



# Frequently Asked Questions about the *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> LEGO<sup>®</sup> League Global Innovation Award

*FIRST*<sup>®</sup> may amend this FAQ at any time.

## 1. When will the Global Innovation Award be held in 2019?

The third or fourth week of June in an urban location, USA. Teams should plan to arrive by the afternoon of the first day for a Coaches' Meeting and evening Team Welcome. Subsequent two days will be full day activities. The Awards Ceremony will be late afternoon/early evening the second day.

## 2. I received the Global Innovation Award nomination at my regional Championship event. What do I do next?

Your coach will receive a communication from [fillnovationaward@firstinspires.org](mailto:fillnovationaward@firstinspires.org) as soon as your local *FIRST* LEGO League Partner submits your team name to us. This communication will have instructions on how to find the submission portal; we do not make this information public and only share it directly with nominated teams. The submission portal will require you to create a username; this must be done by an adult 18 years of age or older.

The team must submit (in English) their solution and supplemental materials no later than March 25, 2019. All teams will receive a notification in late April if they are among the top 20 teams chosen to be Semi-Finalists. We also identify 4 alternate teams—and yes, although rare, it has happened that they have been asked to participate and attend the Global Innovation Award Ceremony in June.

## 3. How will the Global Innovation Award winners be selected?

We ask experts in engineering, manufacturing, and this year's Challenge theme to judge submissions. Every submission is reviewed by multiple judges. No personal information that would cause bias is given to the judges (team name, ages, gender, or location) during judging. This judging process is managed both by *FIRST* staff and an experienced *FIRST* LEGO League Judge Advisor.

## 4. Do I have to have a patent to make my submission?

No, but we strongly encourage your team to file a provisional patent application for your invention in your home country. The twenty (20) Semi-Finalists' solutions will be profiled on the website and may get local or national publicity, therefore your team should make every effort to protect your idea. You can get more information in the Guide to Applying for Patents document under the Award and Patent Resources area.



## 5. What will my team have to submit for the Global Innovation Award?

The Global Innovation Award criteria mirrors the Innovative Solution portion of the Project Rubric, with a few expansions. Your team will need to write answers (typically no more than 500 words each) on the following:

### **Problem Identification – Overview**

What problem is the team trying to solve? Why did the team choose this problem?

### **Problem Identification – Details**

What is the solution and how does the solution work? *(Include relevant details.)* How does it solve the problem the team chose?

### **Innovation**

How does the solution solve your identified problem in a new way and/or improve on existing solutions in a meaningful way? *(Responses might include descriptions of existing solutions, unique value offered by the team solution, and who benefits from it.)*

### **Solution Development**

How did the team develop the solution? *(Explain what process was used to narrow, evaluate, and verify the solution. What steps did you follow?)*

### **Implementation**

How would the solution be implemented? What factors did you consider (cost, materials, manufacturing, market research etc.) to determine feasibility? *(Responses might include applicable analysis and/or professional corroborations.)*

The Global Innovation rubric is posted in this Award and Patent Resources section.

