2025 ICODE784 COMPETITION OUTLINE

The icode784 Competition; "Using technology for a better world."

Abstract

The icode784 competition is intended to give participants the chance to change the world using their imagination and creativity and to showcase our young people's inclination towards innovation

Introduction

The **2025 icode784 Competition** encourages young innovators in St. Vincent and the Grenadines to use technology as a tool for change. It provides a platform for participants to present groundbreaking mobile applications aimed at improving public and private sector services, and robotic solutions. This year, several updates have been made to enhance the competition experience.

We aim to engage participants from secondary, technical, and tertiary-level institutions, as well as individuals 35 years and under from across the country, to develop innovative mobile applications and robotics projects based on the assigned challenges and themes.

Key Changes for 2025

1. **Introduction of the Robotics Category**:

   - Replaces the Secondary Idea category.
   - Focuses on building functional LEGO robots to solve specific challenges.

2. **Increased Prizes**:
   - Prizes for all categories have been raised to recognize participants' efforts and innovation.
   - Mentors for the Robotics Category and the Secondary Mobile Application categories will split the prizes: 20% to the mentor and 80% to the team members.

3. **Teams:**
   - All teams participating in the competition will be made up of 2 participants only.

PRIZES

The prizes of the competition will be as follows:

Category	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Robotics	$7,000	$5,000	$3,000
Secondary Mobile Application	$10,000	$8,000	$6,000
Open	$15,000 (+ $30,000 grant for app development)	$10,000	$7,000

Other Prizes
   - The school with the most entries will receive a cash prize of $1000.

Trophies will be presented to the first-place teams for each category.

The Categories of the competition

1. Robotics Category

The Robotics Category for the 2025 icode784 Competition is designed to inspire **secondary** school students to apply principles of science and technology to solve challenges through robotics.

1. Registration and Team Composition
- **Eligibility**: Secondary school students.
- **Team Size**: Two (2) members per team.
- **Registration Period**: April 1–May 31, 2025.
  - <u>Only one (1) team per school will be permitted to enter for this category</u>

2. Preliminary Stage
- Robots will be distributed to schools within one zone at a time based on the following schedule:
  - Zone 1- July 10-24, 2025.
  - Zone 2-July 28- August 11, 2025.
  - Zone 3-August 13-27, 2025.
- Teams will receive in advance a video challenge outlining the task or problem to be solved. Each team will have two weeks with the robot kit to prepare, build and program the robots to complete the challenge which will be announced on April 14, 2025.
- Once the challenge has been announced, registered participants are expected to conduct research using YouTube tutorials to get familiar with the building and programming of the robots before receiving the kits. Tutorials can be found at: **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wM3EifjqSZA&list=PL_zXBalpjbu33gw5CML3DtL7fN8640 qku&ab_channel=LEGOEngineering**
- Challenges combine technical problem-solving with LEGO robot design and programming skills.
- At the end of this event, the robot kits must be returned, and points will be deducted for any missing parts.
- Judging will occur across two geographic zones as outlined below:

Zone 1	Zone 2
Judging- July 29 2025	Judging- August 19 2025
Georgetown Secondary	Central Leeward Secondary
Buccament Bay Secondary	Sandy Bay Secondary
Emmanuel High School Mespo	Union Island Secondary
Thomas Saunders Secondary	Bishops College Kingstown
Mountain View S.D.A. Academy	Bethel High School
	St. Vincent Grammar School

	St. Martin's Secondary School
	Intermediate High School
	Canouan Secondary School
	Girls' High School

- o Judging will be conducted in person on the above dates between 9:00am-1:00Pm

3. Finals

- o The top teams from the preliminary stage in each zone will advance to the finals resulting in ten (10) teams competing in the final stage.
- o Teams will be notified of who would advance to the finals at the end of each preliminary judging.
- o Presentations for the finals will take place between 8:00am and 11:00am on Wednesday October 22, 2025.
- o Upon advancing to the finals, teams will be given a final video challenge which will be announced on August 29, 2025, to complete for finals.
- o Teams in the final stage will receive robot kits on September 22, 2025, to work on their challenges for finals.
- o Teams will explain their design process, problem-solving approach, and lessons learned.
- o The top three (3) scoring teams on October 22,2025 will be announced as winners of this category and awarded with prizes.
- o The prize giving ceremony will take place from 4:00pm on October 22, 2025.

2. Secondary Mobile App Category

The Secondary Mobile App Category consists of teams made up of two(2) students attending secondary schools submitting a Mobile application. Students entering this category must present their Mobile applications based on the selected theme to the judges via a video submission explaining the app and its functionality at the Preliminary Round of the competition. Final presentations will be done in person. The competition theme will be announced on **April 1, 2025**. Participants must use the outlined theme as the foundation for their application, which will be presented in both the **preliminary and final rounds**.

