

THE BIG BANG COMPETITION

ONLINE JUDGING



OVERVIEW

The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Competition aims to recognise and reward young people's achievements in all areas of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) and provide them with the opportunity to build their skills and confidence in project-based work.

Competitors will enter their projects online for the chance to compete for amazing prizes, including the coveted titles of UK Young Scientist(s) of the Year, UK Young Engineer(s) of the Year and UK Young Technologist(s) of the Year.

We are looking for judges to take part in our online judging round. Judges will review and assess projects online, and will also provide feedback to help competitors build upon their achievements.

For more information about the Competition, please visit our website:

<https://www.thebigbang.org.uk/the-big-bang-competition/>

KEY DATES AND REQUIREMENTS

You will need to commit up to 8 hours over two weeks, between 3 April – 17 April 2024.

- **Wednesday 3 April, 4pm – 5pm:** judges attend an online EUK briefing which will show judges how to use the online judging system, as well as have the opportunity to ask any questions
- **Monday 8 April – Wednesday 17 April:** judges review, score and provide feedback to allocated projects, approximately 4 - 8 projects per judge. You will be able to manage your own time during this period to complete your score sheets and feedback.

WHY DO WE NEED YOU

As a Big Bang Competition judge, you will assess and celebrate projects online in your area of STEM expertise. This year competitors are asked to submit a written entry and/or a short video about their project, for judges to assess against set judging criteria, including key skills such as communication, enthusiasm, innovation, creativity, problem solving, teamwork and leadership.

The Big Bang Team needs you to share your time and expertise to assess projects and provide vital feedback on student's work.



WHAT ACTIVITIES WILL YOU BE INVOLVED IN?

As a volunteer judge, you will have a unique opportunity to **inspire and motivate our young students**:

- assessing projects against set judging criteria including project concept, process, outcomes, next steps and reflections and personal skills
- providing invaluable guidance to young people by providing positive and constructive feedback to help motivate competitors build upon the work they have already achieved

WHAT SKILLS AND ABILITIES ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Our volunteers play a vital role in making The Big Bang Competition a massive success. We are looking for scientists, engineers, technicians, and people who work or study in STEM jobs, who are enthusiastic about what they do - whether you are a graduate, career starter or professional with years of experience. We are looking for volunteers-

- with a STEM background
- who are reliable and enjoy supporting and inspiring young people
- an ability to provide feedback in an age-appropriate and accessible manner for young people
- impartiality and analytical skills to assess the STEM-based projects

We are particularly looking for volunteers who come from groups that are currently under-represented in STEM and who can represent the diversity of the STEM workforce. This includes women, disabled professionals, people who identify as LGBTQ+, people from Black and minority ethnic backgrounds and those from lower socioeconomic groups.

WHAT CAN YOU GAIN FROM THIS OPPORTUNITY?

- a **rewarding** opportunity to **make a difference** to young people, encourage creativity and innovation, as well as passion and confidence in STEM-based project work
- playing an integral role in a **prestigious competition** that recognises, rewards, and inspires the UK's young science and engineering talent
- **build your personal development** through volunteering and volunteer training
- developing **analytical and evaluation** skills

IS THERE ANY TRAINING?

We will provide you with training and support throughout your volunteering role, including:

- A judge's handbook
- An online judges briefing held by EngineeringUK

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

To apply, please complete the online application form [here](#).

If you have any questions regarding the role, please contact Arran Goodchild (agoodchild@engineeringuk.com) and Natasha Sudan (nsudan@engineeringuk.com)