**MICROSOFT COLLEGE CODING COMPETITION**

**OFFICIAL RULES**

**GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES:** Microsoft is committed to complying with government gift and ethics rules and therefore government employees (including military personnel and employees of public educational institutions) are not eligible.

This Promotion is hosted in the United States, and entry information is collected on computers in the United States. This Promotion will be governed by the laws of the State of Washington, and you consent to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the courts of the State of Washington for any disputes arising out of this Promotion. **If you do not agree with this provision and these Official Rules, please do not enter.**

**COMMON TERMS USED IN THESE RULES:**

These are the official rules that govern how the Microsoft College Coding Competition promotion will operate (“Promotion”). In these rules, “we,” “our,” and “us” refer to Microsoft Corporation, the sponsor of this Promotion. “You” refers to an eligible Contest entrant.

**PROMOTION DESCRIPTION:**

This Promotion consists of a skill-based contest consisting of 1-20 coding problems and a Sweepstakes Random Drawing from among all participants. Each game will be held at a separate University event. A full listing of events can be found here:

**Date Location**

1/28/2015            Texas A&M

1/28/2015            Washington University

1/28/2015            Penn State University

2/4/2015              McGill

2/4/2015              University of Virginia

2/5/2015              University of Victoria

2/5/2015              Rice University

2/5/2015              University of Florida

2/12/2015            Dartmouth College

2/12/2015            Carnegie Mellon University

2/12/2015            University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill

2/17/2015            Yale University

2/18/2015            Notre Dame University

2/19/2015            University of Central Florida

2/24/2015            Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

3/03/2015 All Boston Area Universities (one event)

3/12/2015 University of Auckland

3/19/2015            University of Washington

3/27/2015            Illinois Institute of Technology

4/2/2015              University of Arizona

4/14/2015            Purdue University

The object of this Promotion is to recognize students who are able to solve coding problems based on their speed, accuracy and agility. For purposes of the Contest, each coding puzzle you solve and submit in the Contest will be called an “entry.” All eligible entries received will be judged using the criteria described below to determine the winners of the prizes described below. For purposes of the Sweepstakes, you will receive an entry in exchange for your participation and submission of at least one (1) Contest entry.

**WHAT ARE THE START AND END DATES?**

This Promotion starts at 12:01 a.m. Pacific Time (PT) on January 28, 2015, and ends at 11:59 p.m. PT on April 14, 2015 and will consist of many different games, each happening at a unique event as listed above. Unique start and end times will be different for each event and will be communicated prior to the start date. Entries will be eligible only for the event in which they are received. You must enter separately at each event.

**CAN I ENTER?**

You are eligible to enter this Contest if you meet the following requirements at time entry:

* **You are** actively enrolled as a student at a participating accredited educational institution that grants college/university (or equivalent) degrees at any time during the Entry Period and are 18 years of age or older; and
	+ If you are 18 of age or older, but are considered a minor in your place of residence, you should ask your parent’s or legal guardian’s permission prior to submitting an entry into this Contest; **and**
* **You are NOT** a resident of any of the following countries: Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria.
	+ **PLEASE NOTE:** U.S. export regulations prohibit the export of goods and services to Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan and Syria. Therefore residents of these countries / regions are not eligible to participate.
* **You are NOT** an employee of Microsoft Corporation or an employee of a Microsoft subsidiary; **and**
* **You are** **NOT** involved in any part of the administration and execution of this Contest; **and**
* **You are NOT** an immediate family (parent, sibling, spouse/domestic partner, child) or household member of a Microsoft employee, an employee of a Microsoft subsidiary, or a person involved in any part of the administration and execution of this Contest.

This Contest is void outside the geographic area described above and wherever else prohibited by law.

**HOW DO I ENTER?**

In order to participate in this Contest, you must first go to the Contest web site at [www.msft3c.com](http://www.msft3c.com), log in (using a Microsoft Account or other supported 3rd-party login), complete your profile (which consists of your name, email address, school, and (expected) graduation month and year), and join a team (which may consist of 1-3 people).

After you have registered, you must submit one or more entries. Each of your entries is the solution to a coding problem, and consists of the output of your solution program as well as the solution program’s source code. There will be between 1-20 coding problems available to solve; your team may submit 0-3 entries per problem per event.

Further, for submitting a minimum of one (1) entry into the Contest, you will receive one (1) entry into a Sweepstakes drawing happening at the close of each event. Limit one (1) Sweepstakes entry per person per event.

We are not responsible for entries that we do not receive for any reason, or for entries that we receive but are not decipherable for any reason.

We will automatically disqualify:

* Any incomplete or illegible entry; **and**
* Any entries that we receive from you that are in excess of the entry limit described above.

**WHAT CONSTITUTES AN ELIGIBLE ENTRY?**

To be eligible for judging an entry must meet the following content / technical requirements:

In addition:

* your entry must be your own original work; and
* your entry cannot have been selected as a winner in any other contest; and
* you must have obtained any and all consents, approvals or licenses required for you to submit your entry; and
* your entry may not include any third party trademarks (logos, names) or copyrighted materials (music, images, video, recognizable people) unless you have obtained permission to use the materials. You may include Microsoft trademarks, logos, and designs, for which Microsoft grants you a limited license to use for the sole purposes of submitting an entry into this Contest.

Entries may **NOT** contain, as determined by us, in our sole and absolute discretion, any content that:

* is sexually explicit, unnecessarily violent or derogatory of any ethnic, racial, gender, religious, professional or age group; profane or pornographic;
* promotes alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco, firearms/weapons (or the use of any of the foregoing) or a particular political agenda;
* is obscene or offensive;
* defames, misrepresents or contains disparaging remarks about other people or companies;
* communicates messages or images inconsistent with the positive images and/or good will to which we wish to associate; and/or violates any law;

We reserve the right to reject any entry, in our sole and absolute discretion, that we determine does not meet the above criteria.

**HOW WILL MY ENTRY BE POTENTIALLY USED?**

Other than what is set forth below, we are not claiming any ownership rights to your entry. However, by submitting your entry, you:

* are granting us an irrevocable, royalty-free, worldwide right and license to: (i) use, review, assess, test and otherwise analyze your entry and all its content in connection with this Contest; and (ii) feature your entry and all content in connection with the marketing, sale, or promotion of this Contest (including but not limited to internal and external sales meetings, conference presentations, tradeshows, and screen shots of the Contest entry in press releases) in all media (now known or later developed)
* agree to sign any necessary documentation that may be required for us and our designees to make use of the rights you granted above;
* understand and acknowledge that the Sponsor(s) may have developed or commissioned materials similar or identical to your submission and you waive any claims you may have resulting from any similarities to your entry;
* understand that we cannot control the incoming information you will disclose to our representatives in the course of entering, or what our representatives will remember about your entry. You also understand that we will not restrict work assignments of representatives who have had access to your entry. By entering this Contest, you agree that use of information in our representatives’ unaided memories in the development or deployment of our products or services does not create liability for us under this agreement or copyright or trade secret law;
* understand that you will not receive any compensation or credit for use of your entry, other than what is described in these Official Rules

Please note that following the end of this Contest your entry may be posted on a website selected by us for viewing by visitors to that website. We are not responsible for any unauthorized use of your entry by visitors to this website. While we reserve these rights, we are not obligated to use your entry for any purpose, even if it has been selected as a winning entry.

If you do not want to grant us these rights to your entry, please do not enter this Contest.

**WINNER DETERMINATION AND PRIZES**

**Contest:**

For all events except for the Boston area event, a panel of judges will review all eligible entries received and select one (1) winning individual/team at each event of the Contest Prizes described below based upon the following:

Each problem has an associated point value from 1-3. The team with the most points at the end of the contest wins the First Prize. In the event of a tie between teams, the team whose last correct entry was submitted earlier will win. The decisions of the judges are final and binding. If we do not receive a sufficient number of entries meeting the entry requirements, we may, at our discretion, select fewer winners than the number of Contest Prizes described below.

Each winning individual/member of a team will receive a $100 American Express Gift Card. Approximate Retail Value (ARV) $100 per person.

By the close of the promotion, one winner will have been selected per event. Limit one (1) contest prize per person.

At the close of the Boston area event, a panel of judges will review all eligible entries received and select three (3) winning individuals/teams to receive the Contest Prizes described below based upon the following:

Each problem has an associated point value from 1-3. The top three (3) individuals/teams with the most points at the end of the contest wins First, Second, and Third place prizes. In the event of a tie between teams, the team whose last correct entry was submitted earlier will win. The decisions of the judges are final and binding. If we do not receive a sufficient number of entries meeting the entry requirements, we may, at our discretion, select fewer winners than the number of Contest Prizes described below.

First Prize: Each winning individual member of a team will receive $1,000

Second Prize: Each winning/individual member of a team will receive $500

Third Prize: Each winning/individual member of a team will receive $100

\*All prizes awarded in the form of a VISA gift card.

