we highly recommend their services.

What does 'Invented in Utah' do to protect submitted ideas?

We at 'Invented in Utah' understand the importance of protecting any and all intellectual property. To this end we require the following:

- NDA's to be signed by all personnel, judges, and sponsors who are privy to any submission.
- Any entrant can receive a copy of an NDA signed by those listed above for their own records upon request. 'Invented in Utah' also keeps copies of these forms.
- Receipt of express permission from the Entrant prior to releasing any description of the invention. Descriptions are to be approved by the Entrant.

FAQs - Judging

What is the criteria for judging?

It is up the Entrant to convince judges that the entry should be advanced based on the following criteria:

- Useful – The size of the market for which the idea fills a want/need
- Marketable – The degree of response from the target market
- Manufacturable – The invention could be manufactured in the next 18 – 24 months
- Unique and Innovative – The application is unique and currently not on the market
- Emotive – The invention stimulates an emotional connection with the judges

What will increase my likelihood of advancing?

The inventions most likely to advance are those that clearly show the merit of the invention as per the judging criteria. The following recommendations should be given attention to:

- Be clear and concise in your descriptions; more is not necessarily better.
- Include pictures, prototypes, video, drawings, etc. Anything that shows the concept in action is beneficial.

Is a working prototype needed?

No prototype is submitted with the application. However, they are very helpful and convincing during presentation to the judges.

How will entrants be notified if their invention advances?

The names of advancing inventors will be posted on the website the Tuesday following each judging round.

Those who advance will also be contacted by phone to discuss preparations for the upcoming judging rounds. All will be contacted through email by the following Thursday.