# 2021 ArcGIS Online Competition for U.S. High Schools and Middle Schools

To expand the impact of Esri's commitments to US K12 education, Esri wants to support, with $1000 grants to states, participation in a nationwide network of ArcGIS Online competitions for students in high school ("HS", grades 9-12) and middle school ("MS", grades 4-8).

1. **PUBLIC INFO**:
    a. **https://go.esri.com/us-ago-comp** (quick page)
    b. **https://esriurl.com/agoschoolcomp** (quick intro storymap)
    c. **https://esriurl.com/agoschoolcompinfo** (full public details GeoNet post)
    d. **https://arcg.is/AGOschoolcomptotal** (full results from 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017)

2. **THE BIG PICTURE**: This is a three-tiered celebration of student problem-solving and analysis with maps. Students do a custom project and use an ArcGIS Online Organization account to create a story map about something within the borders of the state, and submit it to their school. Schools submit up to five "school finalists" to the state. The state chooses five HS and five MS "state awardees" who each receive a prize of $100; from each set of five, the state also selects one "national finalist" for a final level of competition; the state sends to Esri data about all 10 awardees and total participants. Esri maps participants, awardees, and national finalists, and (circumstances permitting) selects one national winner each at HS and MS levels, who (we expect) earn trips to Esri's Education GIS Conference, in San Diego, CA, July 10-13, 2021. Winners show their map in the main Map Gallery.

3. **STATE RESPONSIBILITIES**: For this competition, all 50 US states plus District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and US Virgin Islands, plus DoDEA as a collection of sites, are eligible geographies, and will be referred to as "State" in this document. A single official competition management team representing the geographic unit of the State must be in place for any entries from the state to be considered. No entries can be recognized by Esri unless the State has agreed to terms with Esri. The State is responsible for
    a. Communicating with and receiving info from Esri.
    b. Deciding equitably and describing publicly any special State-established criteria (any pre-registration requirement, due dates, topic constraints, and scoring).
    c. Creating and maintaining a website with State information and forms, linking to and being linked from the national site. (See MN 2020 and CA 2021; yours could look totally different, even be minimalist, and still get the critical elements of this job done.)
    d. Marketing. It's essential to get word out early and often, to schools & clubs, adults & students, about the State's participation. Communicate with other in-state education organizations, schools, educators, and students about the rules for valid entries, and resolve any question about what constitutes a legitimate entry in the state; communicate with schools, educators, and students about "personally identifiable information" (PII).
    e. Coordinating any special in-state instruction, mentoring, or support. This includes the "Early Mentoring" option noted in the PUBLIC DETAILS, including identifying mentors, and providing a method for teachers/leaders to submit a student entry and mentors to provide comments back to the teachers/leaders, adult-to-adult.
    f. Establishing a final judging team, and ensuring they have proper instruction and enough time to complete the task in case of high volume (e.g. what happens if 25% of all the MS+HS in the state each submit 5 entries?).

g.  Receiving the schools' entries (no more than 5 per school) and data, distributing these to the judging team, compiling results, and submitting these on time to Esri.

h.  Receiving funds from Esri and distributing awards (this is hard for many); coordinating with any providers of additional in-state awards; completing and filing any paperwork required by the US, the state, the host institution, and Esri to receive funds and distribute awards.

4.  **DEADLINES**:
    a.  State leadership team application is due (limit: one per state) by Tue, Dec.1, 2020.
    b.  Entry forms (individual, school, state) from Esri will be available by Dec.15, 2020. Individual and school entry forms should be modified by the state and posted on the state website by Feb 2021.
    c.  State website should be visible as early as possible, certainly by Tue, Dec.1, 2020.
    d.  Deadline for student entry to school needs to be determined by the school, but is recommended to be no later than Wed May 5, 2021, to meet the state deadline.
    e.  Deadline for school entries to state: determined by the State, but recommended no later than 5pm Pacific Time on Wed May 12, 2021; if the State uses an "Early Mentoring" process and/or any pre-registration requirement, those process/es and deadline/s must be publicly visible, crystal clear, and "reasonable and equitable."
    f.  Deadline for state entry/report to Esri: submission window opens 8am Pacific Time on Fri Apr.30, 2021; due no later than 5pm Pacific Time on Wed May 19, 2021.
    g.  Esri notifies awardees: by 5pm Pacific Time on Tue June 1, 2021.

