

IMSCC 2026 Annual Regulations

20th International Mathematical Science Creativity Competition

IMSCC 2026 Organizing Committee | 6 February 2026

Article 1 (Application)

- ① IMSCC 2026 shall be operated in accordance with the IMSCC General Regulations and these Annual Regulations. Details not specified in these Annual Regulations shall be set out in the IMSCC 2026 Official Announcement.
- ② Where the two sets of regulations differ with respect to matters of annual operation, the IMSCC Official Announcement issued under these Annual Regulations shall apply to the extent permitted by the General Regulations.

Article 2 (Official Information)

- ① **Competition:** The 20th International Mathematical Science Creativity Competition (IMSCC 2026)
- ② **Theme:** 4Dframe × Embodied AI: Play, Create, Interact!
- ③ **Dates:** Friday, 30 October 2026 – Welcome Reception and International STEAM Teacher Award Ceremony
Saturday, 31 October 2026 – Competition, Academic Conference, Student Forum, and STEAM Education Festa
- ④ **Venue:** Korea National University of Education, 250 Taeseongtabyeon-ro, Gangnae-myeon, Heungdeok-gu, Cheongju-si, Chungcheongbuk-do, Republic of Korea
- ⑤ **Co-hosts:** Korea National University of Education; Foundation for the Advancement of STEAM (FAS)
- ⑥ **Organizers:**
[Teacher Award] Korea National University of Education
[Competition] Seoul Elementary & Secondary 4D Mathematical Science Convergence Education Research Association
[Student Forum] Seoul Future Industry Science High School
[Academic Conference] 4Dframe Society; Korea National University of Education
- ⑦ **Official languages:** Korean and English
- ⑧ **Official website:** the official IMSCC website announced by the Organizing Committee – <https://imsc.org/>

Article 3 (Key Schedule)

Item	Date and Time
Registration and submission of materials	3 July – 30 September 2026
Announcement of participant numbers	7 October 2026
IMSCC Welcome Night / Teacher Award	30 October 2026
Opening Ceremony	31 October 2026, 09:30–10:10
Competition	31 October 2026, 10:30–12:30
Student Forum & Academic Program	31 October 2026, afternoon
Award and Closing Ceremony	31 October 2026, 16:00–17:30

Article 4 (Themes by Competition Division)

Overall theme: 4Dframe × Embodied AI: Play, Create, Interact!

Category	Division	Eligibility	Divisional Theme	Format
Play	Play I*	Under age 3 (infants)	Let's Build a Wonderful House and Play!	Online judging
	Play II**	Under age 3 (infants)	Let's Work Together!	
Creativity	Creativity I	Ages 3–5 and students eligible for special education	Plants that help the Earth	On-site building & judging + Q&A
	Creativity II	Elementary grades 1–3; students eligible for special education	Creating an environment in which plants that help the Earth can grow well	On-site judging + Q&A
	Creativity III	Elementary grades 4–6	Building a device that helps grow plants to save the Earth	On-site judging + demonstration + Q&A
Mechatronics	Mechatronics I	Elementary	Building a moving system using smart robots [mission-based]	On-site judging + mission performance
	Mechatronics II	Middle school		
	Mechatronics III	High school	Building a supply-delivery system for disaster sites using smart robots [mission-based]	
Convergence	Analog Product Maker	Elementary – Middle school	Convenient tools for everyday life	On-site judging + demonstration + Q&A
	Digital Product Maker	Middle – High school	AI that enriches human life	
	Invention Maker	High school, university, open	Biomimetic robots for disaster rescue	
	Capstone Design	High school, university, open	4Dframe × Embodied AI	

- Participants must complete the advance production of their entry and the submission of materials in accordance with the detailed requirements of each division, and must bring the entry to the venue on the day of the event.
- From IMSCC 2024 onward, entries are not built on site and the organizers do not supply 4Dframe materials. Creativity I is the sole exception: it is built on site with materials provided.
- Play I and Play II are judged solely on the online materials submitted; awards are presented at the on-site award ceremony.

Article 5 (Team Composition)

- ① Creativity I and III, Mechatronics I–III, Analog Product Maker, Digital Product Maker and Invention Maker shall, as a rule, consist of teams of two members.
- ② Creativity II special-education teams may consist of one or two members in accordance with the divisional guidelines.
- ③ Play I and II may be entered by a class or by a group within a class.
- ④ Capstone Design teams shall consist of two to five members. Supervising teachers and faculty advisors are not counted as team members.
- ⑤ Any other exceptions shall follow the official IMSCC 2026 guidelines.

