2026 FIRST-YEAR ENGINEERING DESIGN COMPETITION

ATTENTION FYE STUDENTS

Registered student teams will compete for prizes.

FIRST PLACE – $1,600

SECOND PLACE – $1,200

THIRD PLACE – $800

REGISTER TEAM BY MARCH 15

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The Purdue University College of Engineering invites students to showcase their talents in the third annual First-Year Engineering (FYE) Design Competition.

WHEN: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 11, 2026

WHERE: Thomas S. and Harvey D. Wilmeth Active Learning Center (WALC) in West Lafayette

WHY: Opportunity to practice and demonstrate teaming, creativity, problem solving and engineering design skills

HOW: Three-to-four person teams will address a given engineering problem using methodology learned in ENGR 13X or ENGR 16X courses

ABOUT THE COMPETITION

Who can participate: All students enrolled in FYE, including students enrolled in any FYE pathway: ENGR 13000, ENGR 13100 / 13200, Honors, EPICS and VIP.

Judging panel: A subset of 15-20 teams will be selected to compete in the in-person portion of this competition (Rounds 2 and 3) during which they will present designs to a 12-person judging panel of graduate students, industry professionals and Purdue faculty.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Register and submit initial design proposal (Round 1): Sunday, March 15

Event: Saturday, April 11

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