

4. Research Essay (70 points)

Students write a 500- to 700-word essay and attach a Reference List citing at least 3 sources of information for the essay. The engineer-mentor or teacher must attest that the essay and Reference List were written entirely by the students. The essay topic is new each year.

5. Future City Design Abstract (20 points)

Students write a 300- to 500-word abstract describing their Future City's key features. The engineer-mentor or teacher must attest that the abstract was written entirely by the students.

6. Oral Presentation (90 points)

Students give a presentation describing key elements of their Future City. The presentation may not exceed 7 minutes. Following the presentation, judges ask the students questions.

1. *Demonstration Aids*—the model (#3 above) is the primary demonstration aid used during the oral presentation. In addition, students may use visual aids, costumes and other demonstration aids, as described below:

- Battery-operated audio equipment (MP3 Player, Discman, Walkman, etc.) may be used as part of the presentation, provided that such equipment is documented on the Competition Expense Form.
- Laptop computers, overhead projectors, and DVD/video players may not be used for the presentation.

2. *Visual Aids*—flip charts, foam boards, poster boards, etc.—must not exceed the following limitations:
- a. One visual aid displayed at a time (e.g., a single page of a flip-chart resting on an easel) can be up to 60" (W) x 36" (H).
 - b. Two visual aids displayed concurrently (e.g., two posters, each on a separate easel) can each be up to 30" (W) x 36" (H).

The size limitations do not include easel stands.

With the exception of handouts, costumes, and battery-operated audio equipment, any visible item that is not part of the Future City Model will be deemed a visual aid, subject to the size limitations above.

3. *Costumes*—include anything the presenters wear or carry that enhances the role they are depicting in their presentation, for example: lab coats, hard hats, team t-shirts, cell phones, briefcases, etc.

4. *Other Demonstration Aids*—includes pointers, brochures (limited to one 8.5x11" sheet of paper),

handouts, small mock-ups, etc used to assist with the presentation. All items in this category must collectively fit within a 6"x6"x12" volume (e.g., a shoe box).

The total value of the materials used in support of the presentation, including the model (#3 above), may not exceed \$100. All materials must be documented on the expense form.

Deadlines

The Regional Coordinator will set deadlines for the receipt of the:

1. Computer City Design, via CD-ROM or e-mail, and (optional) Computer City Design Map Inventory List.
2. Computer Score Sheet.
3. Research Essay and Research Essay Submission Form.
4. City Design Abstract and City Design Abstract Submission Form.

* Deadlines will not be extended for any reason. Points may be deducted from the score of any team that submits Competition items after the specified deadline. Regional Competitions, at which the Future City models are displayed and the oral presentations given, are scheduled for January.

To maintain the competitive integrity of the Future City Competition, at least 25 schools must be registered in a region in order for that region's winner to advance to the National Finals. In the event that a region is ineligible to send its winner to the National Finals, the Regional Coordinator will notify the affected schools by December 1.

Regional Coordinators will notify participating schools of the date, time, and location of their Regional Competition in January. Teams must bring with them the following items:

1. Future City Model and Model Identification Index Card.
2. Competition Expense Form, receipts, and related documentation.
3. One copy each of the Research Essay and Research Essay Submission Form.
4. One copy each of Future City Design Abstract and Future City Design Abstract Submission Form.

Your Regional Coordinator may ask you to bring a completed Media Waiver Form for each student attending the Regional Competition. The Media Waiver Form is located in the Forms section of this handbook, as well as on the Future City Competition Web site.