

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICIAL RULES: OPERATION OUTBREAK 2026

OPERATION: CONSTELLATION

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. A PURCHASE OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING.

1. Sponsor

The Operation Outbreak 2026 Competition (the "Contest") is sponsored by **Operation Outbreak, Inc.**, a non-profit corporation with a principal office at 361 NEWBURY ST FL 5, BOSTON, MA 02215-2727 ("Sponsor").

2. Contest Description

The Contest is a skill-based competition designed to enhance community outbreak preparedness through educational innovation and citizen science. Participants will complete **Operation: Constellation**, a mission requiring the mapping of local outbreak response networks. The author(s) of the top-ranked submission will be awarded a cash prize. Completion of this Operation also serves as a qualifying milestone for establishing an official **Operation Outbreak Club**.

3. Contest Timeline

- **Pre-Registration Period:** Begins May 1, 2026, at 6:00 a.m. E.T.
- **Submission Period:** Begins September 1, 2026, and ends at 11:59 p.m. E.T. on October 31, 2026 (the "Submission Period").
- **Judging Period:** Begins November 3, 2026, and ends on or about November 14, 2026.
- **Winner Notification:** On or about November 15, 2026.

4. Eligibility

The Contest is open to "Teams" consisting of at least three (3) individuals and one (1) Faculty Sponsor.

- **Student Status:** Open to high school students (ages 14–18) and undergraduate students (ages 18–29) currently enrolled in an accredited secondary or post-secondary institution.
- **Global Participation:** Open to residents worldwide, except individuals residing in

countries or territories currently subject to U.S. sanctions.

- **Faculty Sponsor:** Each team must have one (1) designated Faculty Sponsor (educator or administrator) currently employed by the team's institution.
- **Exclusions:** Employees and immediate family members of Operation Outbreak, Inc. or NJL Media are not eligible.

5. How to Enter

To enter the Contest, teams must submit their completed "Operation" and all required application components through the official Contest interface located on the Operation Outbreak website during the Submission Period. Submissions must be received by the deadline to be considered for the Grand Prize.

6. Judging Criteria

Eligible submissions will be reviewed by the Sponsor's Reviewing Committee. Submissions will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Accuracy & Depth**
- **Clarity & Design**
- **Community Engagement**
- **Originality**

The internal scoring rubrics used by the committee will not be disclosed to participants. All decisions of the judges are final and binding.

7. Prize

- **The Grand Prize:** One (1) top-ranked team will receive an award of ?.
- **Delivery:** The Prize will be delivered to the **Faculty Sponsor** via check or online payment. The Winner is responsible for all taxes and fees associated with the Prize receipt and/or use.
- **Club Qualification:** Successful completion of the submission qualifies the team to apply for official **Operation Outbreak Club** status.

8. Grant of Rights

In consideration of a Team's submission being reviewed, each Entrant and Faculty Sponsor hereby grants Operation Outbreak, Inc. a nonexclusive, irrevocable, universal license to use, copy, publish, or display the submitted materials for educational, research, and promotional purposes in any media now known or hereafter devised.

9. AI Usage, Representations, and Warranties

By entering, the Team represents that:

- **Originality:** The submission is the original work of the students.
- **AI as a Tool:** Artificial Intelligence (AI) such as large language models (LLMs) may be used as a tool to assist in the research, data organization, or graphic design of the "Operation." Teams **will include an explicit disclosure** in their submission form detailing exactly how AI was utilized in their process.
- **AI for Writing:** The use of AI to generate the text of the required essays or written deliverable components is **strictly prohibited**. All written narratives must be authored by the students.
- **Rights:** The submission does not violate the intellectual property or privacy rights of any third party.

10. General Conditions

Sponsor reserves the right to cancel, suspend, or modify the Contest if fraud, technical failures, or any other factor beyond Sponsor's control impairs the integrity of the competition. Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify any team found to be in violation of these Official Rules.

11. Governing Law

This Contest is governed by the internal laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts without regard to principles of conflict of laws. Any and all disputes shall be resolved exclusively by the appropriate state or federal courts located in Suffolk County, Massachusetts.