

September 1, 2022

Dear Participants,

The Fairfax Area 50+ Technology Committee is proud to offer the 7th Annual “Shark Tank” Technology Challenge open to all students in Fairfax County, Fairfax City, 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. Our sponsor, IntegrityOne Partners, will provide cash prizes to the winners.

The Shark Tank Challenge Packet includes all of the necessary information and all the essential forms. It is available to download from our website: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/older-adults/fairfax-area-student-shark-tank-technology-challenge>.

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.**

You may wish to view the video produced by Fairfax County Public Schools of the “Shark Tank” judging event featuring students who have participated: https://youtu.be/WvZZ_OzLZW4

All information is available on our website: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/older-adults/fairfax-area-student-shark-tank-technology-challenge>

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.

2022-2023 Contest Timeline

- Initial Proposal Due (required): Monday, December 12, 2022
- Full Project Submission Due (required): Tuesday, February 21, 2023
- Shark Tank Event: March/April 2023 (date to be determined)

Sincerely,
Tara Turner, Director
Fairfax Area Agency on Aging
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