Welcome to the 2013 STEM Academic Competition!

This new competition is designed to engage your creativity and encourage your participation in STEM education fields. Established by Members of the U.S. House of Representatives in 2013, this competition is a nationwide event that allows students like you from across the country to compete by creating and exhibiting their software application, or "app," for mobile, tablet, or computer devices on a platform of their choice.

Throughout the completion period, participating students will be provided opportunities to engage with various STEM educational partners located throughout the community to mentor and assist them with their app development. Students entering the competition must provide a YouTube video demo explaining their app and what they learned through this competition process.

The submitted apps will be judged by an appointed panel of individuals within the academic, software and entrepreneurial fields. The winning student's app in each participating congressional district will be featured on the U.S. House of Representatives' website (www.House.gov), as well as on display in a U.S. Capitol exhibit. Additional details on The House STEM App Challenge will be announced in the coming weeks and provided on my website at: www.Polis.house.gov

I hope that you will participate in this exciting event. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call my District Office at 970-226-1239

Sincerely,

Jared Polis

House App Contest

This year marks the first annual Congressional Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Academic Competition, the "House App Contest." This new competition is designed to engage student's creativity and encourage their participation in STEM education fields. Established by Members of the U.S. House of Representatives in 2013, this competition is a nationwide event that allows high school students from across the country to compete by creating and exhibiting their software application, or "app," for mobile, tablet, or computer devices on a platform of their choice. Throughout the completion period, participating students will be provided opportunities to engage with various STEM educational partners located within the community to mentor and assist them with their app development.

The "House App Contest" is open to all high school students in the **2nd Congressional District**. Students entering the competition must submit their app's source code online during the Competition Submission Period between **12 PM Eastern Standard Time on FEBRUARY 1ST, 2014, and 11:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time on APRIL 30TH, 2014,** as well as provide a YouTube or VIMEO video demo explaining their app and what they learned through this competition process.

Can I Participate?

1. The Competition is open only to high school students who reside in a Colorado's 2nd Congressional District (CD2).

To Register

To enter, the student must create an account on www.challengepost.com and then register for the House Student App Contest under their participating Member of Congress' profile during the Competition Submission Period. All entries must be an original in concept, design and execution.

1. **Register with Rep. Jared Polis at http://studentappchallenge.house.gov/**
2. Register at **http://www.challengepost.com**

Resources for Students and Teachers

- **Code.org**
- **36 Resources To Help You Teach Kids Programming**

- **CodeAcademy.COM self-taught courses in HTML/CSS, Python, Ruby, and PHP**
- **MIT App Inventor tutorial to develop mobile apps on Android phones.**
- **Scratch** a simple visual programming language
- **Alice** is used to create 3D animations
- Development Kits:
    - **Apple iOS Developer Program**
    - **Android- Develop for Android**
    - **Windows Apps**

STEM FAQs

- ✓ What is the contest?
    - The Congressional STEM Competition was authorized by H.Res 77 to encourage student participation in STEM fields. Initially the competition will be in the field of computer science. Participating students in the district will develop an app on a platform of their choice. Rep. Polis' office will appoint judges to evaluate the apps and select winners.

- ✓ Who can participate?
    - High School students who live in or are eligible to enroll in high schools in CD2 can participate.

- ✓ Can homeschooled students participate?
    - Yes, any student who lives in or is eligible to attend high school in the district can compete.

- ✓ When will the contest occur?
    - Students will develop their code for submission in February and March. Judging will take place in April, and district winners will be posted on House.GOV around May 15, 2014.

- ✓ When can students register?
    - Students can register on Challenge.GOV starting February 1, 2014.

- ✓ How will the winners be recognized?
    - All participating students, students advisors and students families will be invited to a reception held in May with a date and time TBD. Winners will be notified after judging takes place in April.

- ✓ What will they submit for the contest?
  - o Students will submit a demonstration video of their app along with an entry form. The source code for the app must be available for inspection by the judges.

- ✓ Can students submit in teams?
  - o Yes. The maximum team size is four students, two of whom must reside in or be eligible to attend high school in the district.

- ✓ Is this only open to high schoolers?
  - o Yes, only high school students can participate.

- ✓ How are apps judged?
  - o The app's will be scored by three criteria; idea, implementation, and the impact of the app.