

March 21, 2023

InvenTeam® Grant Initial First Round Application Webinar

Welcoming you tonight is Leigh Estabrooks, Invention Education Officer

About the Lemelson-MIT Program

The Lemelson-MIT Program has become a national leader in efforts to prepare the next generation of inventors and entrepreneurs. Our work focuses on the expansion of opportunities for young people to learn ways inventors find and solve problems that matter. **We are devoted to bringing invention education opportunities to all students**, while prioritizing work with young women and Black, indigenous populations, Latinx and other people of color. Our **commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion** aims to remedy historic inequities among those who develop inventions, protect their intellectual property and commercialize their creations.

One of U.S. history's most prolific inventors, **Jerome Lemelson and his wife Dorothy**, founded the Lemelson-MIT Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1994. The family continues to support this vision through The Lemelson Foundation and grant funding administered by [MIT's School of Engineering](#).



Over 3,000 high school inventors and counting!

Will your team be next?

Since 2003, the InvenTeam® initiative has been changing the way educators teach, providing young people with creative problem solving and 21st century skills to flourish in college and career.

High school students experience invention and cultivate creativity through InvenTeam grants. The InvenTeam initiative has worked with over 3,000 students across the U.S. to invent technological solutions to real-world problems.



InvenTeam Stories

Baruch College Campus High School InvenTeam, NYC



Invention: A detachable, semi-automatic cleaning device that picks up debris from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's subway tracks in New York City to prevent subterranean fires and train delays

Garey High School InvenTeam, California



Invention: A device allowing individuals with diabetes to self-monitor foot health utilizes four sensors that measure variables relevant to the diabetic foot: oxygen saturation, blood flow, MEG, and nerve conduction velocity



About the InvenTeam Grant

Unparalleled opportunity

The Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam initiative offers a program for teams of high school students to cultivate their creativity and experience invention.

Grantees in an InvenTeam receive:

- Hands on experience for high schoolers
- A new style of project-based learning that makes STEM accessible to all
- Development of confident, life long creative learners and problem solvers
- Funding of up to \$7,500 (\$4,500 for project; \$3,000 for teacher fellowship)

Inventing is just plain fun!



About the InvenTeam Grant

The Lemelson-MIT Program goes on the journey with you!

- Expert teacher mentors for each grantee
- Site visit
- Financial training
- Communications team to help promote your progress
 - National press release
 - Communications training
 - Outreach to local innovation ecosystems including elected officials
 - Ongoing social media
- EurekaFest 2024 Celebration at MIT
 - On-the-ground costs for 6 students and 2 teachers
 - Showcase inventions to the MIT community
 - Networking, programming, design challenge
- Access to K-12 invention education curricula and resources



How the Grant is Administered

InvenTeams receive a **Procurement Card** in the name of the teacher for the amount that can be spent on “reducing the idea to practice.”

This system has been used successfully for many years. It enables teams to purchase in a timely manner without having to go through the purchase order process.

Each team tracks their receipts via an online record keeping system with LMIT oversight.



What are the first steps?

Administrators

1. **Recruit a teacher**
2. Write a **letter of support** for the teacher and invention education
3. **Encourage others to attend a webinar**

Teachers

1. Inform your administration and seek a **letter of support** for you and invention education
2. **Recruit your core team**
3. Start meeting now to **identify a local problem** that the students are passionate about
4. Recruit **students** to assist with writing the grant
5. **Manage** the application process

Students

1. **Find a teacher** and share your desire to invent a solution to a real-world problem
2. **Encourage others to attend a webinar**
3. **Assist the teacher** to form a team and complete the application

Others

1. **Reach out to a school district** with strong administrator support of STEM and project-based learning
2. **Encourage others to attend a webinar**
3. Suggest ways you can **support** an InvenTeam application

Initial First Round Grant Application Office Hours

Join us for the following informational meetings on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM ET:



Teachers must submit the [on-line initial application](#) by 11:59 p.m. ET on April 27

Finalists notified on May 3 with an invitation to submit the final application due on September 5 .

Major Milestones in an InvenTeam Year



October

National Press Release

LMIT will produce a national press release and create a press template that can be modified by each grantee.

February

Mid-grant Technical Reviews

Local, large events for InvenTeams to engage their local ecosystems and showcase their progress. This event starts fund-raising efforts for EurekaFest attendance.

June

EurekaFest at MIT

Usually held mid-June at MIT. The grant covers the multi-day on-the-ground costs for 6 students and 2 teachers with space for additional team members at a cost of \$500/person. Everyone stays in MIT dorms.

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