# Intel Schools of Distinction Awards
# Frequently Asked Questions

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## Application Questions:

**Q1: Are there a limited number of times that I can leave and come back to the application as I complete it?**

A1: No. You may close the application and reopen it as many times as needed. However, keep in mind that once you press the final submission button, you have officially entered the competition, and you will no longer have access to it.

**Q2: Sometimes as I am working on the application, I find that the screen has frozen and I need to log-on again. Is there something wrong with the website or my computer?**

A2: The most likely reason for this to happen is that you have exceeded the amount of time the webpage remains active. In other words, the system has "timed out." It is for this reason that we strongly recommend you make a paper copy of the application and refer to that as you fashion your answers as a word processed document. It is then a simple matter to log-on and copy-and-paste your answers directly from your electronic document into the application.

**Q3: How will I know that my application has been accepted?**

A3: You will receive an email confirmation when your application has been accepted. If you do not receive a confirmation within 24 hours of your submission, notify the webmaster.

**Q4: If my entry is not chosen as a finalist in my category, will I be told why?**

A4: All applicants will be notified of their status, but unfortunately we are not able to provide judging information to applicants due to the large number of participants.

**Q5: Who will be judging the applications?**
A5: Your applications will be judged by teams composed of experienced education professionals and category content specialists selected by Intel. How you present your school and the information you provide in your application will be the primary factor determining how well you do in the judging process.

**Q6: How do I qualify to enter this contest?**
A6: You are qualified to enter this contest if your school is a K-12 public, private, charter, parochial, Department of Defense, or Bureau of Indian Affairs school. Please refer to the application eligibility rules for a complete listing of contest details.

### District Recognition:
**Q7: Can our school district (as a whole) apply?**
A7: The Intel Schools of Distinction contest is open to applications from individual schools only.

### Formal Education:
**Q8: Will the Intel Schools of Distinction be able to recognize our informal education program?**
A8: The Intel Schools of Distinction awards best practices in formal education.

### General Questions:
**Q9: Can my school complete an application for both categories?**
A9: While we know that excellent schools might be eligible in both categories, our competition requires that each school enter just one category.

**Q10: My school entered the competition last year but was not selected. Can we enter in 2008?**
A10: Please refer to the overview page for a full description. We encourage all past applicants who were not selected as category winners to enter the 2008 competition. Past winners may enter after 3 years and must enter a different category.

**Q11: If our school is selected, how will we be notified?**
A11: All applicants will be notified of their status through email. We plan to notify applicants of their status in May of 2008. Category winners will be notified in August 2008.

**Q12: If my school is selected as a category winner, what do we receive?**
A12: Six winners will be selected—one from each grade range, K-5, 6-8, and 9-12, in each of the two categories of math and science. Each winning school will receive a $10,000 (ten thousand dollars) cash grant from the Intel Foundation, as well as approximately $150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand dollars) in products and services from the program awards sponsors. One of the final six winners will be identified as the Star Innovator for 2008. This school will receive an additional $15,000 (fifteen thousand dollars) cash grant from the Intel Foundation, as well as supplemental services and products from the award sponsors.

**Q13: In past years the competitions included a greater number of categories and additional subject areas. Why has it changed?**

A13: Each year we review our programs to ensure alignment with our education mission and goals. Starting in 2007, we have elected to pursue a focus on science and math and 21st Century learning environments which closely ties to our philanthropic mission.

**Q14: How can I update my personal information or change the contact name once I have submitted my application?**

A14: Please send any contact information updates to applicationhelp@continue.uoregon.edu

## Grade School Eligibility:

**Q15: Can we apply if our program includes kindergarten through grade 3?**

A15: Yes, K-3 grade schools are welcome to apply. This year we have three levels of competition for each category, K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Each school will need to designate the level they are entering when completing the application.

## Grants:

**Q16: Can the Intel Schools of Distinction program provide me a grant for my school?**

A16: The Intel Schools of Distinction is an awards program. We do not offer grants separate from the awards process.

For awards categories and criteria please visit the Application process and eligibility page at:
http://www.intel.com/education/schoolsofdistinction/application.htm

## Home Schooling:

**Q17: Can I apply as a home school?**

A17: We appreciate your request, but because our corporate education program focuses on the types of schools that are defined in the competition, we have decided to remain consistent with our award program. Home schools would therefore not be eligible to apply.

## International Awards:

**Q18: Does the Intel Schools of Distinction recognize schools outside the United States?**

A18: The Intel and Scholastic Schools of Distinction awards program currently recognizes outstanding achievement in the United States only. We continue to consider expansion of the program for future years.

## Non-Profits Recognition:

**Q19: Can our non-profit education organization apply?**

A19: The Intel Schools of Distinction provides awards to schools for best practices. Organizations, foundations and companies are not eligible to apply. The Schools of Distinction is not a granting organization, but rather an awards program that is based on a competitive application.

**Use of Award proceeds:**

**Q20: If a school is chosen as a winner, how may they use their award?**

A20: Each category winner will be asked to submit a grant to the Intel Foundation for their award. There are no specific restrictions on the grant except that the money must be used in support of academic programs. Common uses of the award include funding teacher professional development and purchasing student instructional materials.