



HIGH SCHOOL  
**ideas**  
CHALLENGE



## No Confidentiality Agreement

**Only author names and idea titles will be made publicly available. No other information will be made available to any persons not directly connected with the competition at any time, or for any reason.**

If you wish, you may register any trade names associated with your business idea, and this will help to protect the business or product names you create. Your entry form is automatically copyrighted upon submission, but that protects the words you have written, not the ideas those words represent.

Many potential entrants are concerned that someone will steal their ideas but In fact, the risk is quite low. There is an old and valid saying in business. “If all you have is a good idea, you don't have much.” If you have a good idea, you may win \$2,000, but it will take a huge investment of time, effort, and most likely money to turn that idea into a fully operational business. Additionally, in the process of implementing the business, the initial idea will likely be changed substantially. Be assured, by the time the doors of your new business open, the time and effort you put into developing and implementing your idea will make the time spent on the competition seem like small change. A good idea, without one or more committed and dedicated persons working hard to make it a reality, won't go very far. If you are worried about the security of your idea, please make every effort to keep your work on the entry form private and avoid providing exact details that may enable someone to replicate your idea.

As a competitor, you are responsible to protect any information concerning your plan that you share with advisors, team members and fellow participants of the competition. The *Texas High School Ideas Challenge* nor the McFerrin Center takes any responsibility for unwanted disclosure in these instances. Competitors concerned about the protection of intellectual property may research intellectual property protection at the Texas A&M University Libraries Patent & Trademark Resource Center or the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Neither the *Texas High School Ideas Challenge* nor the McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship takes any ownership in an idea or plan as part of the *Challenge*.