**Sweepstakes:**

On or around the close of each event except the Boston Area Event, we will randomly select one (1) individual from among all eligible entrants to receive A Dell Venue Pro (ARV, $250.00).

By the close of the promotion, one Sweepstakes winner will have been selected per event. Limit one (1) sweepstakes prize per person.

At the close of the Boston Area Event, we will randomly select one (1) individual from among all eligible entrants to receive an Xbox One (ARV, $399 ).

The total Approximate Retail Value (ARV) of all prizes: $8,999 - $16,199

\*NOTE: In the event a prize is not certified for distribution in your country, you will receive an alternate prize of equal or greater value.

If you are a potential winner, we will notify you by sending a message to the e-mail address, the phone number, or mailing address (if any) provided at time of entry within seven (7) days following completion of judging. If the notification that we send is returned as undeliverable, or you are otherwise unreachable for any reason, we may award to a runner-up.

If there is a dispute as to who is the potential winner, we will consider the potential winner to be the authorized account holder of the e-mail address used to enter the Contest. If you are a potential winner, we may require you to sign an Affidavit of Eligibility, Liability/Publicity Release and a W-9 tax form or W-8 BEN tax form within 10 days of notification. If you complete a tax form, you will be issued an IRS Form 1099 the following January, for the actual value of the prize. You are advised to seek independent counsel regarding the tax implications of accepting a prize. If you are a potential winner and you are 18 or older, but are considered a minor in your place of legal residence, we may require your parent or legal guardian to sign all required forms on your behalf. If you do not complete the required forms as instructed and/or return the required forms within the time period listed on the winner notification message, we may disqualify you and select a runner-up.

If you are confirmed as a winner of this Contest:

* You may not exchange your prize for cash or any other merchandise or services. However, if for any reason an advertised prize is unavailable, we reserve the right to substitute a prize of equal or greater value; **and**
* You may not designate someone else as the winner. If you are unable or unwilling to accept your prize, we may award it to a runner up; **and**
* If you accept a prize, you will be solely responsible for all applicable federal, state, and local taxes related to accepting the prize; **and**
* If you are otherwise eligible for this Contest, but are considered a minor in your place of residence, we may award the prize to your parent/legal guardian on your behalf; **and**
* Unless otherwise noted, all prizes are subject to their manufacturer’s warranty and / or terms and conditions.

We will only award one (1) prize per person overall.

**WHAT OTHER CONDITIONS AM I AGREEING TO BY ENTERING?**

By entering this Contest you agree:

* To abide by these Official Rules; **and**
* To release and hold harmless Microsoft and its respective parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, employees and agents from any and all liability or any injury, loss or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with this Contest, or any prize won; **and**
* That Microsoft’s decisions will be final and binding on all matters related to this Contest; **and**
* That, by accepting a prize, Microsoft may use of your proper name and state of residence online and in print, or in any other media, in connection with this Contest, without payment or compensation to you, except where prohibited by law.

**WHAT LAWS GOVERN THE WAY THIS CONTEST IS EXECUTED AND ADMINISTRATED?**

This Contest will be governed by the laws of the State of Washington, and you consent to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the courts of the State of Washington for any disputes arising out of this Contest.

**WHAT IF SOMETHING UNEXPECTED HAPPENS AND THE CONTEST CAN’T RUN AS PLANNED?**

If someone cheats, or a virus, bug, bot, catastrophic event, or any other unforeseen or unexpected event that cannot be reasonably anticipated or controlled, (also referred to as force majeure)affects the fairness and / or integrity of this Contest, we reserve the right to cancel, change or suspend this Contest. This right is reserved whether the event is due to human or technical error. If a solution cannot be found to restore the integrity of the Contest, we reserve the right to select winners from among all eligible entries received before we had to cancel, change or suspend the Contest.

If you attempt or we have strong reason to believe that you have compromised the integrity or the legitimate operation of this Contest by cheating, hacking, creating a bot or other automated program, or by committing fraud in ANY way, we may seek damages from you to the fullest extent permitted by law. Further, we may disqualify you, and ban you from participating in any of our future Contests, so please play fairly.

**HOW CAN I FIND OUT WHO WON?**

If you send an email to msft3c@microsoft.com within 30 days of winner selection, we will provide you with a list of winners that receive a prize worth $25.00 or more.

**WHO IS SPONSORING THIS CONTEST?**

Microsoft Corporation

One Microsoft Way

Redmond, WA 98052