

October 1, 2021

Dear Participants,

The Fairfax Area 50+ Technology Committee is proud to offer the 6th Annual “Shark Tank” Technology Challenge open to all high school students in Fairfax County, City of Fairfax, and the City of Falls Church to develop an innovative device or app that will have a positive impact in the lives of older adults, adults with disabilities, or caregivers. \$5000.00 in cash prizes have been provided by our sponsor, IntegrityOne Partners.

The Shark Tank Challenge Packet includes all of the necessary information and all the essential forms. It is available to download from our website: [Fairfax Area Student “Shark Tank” Technology Challenge | Family Services \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fairfax-area-student-shark-tank-technology-challenge-family-services)

This year the committee is particularly interested in projects that may enhance the independent enjoyment of life for older adults and adults with disabilities, including wounded warriors. ***Successful projects are innovative either in that it is not currently found in the marketplace or it improves a product currently available.*** The committee encourages students to consider projects that may offer assistance in such areas as:

- Active free time activities
- Participation in the arts
- Caregiving

You may wish to view the video produced by Fairfax County Public Schools of the “Shark Tank” judging event featuring students who have participated: www.youtube.com/watch?v=WvZZ_OzLZW4

The challenge process is outlined below. The final project submission form assumes that the project has been completed and tested at time of submission. It is highly recommended that students test their ideas and finished project with their target audience. The 50+ Technology Committee can assist in finding places to conduct product testing with seniors and/or adults with disabilities. Project submissions are initially reviewed by a judging panel and finalists will be invited to pitch their product at our “Shark Tank” event in the spring. Winners will be notified at the conclusion of the “Shark Tank” event.

2021-2022 Contest Timeline

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| • Initial Proposal Due (required): | Monday, December 6, 2021 |
| • Full Project Submission Due (required): | Tuesday, February 22, 2022 |
| • Shark Tank Event: | April, 2022 (date to be determined) |

Sincerely,

Tara Turner, Director
Fairfax Area Agency on Aging
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