



## Fact Sheet

<b>Challenge</b>	To use the scientific method to identify a community problem and use science and technology to develop an innovative solution. Students are encouraged to conduct community-based research and test/experiment to develop a solution. The entry consists of written and visual components.
<b>Eligibility</b>	All students in sixth, seventh or eighth grades in the U.S., its territories or possessions during the 2011-2012 school year are eligible.
<b>Team</b>	Three to four students and a coach, not necessarily affiliated with a school.
<b>Coach</b>	An adult teacher, parent or guardian, youth leader, businessperson or any member of the community who has the ability to function as an advisor. Many teachers incorporate the competition into their lesson plans.
<b>Mentor</b>	Usually an employee or representative of a local business, museum, scientific association or government office who has volunteered to assist the team and provide expertise.
<b>For Competition Guidelines and General Information</b>	Christopher Columbus Awards 105 Terry Drive, Suite 120 ♦ Newtown, PA 18940-3425 800-291-6020 or <a href="http://www.christophercolumbusawards.com">www.christophercolumbusawards.com</a>
<b>Deadline</b>	February 6, 2012 (postmark deadline)
<b>Semifinalists</b>	Top 30 teams nationwide, selected by a panel of judges.
<b>Finalists</b>	Top 8 teams nationwide, selected by a panel of judges.
<b>National Championship Week</b>	Finalist teams and their coaches will receive an all-expense-paid trip to Walt Disney World® to participate in the Christopher Columbus Academy, the finals judging and the naming of the two Gold Medal-winning teams and the \$25,000 Columbus Foundation Community Grant winner.
<b>Christopher Columbus Academy</b>	Custom-designed program giving kids hands-on experience with the innovation process, working side-by-side with experts in science, technology and education.
<b>Prizes</b>	Two Gold Medal-winning teams will win one \$2,000 savings bond per team member, and one team will win the \$25,000 Columbus Foundation Community Grant to bring its idea to life in the students' community.
<b>Sponsor</b>	Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation