

Dear _____(principle / university department head),

We would like to start an iGEM team at our school. iGEM stands for the International Genetically Engineered Machine competition. This competition began in the summer of 2004 with 5 university teams. It has grown to 165 teams from 30 countries around the world in 2011. While high school students have been part of teams in the collegiate division since about 2008, a dedicated iGEM High School Division was started in 2010. The iGEM HS Division is designed to allow high school the ability to participate in the competition on their schedule and while addressing the specific needs of high school student teams which are different from collegiate teams. This competition is the premiere competition in synthetic biology. Synthetic biology takes well-known engineering principles such as abstraction and standardization, and applies them to biology. The competition culminates with a final event called the Jamboree where teams come together to present their project, to meet their fellow teams, and to compete for awards. In 2011 the Jamboree will likely be held the last week of June in Indiana. During the Jamboree teams will present their projects in poster and 20 minute presentation. Students will also be able to interact with students from around the world and industry leaders.

Safety Note: students are to be supervised by their team leader while conducting laboratory experiments. The team leader is responsible for teaching ensuring laboratory safety.

We would like your permission to allow these students to participate in iGEM 2012 HS. Thank you for your time and consideration.

List of students Participating:

Sincerely,

Team Leader

2012 HS Team Name

I _____ am aware of the iGEM HS team representing our school and confirm that parents of all team member listed above have consent from their parents to 1.) participate in the iGEM program and 2.) have an online user account and presence on the iGEM websites, including media and photographs.

(Signature)

(Title, School)

(Date)