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Design Competitions

This page attempts to gather links to **design competitions** that might be of interest to students. It is not a given that every competition is run every year. Refer to individual competition websites for details.

The following competitions are listed in order of typical deadlines.

Core77 Design Awards

Leverage this opportunity to showcase work to small team of leading design professionals who will critique, validate and offer perspective on your process and final pieces. Participants and winners are will be featured on Core77 throughout the year. Open to all designers.

Typical deadline is in early March.

Cradle to Cradle Product Design Challenge

The Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute has launched its first-ever Product Design Challenge in partnership with Autodesk supporting the Design-Led Revolution. Central to Cradle to Cradle® as a design framework is to eliminate the concept of waste—recognizing that all materials are valuable, finite, and when designed appropriately, can be used in infinite cycles. Effectively implementing this design principle can have a significant impact on the environment and the economy. Following completion of the free, online course, Designing Cradle to Cradle Certified Products for the Circular Economy, participants are eligible and encouraged to submit a design for the Cradle to Cradle Product Design Challenge and could win up to \$4,000 in a cash prize.

Typical deadline is in mid-March.

Buckminster Fuller Institute Challenge

Launched in 2007, the Fuller Challenge has defined an emerging field of practice: the whole systems approach to understanding and intervening in complex and interrelated crises for wide-scale social and environmental impact. The entry criteria have established a new framework through which to identify and measure effective, enduring solutions to global sustainability's most entrenched challenges. The rigorous selection process has set a unique standard, gaining renown as "Socially-Responsible Design's Highest Award."

Typical deadline is end of March.

CSME National Design Competition

CSME would like to invite Canadian engineering undergraduate students to take part in the annual CSME National Design Competition. This competition will showcase outstanding undergraduate student Capstone design projects from across Canada. Students will have an opportunity to network with their counterparts from across the country, gain valuable presentation experience, and participate in, and attend a professional conference.

Typical deadline is around 1 April

Innovative Designs for Accessibility

The Innovative Designs for Accessibility (IDeA) student competition seeks innovative, cost-effective and

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practical solutions to accessibility-related barriers in the community. IDeA is inspired by the goal of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) to make Ontario the most accessible province by 2025.

Typical deadline is in mid-April.

DRS Student Research Bursary Scheme

The Design Research Society (DRS) Student Research Bursary Scheme directly supports design research projects by research students across the world. Examples of previous awards and projects can be found on the DRS website. The scheme is open to all student members of the society (30GBP for 3 years), together with a sponsor who is also a DRS member.

Typical deadline is in mid-April.

Cities of Tomorrow

The Large Urban Mayor's Caucus of Ontario (LUMCO) has created a competition to provide an opportunity for Ontario students to enter the policy making process with proposals for improving Ontario's urban centres. Ontario's large urban centres face complex challenges as they continue to grow. LUMCO wants to hear students' solutions in the areas of infrastructure, finance, job creation and housing.

Typical deadline is in May.

Spin Master Innovation Fund

Futurpreneur Canada and Spin Master Ltd. support young entrepreneurs with innovative business ideas through the Spin Master Innovation Fund. The Fund provides an exclusive opportunity for young entrepreneurs to launch businesses that will disrupt the game in their chosen industry. The fund will support up to 10 innovative start-ups, and each recipient will receive: up to \$50,000 in financing; 2 years of business mentoring; 2 exclusive innovation workshops; and expert advice from Spin Master executives.

Typical deadline is in mid-June.

James Dyson Award

The James Dyson Award is an international design award that celebrates, encourages and inspires the next generation of design engineers. The Award is open to current and recent design engineering students. It's run by the James Dyson Foundation, James Dyson's charitable trust, as part of its mission to get young people excited about design engineering.

Typical deadline is in mid-July.

Biomimicry Global Design Challenge

The Biomimicry Global Design Challenge is an annual competition that invites people around the world to address critical sustainability issues using nature as a guide.

Typical deadline in early August.

DX Emerging Designer Competition

The Design Exchange in Toronto has an annual competition for young designers of all disciplines between 18 and 35 years old.

Typical deadline is at the end of August.

D-Prize Distribution Challenge

"Our world has already invented many effective poverty solutions, but sadly most fail to reach actual people in need. Millions of lives would improve if people had access to proven energy, education, health, and other interventions. Can you start a new social enterprise and solve this problem?

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D-Prize is a call to the world's boldest entrepreneurs. Can you design a new social enterprise and solve one of the distribution challenges below? If selected, we will award you up to \$20,000 to launch a pilot in Africa, India, or another other developing region. D-Prize will award 5-15 social entrepreneurs funding. If your pilot is successful, we will help you find future funding and grow to impact millions."

Typical deadline is in early October.

James Ham Safe Design Awards

Undergraduate and Graduate Engineering students enrolled at a Canadian University, College Technology or OHS program wishing to enter the 2019 Minerva Safe Design contest will need to contact Minerva Canada at minerva@safetymanagementeducation.com by December of the current year. Final submission dates will be announced later in the year. Entry Form and details of past competitions are available at the website and should be very similar from year to year.

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Typical deadline is in December of each year.

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