

Judging Invitation

MICHIGAN
iNVENTION
CONVENTION



Presented by Delta Dental of Michigan



Invention Convention Michigan (ICM) is looking for individuals to serve as judges for its state finals competition, held at Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation on Saturday, April 25, 2026. ICM, an affiliate of Invention Convention Worldwide, brings together problem-solvers, inventors and entrepreneurs of all ages, backgrounds and disciplines, and inspires our students to become the next generation of innovators.

For the state competition, we need passionate volunteers to be judges who will evaluate and score inventions created by students to solve everyday problems. Volunteers will judge both online and in person. Top scoring students will earn an invitation to compete at U.S. Nationals in June.

Who Can Be a Judge?

You! Judges represent diverse disciplines and areas of expertise, all united by a shared commitment to advancing youth education and fostering innovation and entrepreneurship as pathways for students to think critically and drive meaningful change in the world. The estimated volunteer time commitment is approximately 6.5 hours, allocated as follows:

Time Commitment

• Registration (5 minutes):

Prospective judges must register [here](#) before March 31. Judging will be conducted on the zFairs platform, and judges will be required to access the site through a personal computer, tablet or mobile device. When you register, you will select the date you are able to attend an ICM Judge Training session.

• Training (About 90 Minutes):

Training is mandatory for all judges. We will go over the project components, scoring rubric and zFairs system and provide a complete judging guide for reference. During registration you will choose from one judge training option: Tuesday, April 7, at 6 p.m. or Thursday, April 9, at 12 p.m. Please alert the ICM Team if you are unable to attend either session.

• Judging Sessions (4.5-5 hours)

There will be two judge scoring sessions. You **must** be available to judge for both.

- **April 10-20 (Approx. 1 hour):** video presentation scoring (virtual)
- **April 25 (3.5 hours):** Invention Convention State Finals (in person)

Judges will evaluate four components of each project:

1. Logbook or journal
2. Display board
3. Prototype
4. Video presentation (online April 10-20)

Invention Convention Michigan judge registration ends March 31 or once our judge quota is met. If you are interested in being a judge, please [click here](#) to register.



For general event information, visit mi.inventionconvention.org or send us an email at ICMI@thehenryford.org.