

NONPROFIT NEWS

Broadcom makes \$6 million commitment to education competition The chipmaker's foundation joins forces with the Society for Science & the Public to launch the program.

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Irvine-based [Broadcom's nonprofit foundation](#) is teaming up with the Society for Science & the Public on a six-year, \$6 million effort to launch a new competition aimed at boosting science, technology, engineering and math education.

The Broadcom MASTERS – or Math, Applied Science, Technology and Engineering for Rising Stars – is designed to promote interest in the subjects among students in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades, and will include hands-on research and other activities.

"Those of us in leadership positions in the technology world have a responsibility to devote time, energy and resources to providing students with opportunities that encourage students to excel in these critical pillars of innovation," said Scott McGregor, president and CEO of Broadcom.

During the initiative's first year, some 7,500 students competing in society-sponsored science fairs and programs will be narrowed down to a group of 300 semifinalists.

A group of 30 finalists will then be selected to meet in Washington, D.C., in the fall of next year to develop science projects, visit sites – and compete for regional and national recognition.

The grand prize includes a \$25,000 grant from the Samueli Foundation.

"The Broadcom MASTERS will ... (reach) future innovators at a vital age when an interest in scientific inquiry often takes root, inspiring middle school students to achieve their full potential," said Elizabeth Marincola, president of the Society for Science & the Public. "Together with Broadcom Foundation, SSP strives to invigorate student engagement in science and engineering for their advancement and for ours."