

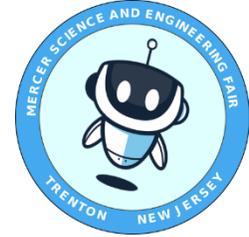


# 2020 Robot Design Competition

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At this year's 68<sup>th</sup> annual Mercer Science and Engineering Fair (MSEF) in March, we successfully pioneered a virtual science fair format, with student interviews done via video conferencing. To further engage students this summer, we are announcing the first annual **MSEF Robot Design Competition**.

This new virtual Robot Design Competition emphasizes engineering design, hence complementing other popular robot competitions that evaluate the robots' performance at particular task. This focus allows us to include robots and robotic systems of all types, designed for any task. The full details of the competition are on our website, <https://mercersec.org>.

The virtual MSEC Robot Design Competition is open to middle and high school age students but limited to the first 50 individuals or teams who start their application on our website. This competition is open to students throughout the United States. Registration is open now and will close September 25<sup>th</sup> or when 50 registrations have been reached.

Completed submissions will be judged via live video interviews by expert judges from the robotics industry. Students are strongly encouraged to ask the judges questions as well. To further enhance the students' learning experience, expert speakers will be invited to hold technical seminars for participating students. Awards will be given to the best presentations, details to be posted on our fair website soon.

We anticipate that some participants in this year's competition will have robots already designed or built for other competitions – some of which may have been cancelled. The virtual MSEF Robot Design Competition hopes to offer those students an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and achievements.

## What Can You Do?

We need to get the word out to as many students as possible. Please let students, parents and teachers know about the competition and our website, where they can find details. It would be great if you can post this information on your website and social media feeds!

### **Contact:**

William Wong

President

Mercer Science and Engineering Club

<https://mercersec.org>

Phone: (215) 736-2449

Email: [bwong789@gmail.com](mailto:bwong789@gmail.com)