



## 2005-2006 National Student Design Competition

# Contest Rules

Projects can be started during the Fall or Spring semester and take 1 or 2 semesters to complete the design, but must be completed by the end of the Spring semester. Projects are considered on a first-come, first-funded basis starting early September, with early submission advised. At least ten (10) design projects will be funded each year. A university/school may submit up to three team projects, one in each design area, for the competition. Participating in this competition does not eliminate participation in other programs.

To enter the competition, the student team and faculty advisor must submit an email letter of intent to:

Dr. John D. Enderle  
Biomedical Engineering, University of Connecticut  
Email: [jenderle@bme.uconn.edu](mailto:jenderle@bme.uconn.edu)  
Phone: (860) 486-5521

The one-page letter of intent should briefly describe the project and how the team proposes to design the project, the completion date, and contact information for the faculty advisor and team members. Letters will be evaluated as they are received, with a response provided within two weeks of submission.

Student teams accepted into the competition will receive reimbursements up to \$2,000 for the project. To receive funds, the faculty advisor should send requests to Dr. Enderle with original receipts and a departmental invoice, in roughly \$500 increments. An "up front" request for an initial \$500 can be made as long as the institution making the request has established an account for these funds and provides a promise of subsequent documentation. The money provided by the RERC on AMI is intended to fund construction of a working prototype of the device. No other money may be used to support the project without prior approval by Dr. Enderle.

For the competition, each team must create a website that will be used to evaluate the design and to help select the winners of the competition. At a minimum, the website should contain a final report, detailed photos and a digital video clip of the project in action. The final report should fully describe the project including detailed drawings and photographs, full engineering analysis of the preferred design and at least one alternative design, consideration of accessible/universal design principles (for details, see <http://www.rerc-ami.org/ami/projects/d/2/udg/>) and how the design addresses the needs of the hypothetical clients, plus an accounting of all expenses incurred to build the prototype and a projected cost to produce a manufactured product. The cost to produce the project will be a factor in judging; no project will be eligible for a prize if over \$2000 was used to build the prototype. For full credit, the project should be tested with representative intended users, with feedback used to improve the project. Appropriate terminology should be used when describing people with disabilities and assistive technologies (see <http://www.lsi.ku.edu/lsi/internal/guidelines.html>). The website should be easy to view and navigate from page to page, and follow web accessibility guidelines (<http://www.w3.org/WAI/>). All completed projects will be evaluated in May or June 2006 by a team of judges. The winners will be contacted directly and the results posted at the RERC website <http://www.rerc-ami.org/>. The top three projects will receive monetary awards: first prize: \$1000, second prize: \$750, and third prize: \$500. In addition, all entries are eligible to receive an award of up to \$500 to cover registration/travel to present a paper on the design if it is accepted and published in proceedings at a major conference.