

# Technovation Challenge 2019 - RI Region

## General Information



### What is Technovation?

Technovation is an international program and contest for girls 10-18 that teaches mobile app development, entrepreneurship, and community engagement. Teams of up to 5 work together to develop mobile apps aligned with 6 UN Sustainable Development Goals, and that address a problem in their local community. The curriculum is online and free to everyone, and no experience is necessary.

### How does it work?

A typical team consists of 3-5 girls and **a classroom teacher, parent, or other adult as a coach** at their school or community center (or even at home!) and **a female industry mentor** from the technology or related industry. Specialists of either gender are welcome to contribute expertise.

Teams are categorized into two age range groups: Junior or Senior Division. The Senior Division is made up of teams with at least one member who will turn 15 before August 2019. The Junior Division is made up of teams with all members under the age of 15 before August 2019.

All adult leaders are now 'mentors', though teachers or parents will likely still take on the primary coaching role. Of course mentors from industry are more than welcome to take the lead too!

The mentors guide the teams through each week of the online [Technovation curriculum](#) until the **late April submission deadline**. Girls see their mentors as role models and look to them for guidance on how to overcome obstacles and solve problems through the completion of their projects. The industry mentors often function as project managers too.

After the submission deadline, there is a regional Showcase event at which the teams get to show off their work and pitch their apps. Winners of regional events move on to the semifinals, and possibly to the World Pitch event in California. Ten teams worldwide are selected to take part in the World Pitch, where the teams compete for funding to launch their company and take their app to market!

Technovation is a program of [Iridescent](#) (a 501c3 non-profit) in which high school and middle school girls are exposed to STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) through designing and programming a mobile app. This program started in 2010.

### What's the time commitment?

Teams meet with their primary mentor or coach for about 2 hours weekly throughout the season. Industry mentors will meet with them for 30 minutes to an hour weekly, either in-person or virtually. Team members will also work on the curriculum outside of the official meetings, either on their own or as a team - whatever works best for the task or the team. The outside work can add 1-4 hours weekly, and many teams spend full weekends and even every weeknight completing the project for submission.

### Are there any events or workshops?

The Massachusetts/Rhode Island region has a full schedule of events to support mentors and teams. The next big event is the Kickoff for all of the #technovationMA community, currently scheduled for December 8, 2018 during CS EdWeek. Registration information will be posted on a calendar on our [webpage](#).

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### Program Events (currently TBD):

Event	Date/Time	Location
2019 Kickoff and Ideation Workshop	December 8, 2018	LogMeIn
Boston MIT App Inventor – Beginners Workshop	January 19, 2019	TBD
Rhode Island MIT App Inventor – Beginners Workshop	January 26, 2019	Tech Collective
UI/UX Workshop	February	TBD
MIT App Inventor – Advanced Workshop	March	MIT
Business Plan Workshop	March/April	TBD
Pitch Workshop	March/April	TBD
<b>Registration Deadline</b>	Wednesday, March 20, 2019	<a href="http://www.technovationchallenge.org/">http://www.technovationchallenge.org/</a>
<b>Submission Deadline</b>	Tuesday, April 23, 2019	Online; must be registered.
Showcase & Pitch Finale Event	May	TBD

### Links of Interest:

Wondering what goes on at a Showcase? [Check out these pix and articles from the 2018 season!](#)

Story Involving a successful RI team: <https://www.masstlc.org/its-a-great-time-to-join-technovation/>

[MasstLC Education Foundation Technovation page](#) - general info, basic breakdown of the program, event calendar & registration links, plus pix from prior seasons.

[Technovation: Student Cut](#) - interviews of students and other participants at the 2016 MA Showcase

[CodeGirl](#) - this movie follows select teams throughout the 2015 season, including AMEKA and WoCo, the two MA-based World Pitch teams!

[Technovation Challenge](#) - the primary website for registering individuals, teams and accessing the curriculum, among other resources.

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