



# Livable Community Mobile App Challenge



- **Do you have a cool idea for a Mobile App that can contribute to better Livable Communities?**
- **Do you want to learn or further develop your Mobile App development skills?**

Transportation Research Center for Livable Communities (TRCLC) at Western Michigan University invites high-school students to participate in "The Livable Community Mobile App Challenge." TRCLC, one of University Transportation Centers funded by the US Department of Transportation, aims to address the nation's critical transportation challenges through the prism of livable communities. The focus of this challenge is to invite high-school students to design and develop mobile applications that can help to improve sustainable transportation options for communities in Michigan with special attention paid to non-motorized travel, public transit, safe routes to school and "smart" transport technologies.

Participating teams and their teachers will be invited to Western Michigan University to showcase their mobile apps. All participants will receive certificates of achievement from Western Michigan University. The six top finalist teams will receive the following cash awards:

- One cash prize of \$1000 for the Gold place.
- Two cash prizes of \$500 for the Silver places.
- Three cash prizes of \$250 for the Bronze places.

We are interested to listen to your ideas and help you develop a practical mobile app that contributes to our local communities. You will have the opportunity to receive technical support from WMU professors and graduate students to realize your ideas.

## **DEADLINES:**

**Registration and Proposal (before Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>):** We request interested high-school students to send an email to TRCLC (trc-info@wmich.edu) along expressing interest along with a brief description of their mobile app idea. The email should include names of all team members and representative's email address.

**Showcase and Award Ceremony (Tentatively May 9<sup>th</sup>):** Participants will be invited to Western Michigan University to showcase their mobile apps. Winning teams will receive awards at the ceremony. Selection of finalist projects will be performed by a committee of high school teachers, industry experts and university faculty members.

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## Showcase and Award Ceremony Tentative Schedule

Saturday, May 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 Livable Community Mobile App Challenge	
10:30 – 11:00	Registration
11:00 – 11:15	<b>Opening Ceremony</b>
11:15 – 12:00	<b>Mobile App Showcase</b> The mobile app Showcase provides students with an opportunity to proudly display their school projects to their peers and to university students, academics and industry experts. This contest includes an exhibition and judging of many student projects. These projects are displayed using the most comprehensive range of technologies. The top six student projects qualify to the finalist stage. Selection of finalist projects is performed by a committee of high school teachers, industry experts and university academics.
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 2:00	<b>Keynote Speakers from S2 Games, Ford and Stryker (TBD)</b> The purpose of this session is to expose participants to exemplars of how the mobile technology is utilized in the auto and medical equipment industries.
2:00 – 2:45	<b>Mobile App Design Contest</b> Finalists are requested to make a short public and live presentation to the audience on their projects. Students are challenged to discuss and propose solutions to issues faced by our local communities. The best projects in the mobile app Showcase are announced and awarded along with prizes.
2:30 – 2:45	Ice Cream break
2:45 – 3:00	<b>Closing and Awards Ceremony</b>