



FACT SHEET: P³ Award – A Student Design Competition for Sustainability

To respond to the scientific and technical needs of the developed and developing world in moving toward sustainability, EPA and its partners* launched the **P³ Award**. This national student design competition will enable college students to research, develop and design sustainable solutions to environmental challenges.

WHAT IS P³? P³ is what's next; it's the next step beyond P²--pollution prevention--and focuses on the three components of sustainability: *People, Prosperity* and the *Planet*.

WHAT IS THE P³ AWARD? The award will be the culmination of a competition giving college students an opportunity to research, develop and design solutions to scientific and technical challenges to sustainability around the world.

WHAT IS THE FOCUS OF THE AWARD? Challenges from a wide range of categories will be considered including the built environment, water quality and quantity, energy production and distribution, chemicals and materials, agriculture, ecosystems, and information technology. Challenges related to population growth and medical care, while important, are not included in this competition other than the delivery or distribution systems of knowledge, goods, and supplies.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY? U.S. institutions of higher education are eligible as the recipients for grants to support undergraduate and/or graduate students. Collaboration with colleges and universities outside the U.S. is permitted but only U.S. institutions are eligible for awards.

HOW TO APPLY: Application procedures and materials can be found at: <http://es.epa.gov/ncer/P3>. Information about past awardees and their projects can also be found at this website.

APPLICATION REVIEW: Applications to compete for the **P³ Award** are evaluated by a peer review panel based on problem definition; innovation and technical merit; connections to sustainability in terms of P³; measurable results, evaluation method, implementation strategy; and integration of competition as an educational tool. Final selections will be made by EPA.

WHEN WILL THE AWARDS BE MADE? There are two phases to the **P³ Award** process. In Phase I, up to 60 student design projects, each with a \$10,000 grant, will be supported during the 2005-2006 academic year for research and development of their sustainable design. Phase II begins in spring 2006, when the teams will be invited to bring their designs to Washington, D.C. to compete for the **P³ Award**. The National Academies will convene a panel to select the **P³ Award** winners. **P³ Award** winners may apply for additional funds from EPA which will match contributions from partner organizations to help further develop the design, implement the project in the field, and move to the marketplace.

* listing of partners on back

P³ Award partners currently include 40 organizations from government, industry and non-governmental organizations participating in the implementation of the competition:

Government

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
National Science Foundation
Office of the Federal Environmental Executive
US AID
White House Council on Environmental Quality
White House Office of Science and Technology Policy

Industry

DaimlerChrysler
Dell
Herman Miller
Hewlett-Packard
Nexant
US Business Council for Sustainable Development

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Association of American Geographers
American Chemical Society
American Institute of Chemical Engineers
American National Standards Institute
American Society for Engineering Education
American Society of Civil Engineers
American Society of Mechanical Engineers
Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors
Association of University Leaders for Sustainable Future
Education for Sustainability Western Network
Engineers Forum for Sustainability
Engineers without Borders
Engineers for a Sustainable World
Global Environment and Technology Foundation
Green Chemistry Institute
Industrial Design Society of America
Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers
Institute for Society, Ecology, and Environment
International Center for Appropriate and Sustainable Technology
Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute
National Academy of Engineers
National Center for Manufacturing Sciences
National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance
National Council for Science and the Environment
US Green Buildings Council
US Partnership for the UN Decade for Education for Sustainable Development
WERC
World Resources Institute

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