- **Registration:** May 1–September 15, 2025.

- **Preliminaries:**

  - o The theme will be announced on **April 1, 2025.**

  - o Teams will submit a no more than 7-minutes video presentation by **6:00 pm on October 2, 2025** for judging on October 3, 2025. The video must demonstrate the app's design and functionality.

- o Judging will be done remotely. As such, participants are not required to attend judging for this stage of the competition.

- o The finalists will be announced and published on NTRC's website, Instagram, and Facebook Pages on October 6, 2025.

- o Good Tips Presentation: Finalists will receive presentation coaching from Toastmasters on October 15, 2025.

- o **N.B**: the judging scores will be based on the oral and visual presentations submitted during the preliminary stage. These scores will determine whether participants advance to the final rounds.

- **Finals:**

- o Finalists will present a working prototype of their app <u>in person</u> during the Grand Finale.

- o Presentations for the finals will take place between 11:00am and 2:00pm on **Wednesday October 22, 2025**.

- o The winners from each category will then be presented with their prizes. The prize giving ceremony will take place from 4:00pm on **October 22, 2025**.

- **Submissions**

- o Below is a summary of the judging criteria for the **Secondary Mobile App Category**. Consider these when developing your mobile application.

Creativity
- How unique or innovative is your mobile application?
- What sets it apart from similar or existing apps?

User Experience
- Provide a clear outline of your mobile application, including:
  - o Its purpose and how it works.
  - o Key features and functionalities.
  - o Who are the primary users of your mobile application?
  - o How will it benefit them?

Solution Development and Technology
- Define the approach to addressing the problem
- What are the core features and capabilities the app should have?
- Does the app consider security elements such as data protection, encryption and authentication?
- Are the frontend and backend technologies used sufficient for the solution being developed?
- Is the solution scalable to handle increased users and load?

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3. Open Category

The Open Category is designed for individuals or teams made up of two (2) people aged 35 years or younger. This includes tertiary students, technical institutes, and secondary school students. Participants entering this category must present their Mobile applications to the judges via a video submission explaining the app and its functionality at the Preliminary Round of the competition**.** Final presentations will be done in person. Mobile applications should be aimed at improving public and private sector services within St. Vincent and the Grenadines and can be based on any subject area. Participants may submit **multiple applications**, provided that each one is unique and not a duplicate.

- **Registration:** May 1–September 15, 2025.

- **Preliminaries:**

  o Participants will submit a 7-minute video presentation by **6:00 pm on October 2, 2025** for judging on October 3, 2025. The video must demonstrate the app's design and functionality.

  o Judging will be done remotely. As such, participants are not required to attend judging for this stage of the competition.

  o The finalists will be announced and published on NTRC's website, Instagram, and Facebook Pages on October 6, 2025.

  o Good Tips Presentation: Finalists will receive presentation coaching from Toastmasters on October 15, 2025.

  o **N.B**: the judging scores will be based on the oral and visual presentations submitted during the preliminary stage. These scores will determine whether participants advance to the final rounds.

- **Finals:**

  o Finalists will present a working prototype of their app <u>in person</u> during the Grand Finale.

  o Presentations for the finals will take place between 2:00pm and 4:00pm on **Wednesday October 22, 2025**.

  o The winners from each category will then be presented with their prizes. The prize giving ceremony will take place from 4:00pm on **October 22, 2025**.

- **Submissions**

  o Below is a summary of the judging criteria for the **Open Category**. Consider these when developing your mobile application.

Creativity

- How unique or innovative is your mobile application?
- What sets it apart from similar or existing apps?

User Experience

- Provide a clear outline of your mobile application, including:
  - Its purpose and how it works.
  - Key features and functionalities.
  - Who are the primary users of your mobile application?
  - How will it benefit them?

Solution Development and Technology

- Define the approach to addressing the problem
- What are the core features and capabilities the app should have?
- Does the app consider security elements such as data protection, encryption and authentication?
- Are the frontend and backend technologies used sufficient for the solution being developed?
- Is the solution scalable to handle increased users and load?

THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THIS COMPETITION

The benefits of participating in such a competition include but are not limited to:

- Fostering teamwork
- Building research skills
- Bringing about effective change
- Developing problem solving and issue resolution skills
- Improvement of efficiency and productivity overall
- Enhancing entrepreneurship
- Building creativity, analytical and presentation skills.

For more information on the rules and guidelines that governs the competition, please visit

https://www.ntrc.vc/general/ntrcs-i-code784-competition/

Registration for the competition can be done on our website **www.ntrc.vc**.