

Announcing Imagine Cup

Microsoft's Software Design Invitational, one of the categories of the Imagine Cup - the premium global Student Technology Competition - is looking for teams of up to four students to participate!

Using Microsoft tools and technology, students can unleash their ideas, their curiosities, and their talents towards creating innovative software applications. Competitors are asked to demonstrate innovation on the .NET Framework and Windows platform but the possibilities only begin with these requirements. Globally, students in this invitational conceive, test, and build their ideas into applications that can change the world.

This is a great opportunity to learn and strengthen your technical and interpersonal skills to improve your resume, make the difference by solving a real-life problem, and get the opportunity to launch your Start-up! You can be the potential winner of cash funding to turn your idea into a real business, and up to US\$25,000 in the WW Finals plus an all expense trip to the Imagine Cup World Wide finals in Cairo, Egypt, in July 2009.

Contact Daniela Guevara at imaginecupcollateral@microsoft.com to get Marketing Kits with info sheets, brochures, stickers and posters.

Register at www.microsoft4me.com/imaginecup

General Guidelines: United States Competition

· Teams of up to 4 individuals registered on Imagine Cup Web site by January 15th, 2009.

· 1 mentor strongly suggested

· Team members may come from different schools

· Theme: "Imagine a world where technology helps solve the toughest problems facing us today."

· Up to 15 Teams will advance to the National Finals in the US

· 1 Team will advance to the World Wide finals in Egypt

· Presentations and documentation at the worldwide finals must be in English.

· All projects must include at least all Required Elements and a minimum of one (1) Optional Element.