Engineers for a Sustainable World

DESIGN • EDUCATE • BUILD

Resilient CommUnity Design Challenge

2017-2018 Request for Proposals

Rules and Regulations

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Introduction

[CommUnity](#) is a national challenge that empowers interdisciplinary student teams to develop solutions that improve access to resources, quality of life, and climate-resistant infrastructure systems. We will educate teams in community based learning, guiding them to work collaboratively with organizations to propose solutions to local resiliency challenges.

What is Resilience?
According to the Community & Regional Resilience Institute:
> *Resilience is the ability to anticipate risk, limit impact, and bounce back rapidly through survival, adaptability, evolution, and growth in the face of turbulent change.*

Lack of resiliency is one of the biggest threats facing our cities. With the rise in globalization and the imminent danger of climate change, cities must be able to react to extreme droughts, rapidly changing weather patterns, pesticide overuse, drinking water pollution, and excess carbon emissions.

The Challenge

The Resilient CommUnity Design Challenge asks student engineers and technically minded individuals to form partnerships with community organizations to design solutions to meet local resiliency needs.

Design teams will participate in a training program with Engineers for a Sustainable World that guides each team through the process of identifying and working with community organizations. Teams also receive mentorship on sustainability, resilience, and engineering best practices. Proposed solutions should take on the form of a proposal, strategy, or piece of policy and stem from a collaborative effort with at least one organizational partner.

By participating in this challenge, you will be involved in a year-long program that will guide you through working on a community based project. You will learn how to develop a relationship and work with a community partner via a series of discussion based webinars and one-on-one mentorship. In working closely with us, you will gain the skills to go on to solve messy, real world problems beyond college.

You should consider the following:
- Approach the solution from an interdisciplinary lens - taking into account fields such as history, sociology, policy, social justice, planning, and engineering.
- Imagine how transportation, energy, water, and public spaces contribute to a resilient community.

Joining the Challenge

Follow the link **here** to apply to CommUnity. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance into the challenge by October 6, 2017. Updates will be posted on resilience.eswusa.org.

Selection Process + Timeline

The selection process is divided into several phases. At the beginning of the academic year we will accept teams into the CommUnity challenge via the application form. Participating teams will then submit their Phase 1 Deliverables by December. We will select promising teams to continue on to submit Phase 2 Deliverables in March and issue travel awards to present their solutions at the ESW Annual Conference in early April. Winners from the conference presentations will receive additional support from ESW-Headquarters to develop their project.

Schedule

September 1	Challenge brief released
September 19 & 25	Q/A Sessions, Q/A Sessions, 9pm ET, 6pm PT
September 30	Applications due
October 6	Acceptances issued
October	CommUnity monthly online course begins
December 15	Phase 1 Deliverables Due
March	CommUnity monthly online course ends.
March 24	Phase 2 Deliverables Due
April 5-8	Oral presentations and judging at 2018 ESW Annual Conference
April - May	Winner will schedule and host a call with the ESW Projects and Education Dept., project team, and community partner to further project development

Webinar Schedule

October	Resilience, Communities, and Engineering
November	Identifying and Working with a Community Partner
December	Thinking Bigger, Tackling Socio Economics and Resiliency
January	Project Ideation - Q&A Session
February	Designing access for all
March	Troubleshooting session

Rules for Entry

To be eligible for CommUnity, you must:
- Be currently enrolled at a higher education institution as a full-time student
- Not be graduating earlier than June 2018
- [Register as an ESW member](#)

Teams:
- Can range from 3-6 members
- Encouraged to involve students from a wide range of academic backgrounds and disciplines

We will accept applications from multiple teams at the same university, but we encourage you to coordinate with other students at your institution.

Additional Rules Include:

1. All communication about contest rules or clarifications should be directed to resilience@eswusa.org. The best way to stay up to date is to regularly check resilience.eswusa.org.
2. Teams must register using the online registration form found [here](#) no later than September 30, 2017.
3. Use of this challenge by a faculty member as an assignment in an existing spring term course is strongly encouraged, with a community partner identified and registered in advance of the start of the term.

Deliverables

Entries to register for the challenge are due September 30, 2017, at 11:59 EDT . Your entry must include:
1. Responses to the following prompts:
   a. What does resilience mean to you? (250-500 words)
   b. What is your experience: a) working with a community partner? b) engaging in engineering project management and c) applying social justice to technical problems (250-500 words)?
2. A list of your team members
3. 3-6 potential organizational partners in your community and why you chose them

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Fine Print

Publication/Proposal Restrictions:

Teams may not submit projects that have already been fully implemented, or prepared for or with a third party, or have already been published or submitted before the last day of the final judging panel deliberations. Students may submit projects developed for other independent work or other coursework.

Use of Submitted Works:

Teams own the rights to the work they submit for the challenge. Teams agree that the CommUnity Challenge organizers are granted non-exclusive reproduction rights to all submissions for the purpose of the CommUnity Challenge organizers' advertising, promotion, print and digital publication, and display directly relating to the challenge. The CommUnity Challenge organizers' shall have no responsibility for any unauthorized use of a team's works by any third party, including but not limited to the Challenge organizers.

Copyright Infringement and Intellectual Property:

All work submitted for the challenge must be a team's own original work. A team's sole responsibility is to ensure that the work submitted does not infringe upon the intellectual property rights of any third party, including, but not limited to copyright, trademark, and design rights. The CommUnity Challenge organizers shall not be responsible for a team's infringement of any third-party intellectual property rights, regardless of whether said infringement was known or should have been known by the team.