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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## **A.H. Nickless Innovation Award competition day, project report deadline postponed**

**UNIVERSITY CENTER, MICH., March 20, 2020** – Due to K-12 school closures and large-event restrictions in place amid the COVID-19 virus pandemic, the April 18 competition day event for the 2019-20 [A.H. Nickless Innovation Award](#) competition has been postponed until further notice.

The organizers of the A.H. Nickless Innovation Award currently are working to reschedule the event at which the top 20 teams' final projects will be presented. The teams' March 31 project report submission deadline also is postponed and will be rescheduled in conjunction with the rescheduled competition date.

Schedule updates will be sent directly to the teams and posted on the competition's website ([ahninnovationaward.com](http://ahninnovationaward.com)), Facebook page ([fb.com/AHNicklessInnovationAward](https://fb.com/AHNicklessInnovationAward)) and Twitter account ([@AHNInnovation](https://twitter.com/AHNInnovation)).

Aimed at inspiring passion for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects and challenging students to work in teams to think innovatively and develop solutions to problems impacting the world, the award is an annual competition for high school students ages 13 to 18 in Bay, Midland, Saginaw and Tuscola counties. Topics typically include – but are not limited to – issues related to alternative energy, healthcare, science, technology or life sciences.

For 2019-20, schools from Freeland, Midland, Reese and Saginaw are represented in the top 20 teams.

**First place** receives up to five **\$5,000 scholarships** for student team members and a **\$20,000 STEM education grant** for the school; **second place** receives up to five **\$2,500 scholarships** for student team members and a **\$10,000 STEM education grant** for the school; and **third place** receives up to five **\$1,000 scholarships** for student team members and a **\$5,000 STEM education grant** for the school.

A total of \$432,000 in scholarships and grants was awarded in the competition's first six years.



### **About the A.H. Nickless Innovation Award**

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The A.H. Nickless Innovation Award was created by the Nickless Family Charitable Foundation to honor the memory of the late Arthur H. Nickless, a local innovator and owner of Wolverine Telephone Company. With a goal of inspiring passion for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), the competition is open to high school students in Bay, Midland, Saginaw and Tuscola counties and awards up to \$77,500 per year in scholarships to students and STEM grants to schools. For more information, visit [ahninnovationaward.com](http://ahninnovationaward.com).