5.  **FINAL AWARDS**:
    a.  This entire section is **pending circumstances**. Esri reserves the right to modify this without advanced notice depending on global, national, local, and corporate circumstances.
    b.  1 HS and 1 MS national winners receive registration and a travel grant to appear at Esri Education GIS Summit ("EdUC"), San Diego, CA, Sat July 10 - Tue July 13, 2021.
    c.  National winners are recognized at EdUC (exact details TBD), present their map in the Esri User Conference ("UC") Map Gallery Monday afternoon, and participate as full registrants through 6pmPT Tue July 13, 2021.
    d.  Because each State may nominate only 1 HS and 1 MS awardee for the national competition, the State should clarify if nominees are ready, willing, and able to accept the award and attend the conference if chosen as winner.

For more info, see https://esriurl.com/agoschoolcompinfo or contact Charlie Fitzpatrick.

**TO APPLY:** Fill out the State Leadership Team Application Form on page 3 and email the completed form to Charlie Fitzpatrick, copying all persons named in the form. We look forward to working with you!

Charlie Fitzpatrick
Esri K12 Education Manager
909-793-2853 x.1-8349
e: cfitzpatrick@esri.com
http://www.esri.com/schools

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## State Leadership Team Application Form
For more info, see http://esriurl.com/agoschoolcompinfo

**Requirements for State team:**

1. There should be only one application from a state. Coordination and collaboration is necessary. Applications from multiple teams in a state will delay setup, so talk with your state mates.
2. Team Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator will be invited to a GeoNet group for the competition, which will be used to support conducting a good event. (State helpers may also be invited.)
3. The "Institution managing the funds" will need to fill out paperwork such as an Esri Vendor form. The state team will need to address how best to get funds into awardees' hands to minimize hassle, tax documents, etc. Consider checks, debit cards, gift cards, etc, and note this on the state website.
4. It is essential to have an email address as the target of public requests "for more info." Best practice is an alias that sends copies to multiple people on the team, with response procedures in place.

*By submitting this form and confirming with Charlie Fitzpatrick, you as named individuals and institutions agree to provide equitable access to all middle and high school students in the state, to implement the competition fairly in the spirit of the rules, and to work with the judging team to ensure fair operation.*

Fill in all blanks in the form below. Email the completed form, by Dec.1, 2020 (by Nov.13 if you want Esri to do an email promo) to Charlie Fitzpatrick, cfitzpatrick@esri.com, copying each person named below.

| STATE | Type in boxes below the info sought in numbered cells at left |
|---|---|
| 01. Team Coordinator name * | |
| 02. Team Coordinator institution | |
| 03. Team Coordinator email | |
| 04. Team Coordinator phone | |
| 05. Ass't Coordinator name * | |
| 06. Ass't Coordinator institution | |
| 07. Ass't Coordinator email | |
| 08. Ass't Coordinator phone | |
| * = will be added to GeoNet group for state comp. coordinators | ** = will be visible in popup for the state on the national competition map (map#2 at https://arcg.is/usk12gis) |
| 09. State's "for more info" email ** | |
| 10. State's competition website ** | https:// |
| Above = "key people & addresses" | Below = "Institution managing the funds" |
| 11. Institution managing the funds | |
| 12. Institution department | |
| 13. Institution street address | |
| 14. Institution city | |
| 15. Institution state | |
| 16. Institution ZIP | |
| 17. Institution rep name | |
| 18. Institution rep email | |
| 19. Institution rep phone | |
| 20. Any special note | |