



Steven and Jamie Chen

Center for
Innovation & Inquiry

Power Pitch Competition 2019

ABOUT

IMSA Power Pitch is a STEM Business Idea Pitch Competition for students in grades 6 through 12 held on **April 6, 2019**. The competition is hosted by the Steven and Jamie Chen Center for Innovation & Inquiry (IN2) at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA) in Aurora, Illinois.

Ideas do not need to be businesses that have launched, but must include a value proposition (why would anyone want it?) for a significant population (who would want it?), address one or more of the [UN Sustainability Goals](#) and, as a potential business, show innovation and feasibility.

APPLY

Register your idea online between now and **February 4th 2019**. You may register as an individual or team. Follow the link to register:

<https://goo.gl/forms/1sZWotlrbVSeRtPt1>

PREPARE

We invite all applicants to participate in IMSA Monday night INC. Café. From January to April 2019. Applicants will also be given access to the IMSA Power Pitch materials to help you prepare. The IMSA TALENT Youth Board and the staff in the Steve and Jamie Chen Center of Innovation & Inquiry (IN2) will be available to help you every Monday from 6 to 8 pm.

TOP TWENTY

The top twenty (20) applicants will qualify to participate in the IMSA Power Pitch Competition on the basis of attendance at Monday Night INC. Café preparation and pitch practice sessions. Qualifiers will be announced **March 18, 2019**.

Practice pitches may be done in person or videotaped. No pitch may be longer than five minutes. Practice pitches will be reviewed and scored by a panel of potential investors. Every pitch must:

- Identify the problem or market opportunity and the innovative solution
- Describe the customer segment(s) or population for whom this is intended
- Demonstrate a feasible plan for going to market and being sustainable (e.g., as an initiative or business).

FINALISTS & PRIZES

The twenty qualifiers each pitch a minimum of two times to investors on April 6, 2019. Based on investor scores, six finalists pitch a third time for cash prizes. Three prizes will be awarded: \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500.

CONTACT

For more information contact: Dr. Kelly Page, Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) via kpage@imsa.edu



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We turn ideas into impact.

The Steven and Jamie Chen Center for Innovation and Inquiry is a leading center for innovative and entrepreneurial thinking and applied STEM learning for youth and adult development. We turn ideas into impact.

Located at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy® (IMSA) the center provides award-winning programs, experiences, and mentoring for youth and adult projects in applied STEM fields. The center's mission is to empower youth and adults through world-leading applied, collaborative, and culturally responsive experiences that inspire innovative and entrepreneurial thinking; and the launch of breakthrough projects into the world. The center offers programs in the areas of design thinking, business and entrepreneurship, maker and makerspace design, STEM pathways, robotics, and software engineering amongst others.

Connect to the IMSA Innovation Community today, and join a vibrant network of innovators, designers, and entrepreneurs who are sharing ideas, taking risks, launching businesses and along the way, are turning ideas into impact.

