

UNIVERSAL ROBOTICS CHALLENGE 2026

Idea Contest Competition Overview

Published April 1 (Wed), 2026

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| 1. Qualifications | Preschool to junior high school-aged children |
| 2. Entry Fee | Consult your local Universal Robotics Challenge partner for details |
| 3. Application Period | Consult your local Universal Robotics Challenge partner for details |
| 4. Screening | Winners will be selected from the top Japanese as well as the top international participants based on a thorough review from the Executive Committee. |

- ★ The Early and Regular Division is intended for younger students while the Advanced Division is open to students of all ages.
The **Early Division** is intended for **ages 9 and below**. The **Regular Division** is open to students from **ages 12 and below**. Middle school students (**ages 13+**) are only eligible to participate in the **Advanced Division**.
- ★ International submissions will be evaluated using the same criteria by a separate committee.
- ★ Winning teams will also receive prizes provided by the sponsors of the competition.
- ★ Prizes are determined regardless of the number of members in the winning team.
- ★ World Finals reviews will include judges and representatives from the management of all participating countries, meaning that interpretation may be required.
- ★ The Management will not translate videos into English. Only submitted videos will be reviewed.
- ★ The Management will evaluate each project on originality, technical skill, and design.

- ★ The presentation itself will not be evaluated this year. The evaluation will be limited to the projects themselves rather than the quality of the video and the explanation. Every presenter, however, should make their best effort to show the functions and features of their project in the video.

5. Results

Winners (including commentary) will be published on the official website at the end of October, 2026.

- ★ A brief announcement will be published on the website on **September 11 (Fri), 2026**.
- ★ Schedule is subject to change.

6. How to Apply

① Use official competition materials to build a robot according to this year's theme.

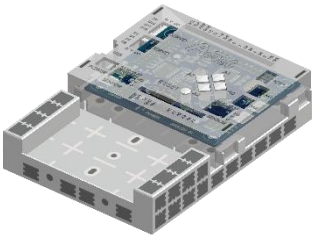
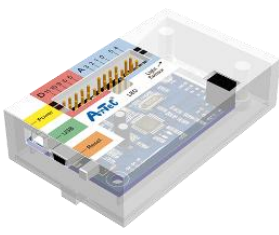


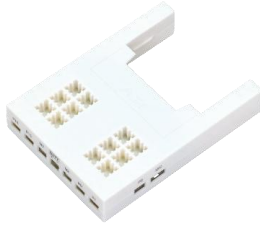

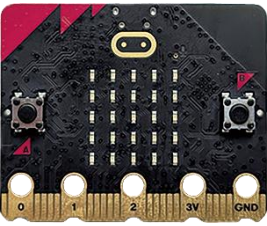
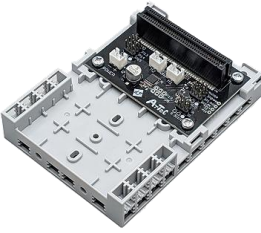

★ Program file for the robot must be submitted along with application.

Theme

SDG 8: A Better World to Work Decent Work and Economic Growth is the eighth sustainable development goal aimed at making an abundant society and economy where everyone can do their job safely. This can include lowering the amount of work people have to do or making a job more efficient to make society better. The Idea Contest calls on participants to design a unique, effective robot or system to meet the challenge!

Official Materials

- Studuino, Studuino:bit Core Unit, Studuino Lite, Artec Links, micro:bit, and other computers listed in the table below
- ArtecRobo and/or ArtecRobo 2.0
- Artec Blocks
- Craft materials (rubber bands, string, paper, etc.)

Studuino	Studuino:mini	Studuino:mini DC Motor Expansion Board
		
Studuino:bit Core Unit	Robot Expansion Unit	StuduinoLite
		
micro:bit	micro:bit Expansion Board	Artec Links (including expansion units)
		

- ★ Keep in mind that craft materials should be non-electric and easily purchased from any arts and crafts store or home improvement center.
 - ★ Submissions may use computers and accompanying peripherals such as mice, keyboards, web cameras, microphones, and headphones to control the machine or robot.
- ② Make a video introducing your robot. This video can include either voiceover or text and should be two minutes or less in length:

[Sample Video 1](#)



[Sample Video 2](#)



- ③ Upload the video for your robot to YouTube. Follow the guide below to find out how to upload your video:

[Uploading to YouTube](#)



7. Notes When Applying

- Be sure to apply as a team.
- A team can be 1-5 members.
- Teams with members of multiple different ages must enter the division corresponding to the age of the oldest member. Example) A team with a 14, 12, and 9 year-old is only eligible for the **Advanced Division**.
- Submissions of robots or machines with identical movements and features will be considered as a duplicate submission even if submitted by different teams. You may be asked to withdraw in the event this happens.

Find out more about the Universal Robotics Challenge at

<https://www.urc21.org/en/>

