

Want to solve a big STEM problem? Ask a high schooler

1,200 Illinois students team up with businesses and universities to address major challenges

An innovative device to detect lead levels in drinking water, a patch to assist with medication adherence, a healthy breakfast bar, and a mobile app that connects patients with cancer - these are a few inventive solutions Illinois high school students have come up with in response to the Illinois Science and Technology Institute's (ISTI) statewide STEM Challenge.

Over the last five months, 1,200 students at 26 Illinois high schools have partnered up with some of the state's most innovative companies to address a real world, pressing challenge. Through this unique hands-on experience, students worked alongside top industry mentors to identify problem areas, imagine new ideas, develop research and design plans, and ultimately present a solution to the challenge.

On **Thursday, April 27, 2017**, ISTI will be hosting its 4th annual STEM Challenge Student Showcase where one student team from each participating high school will present their top solutions to one of 12 STEM challenges (full list below).

Who:

Students from high schools across Illinois
Leaders from top corporations and universities in Illinois
Illinois Science and Technology Institute executives

When: April 27, 2017

8:45am-12:45pm

Where: Motorola Mobility – Merchandise Mart #1800

This event is open to the media, but not the public. The students, mentors and ISTI representatives will be available for interviews.

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Please find the list of participating schools below and the corporations/organizations they have partnered with for the 2016-2017 school year.

AbbVie Foundation. Design and recommend an innovation or process that will improve the lives of patients with cancer. *North Chicago Community High School.*

ADM. Redevelop your favorite snack food to make it healthier. Research and consider origination of ingredients, processing, marketing and distribution of your product. *Eisenhower High School, MacArthur High School*

Baxter International Inc. Research renal dialysis and parenteral nutrition, focusing on home treatment. Recommend design innovations to improve usability, accessibility, and patient outcomes. *Lindblom Math & Science Academy, Instituto Health Sciences Career Academy, Muchin College Prep*

Horizon Pharma. Develop new or improved innovative methods of delivering medication for urea cycle disorder to patients. *Highland Park High School*

Illinois State University. Develop a prototype, product, plan, process, or system that suggests an innovative and "smart" way to manage everyday energy and/or water use. How can we measure and reduce the carbon footprint and apply technology innovations to mitigate this? *Downers Grove North High School, ITW David Speer Academy, Washington High School, Williamsfield High School*

Loyola University Chicago. Develop a plan that describes a new energy conservation effort. *Nicholas Senn High School*

Microsoft. Identify a problem in your community and use Internet of Things technology to build a solution or improve upon existing technology to address that problem. *Corliss High School, Lake View High School*

Motorola Mobility. Identify a way to use mobile phones to investigate and solve current problems for people in our local or global community. *Gwendolyn Brooks College Prep, Von Steuben Metropolitan Science Center*

Motorola Solutions. Investigate and recommend new mobile technology apps and tools that would help save lives and keep people safe in emergency and disaster situations. *Chicago Vocational Career Academy*

Northrop Grumman. Design and build a remotely operated, weight efficient, self-powered solar heat-shield that deploys a self-supporting structure. *Palatine High School, Oak Park & River Forest High School*

State Farm. Identify a problem around a community issue that is relevant to the insurance and/or IT industry. Draw on your own experiences and those in your community to identify areas for innovation in home insurance, auto insurance, or financial services. *Bloomington High School, Normal Community High School, Normal West High School*

Takeda Pharmaceuticals. Address the problem of medication adherence in one therapeutic area (diabetes or depression) and develop solutions for patients. *Evanston Township High School, Phoenix Military Academy, Prospect High School, Solorio Academy*