Article 6 (Entry Application and Submission of Materials)

- ① Participants must complete both online registration and the submission of all required materials by 30 September 2026.
- ② The standard submission materials for general competition divisions are a report, photographs of the entry, and an introductory video of no more than three minutes.
- ③ Videos must comply with the announced file-size requirements.
- ④ A participant number is assigned once submission is complete.

- ⑤ Where falsified materials, plagiarism, or substantial production by a third party is confirmed, eligibility to participate or to receive an award may be restricted.

Article 7 (Production Method and Materials)

- ① As a rule, entries shall be produced before the competition and brought to the venue on the day of the competition. Participants install their entries at the judging station of their division and may collect and take them away after the announcement of the award winners.
- ② Creativity I entries are produced on site using the materials provided, in accordance with the divisional guidelines, and take part in on-site judging.
- ③ Play I and II are judged solely on the online video materials submitted together with the report at the time of application.
- ④ Supplementary materials permitted in addition to 4Dframe (decorative components, electronic parts, AI and coding devices, and the like) are governed by the divisional guidelines.

Article 8 (Judging)

- ① General divisions are, as a rule, evaluated out of a total of 200 points, combining 100 points for the judging of submitted materials and 100 points for on-site judging.
- ② Play I and II are judged on the basis of 200 points for the online materials.
- ③ The Mechatronics divisions may include mission performance.
- ④ Each evaluation element and its allocated points follow the judging sheet for the division concerned.
- ⑤ Judges must recuse themselves from judging any team with which they have a conflict of interest.
- ⑥ In the event of a tie, the priority evaluation items specified in the divisional guidelines shall apply; where no such provision exists, the matter shall be decided by consensus of the judging committee.

Article 9 (Objections Concerning Judging Results)

- ① Requests for re-judging based solely on disagreement with the judges' professional evaluation will not be accepted.
- ② Objections on the following grounds may be filed with the IMSCC 2026 Secretariat:
 - errors of calculation
 - misrecording of a participating team or of results
 - manifest misapplication of the regulations
 - conflict of interest
 - misconduct
 - material defects in the judging procedure
 - violation of human-rights or ethics regulations
- ③ Procedural issues noticed on site should, wherever possible, be reported to the Secretariat within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the judging concerned.

Article 10 (Participant Safety and Protection of Human Rights)

- ① IMSCC 2026 applies the Safeguarding provisions of the General Regulations to all official programs.
- ② Before the event, the Organizing Committee shall announce a Safeguarding & Wellbeing Officer and a reporting channel within the IMSCC 2026 Secretariat.
- ③ Award presenters, judges, hosts and staff shall receive code-of-conduct training in advance and submit a signed pledge.
- ④ During award presentations and group photographs, participants shall not be held or pushed in order to reposition them; guidance shall be given primarily by words and gestures.
- ⑤ Unnecessary or unwanted physical contact with minors is prohibited.
- ⑥ Once a report is received, measures to secure the safety of the participant, separation of the parties, preservation of evidence, and any other necessary protective measures shall be implemented immediately.

- ⑦ As a rule, an initial response shall be given within 72 hours, an interim progress update within 14 days, and notification of the final outcome within 30 days.

Article 11 (Delegations Accompanying Minors)

- ① Overseas delegations, domestic schools and institutions accompanying minor participants to IMSCC must obtain the consent to participate of the participant's parent or legal guardian.
- ② Each participating delegation must designate an adult supervisor responsible for supervising minor participants throughout the event and for communication in an emergency.
- ③ The IMSCC Organizing Committee may, where necessary, require a guardian's consent form or a letter designating the responsible supervisor for a minor participant.

Article 12 (Photographs, Video and Personal Data)

- ① Personal data collected for registration and the use of photographs and video for publicity or external release shall be processed separately according to their respective purposes.
- ② Where external release is required – on the website, on social media, in press coverage, in academic journals and the like – the scope and purpose of such use shall be notified at the time of application to IMSCC.
- ③ Participants for whom the consent of a legal guardian is required shall go through the appropriate consent procedure.
- ④ Photographs and video preserved for the purpose of investigating an incident shall be managed separately, to the extent necessary for handling the case and for compliance with legal obligations.

