



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



H2Os Prize

Hydropower Operations Optimization Prize

Frequently Asked Questions

APRIL 2022

Hydropower Operations Optimization Prize



Who is eligible to compete?

For this match the Official Rules Document contains the full official eligibility criteria, [which can be found here](#).

Who can receive prize payments?

This prize is subject to the America Competes Act.

As such, any prize payments are made to the team captain and Topcoder account holder for the team submission. That team captain and account holder must be a US citizen and legally allowed to work in the US.

A representative of a private entity incorporated in the United States can register the entity to compete, and so long as an entity is legally formed under the laws of a State or the laws of the United States, individuals working under that entity may participate regardless of immigration status. In this case, the payment would be made directly to the private entity

[Per the official rules document](#), if an entity seeking to compete as the registered competitor does not have domestic ownership and control, a waiver may be requested. Please refer to page 39 of the official rules document to see the instructions for what is needed to request a waiver.

Who is behind the prize?

The Hydropower Operations Optimization Prize is funded by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Water Power Technologies Office (WPTO). The competition is being administered by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Where should I post questions?

If you have a question not answered in the FAQ, we recommend that you post it in the Forum, where someone will respond to you. This way, others who may have the same question will be able to see it.

You may also contact us directly at: H2OsPrize@nrel.gov