Article 13 (Awards)

The awards of IMSCC 2026 shall follow the Award Schedule finally approved by each awarding institution; details are as set out in Appendix 1.

Article 14 (Certificates, Medals and Prize Money)

- ① At IMSCC 2026, medals are, as a rule, awarded in place of certificates, and only to award winners attending in person. However, at the request of a participant or award winner, a certificate of participation or a certificate of award shall be issued as an official document.
- ② Award winners receiving prize money must cooperate with the separate procedures required by the IMSCC Secretariat for the receipt of prize money; the timing of payment may differ according to national and regional procedures.
- ③ The dispatch of certificates from government institutions is subject to the approval of the awarding institution and the official award plan, and issuing schedules may differ from institution to institution.

Article 15 (Force Majeure and Changes to the Schedule)

In the event of a natural disaster, infectious disease, government measures, facility circumstances, or any other cause that the Organizing Committee cannot reasonably control, the schedule, venue, program or method of judging may be changed, and participants shall be notified without delay.

Article 16 (Enforcement)

These Annual Regulations shall apply from the date of their promulgation following approval by the IMSCC Organizing Committee until the conclusion of IMSCC 2026 and the completion of any necessary follow-up procedures.

Appendix 1 | IMSCC 2026 Award Plan (Draft)

- The Grand Prize and Gold Prize certificates are issued by external sponsoring institutions; they are therefore not issued on the day but sent later by courier.
- For the Silver, Bronze and Encouragement Prizes, only medals are presented at the award ceremony. (At a participant's request, a certificate of participation and a certificate of award may subsequently be sent online as an official document.)

Grade	Award	Division	No. of teams
Grand Prize	Award of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Science and ICT	Creativity (II, III), Mechatronics (I, II, III): 1 team each	5
	Award of the Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy	Convergence (Analog Product Maker, Digital Product Maker): 1 team each	2
	Award of the Minister of SMEs and Startups	Convergence (Invention Maker, Capstone Design): 1 team each	2
	Award of the Chairperson of the Foundation for the Advancement of STEAM	Play (I, II), Creativity (I): 1 team each	3
Gold Prize	Award of the Commissioner of the Korea Intellectual Property Office	Creativity (II, III), Mechatronics (I, II, III): 1 team each Convergence (Invention Maker, Analog Product Maker, Digital Product Maker): 1 team each	7
	Award of the President of the Institute for Basic Science	Creativity (I, II, III), Mechatronics (I, II, III) Convergence (Invention Maker, Capstone Design): 1 team each Convergence (Analog Product Maker, Digital Product Maker): 1 team each	10
	Award of the President of the Korea Foundation for the Advancement of Science and Creativity	Creativity (I, II, III), Mechatronics (I, II, III) Convergence (Invention Maker, Capstone Design): 1 team each Convergence (Analog Product Maker, Digital Product Maker): 1 team each	10
	Award of the Chairperson of the Foundation for the Advancement of STEAM	Play (I, II): 1 team each	2
Silver Prize	Award of the Chairperson of the Foundation for the Advancement of STEAM	Play (I, II), Creativity (I, II, III), Mechatronics (I, II, III) Convergence (Invention Maker, Capstone Design): 2 teams each Convergence (Analog Product Maker, Digital Product Maker): 2 teams each	24
Bronze Prize	Award of the Chairperson of the Foundation for the Advancement of STEAM	Play (I, II), Creativity (I, II, III), Mechatronics (I, II, III) Convergence (Invention Maker, Capstone Design): 3 teams each Convergence (Analog Product Maker, Digital Product Maker): 3 teams each	36
Encouragement Prize	Award of the Director of the 4D Mathematical Science Creativity Institute	Play (I, II), Creativity (I, II, III), Mechatronics (I, II, III) Convergence (Invention Maker, Capstone Design): 5 teams each Convergence (Analog Product Maker, Digital Product Maker): 5 teams each	60
Special Award	Award of the Chairperson of the Foundation for the Advancement of STEAM	Overseas participating teams (certificate issued online)	All participants
	Award of the Chairperson of the Foundation for the Advancement of STEAM	Special-education division teams (certificate issued online)	All participants
Teacher Award	Award of the Chairperson of the Foundation for the Advancement of STEAM	Supervising teachers of Grand Prize winners: 12 in total (certificate issued online)	12

• Award details are subject to change.