



# MESA DAY CONTEST RULES 2019-2020

## Prosthetic Arm

<b>LEVEL:</b>	Grades 9/10 and 11/12
<b>TYPE OF CONTEST:</b>	Team
<b>COMPOSITION OF TEAM:</b>	2-3 students per team
<b>NUMBER OF STUDENTS:</b>	Preliminary – As determined by your local MESA Center Regional – 1 for 9 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> Grade; 1 for 11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> Grade per Center
<b>SPONSOR:</b>	Ben Louie, Associate Director, USC MSP Cathy Douglas, Associate Director, UCLA MSP

**OVERVIEW:** Students will design, construct, and operate a simulated prosthetic arm that can grab, stack, and release plastic cups into a pyramid in the fastest time. **Participation logistics, limits, and competition facilities may vary by host site. Advisors and students are responsible for verifying this information with their center director.**



An Engineering Lab Book is a required component of this competition. The purpose of the Engineering Lab Book is for students to closely follow the practices of an engineer in the completion of their MESA Day project. The Engineering Lab Book will encourage students to take a purposeful and sustained approach to building their devices. MESA projects are not designed to be completed in a single class period or day, but to be the result of thoughtful research, planning, analysis and evaluation. The lab book should provide a written record of the thought and insight that a student put into their project, from initial ideas to the final completed project.

**MATERIALS:** For the device, all materials are legal with the exception of hazardous materials. There are no cost limitations; however, awards will be given to the most innovative designs utilizing low-cost materials.

For the Engineering Lab Book, There are three format options for lab book submittals: Electronic Lab Book, Printed/Written Pages or Standard Lab Book. Please check with you local center director for the format required for your preliminary event. Electronic submissions will be required at the Regional/State level.

The Host Center will provide the following:

- 21 – Red Solo Cups 16 ounce plastic cold cups from Amazon or equivalent
- Dryer Sheets – Bounce Free and Gentle

### GENERAL RULES:

- 1) The students' full name, school name, grade and MESA Center must be clearly labeled on the device. A 10% penalty in the score will be assessed for failing to properly label.
- 2) The device must have at least two artificial fingers. These fingers:
  - a. MUST open and close. At least two fingers are required to move.
  - b. MUST grab, stack, and release the plastic cup into a pyramid. Team member may NOT use any other part of the prosthesis or parts of his/her own hand, wrist or arm to grab and release the plastic cup.
- 3) The device must NOT be controlled or operated by either of the team member's fingers, hands, or wrists.
- 4) In order to simulate an amputated arm, participating team member must have his/her wrist, hand, and fingers immobilized during the competition. The team will determine own method for immobilization.
- 5) The device (i.e. artificial fingers) may only grab, stack, and release ONE plastic cup at a time.
  - a. A plastic cup that is dropped on the table or floor, knocked over, knocked off the pyramid, etc. must be grabbed by the artificial fingers before attempting to replace it onto the pyramid.
- 6) During the trial, the team member may use his/her encumbered hand to hold and move the original pre-stack of cups, but the bottom must remain in contact with the table at all times.
- 7) Lab books are meant to clearly demonstrate and illustrate evidence of the application of the Engineering Design Process in the MESA project.
- 8) Digital media (photos and video recordings) will not be accepted for arbitration purposes.

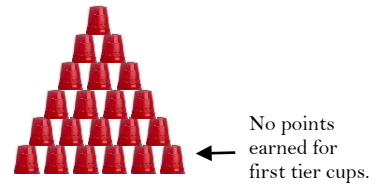
### JUDGING:

- 1) Devices will be checked for specifications prior to the start of the competition. If devices are disqualified during the specification check, design changes will not be allowed.
- 2) Repairs are only allowed with duplicate parts and materials.
- 3) Each device will be allowed two (2) non-consecutive trials.
- 4) At the beginning of each trial, team member must demonstrate immobilization (see Rule 4).
- 5) Each device must be ready when called or team will forfeit that trial.
- 6) Each team will be given up to 60 seconds to prepare, attach, and demonstrate prosthetic arm, and to prepare the pre-stack of 21 plastic cups facing down anywhere on the table (i.e. the lips of the cup facing down). *Preparing the cup stack includes treating cups with dryer sheets and placing stack cups in the preferred position.* If at the end of the 60 seconds the team is not ready, the trial will be declared a mistrial and this process will be repeated for the second trial.
- 7) The judge will give the start order and begin the timer.
- 8) The team member will enter the *Working Area* and will have a maximum of 1 minute (60 seconds) to grab, stack, and release the plastic cups into the tallest pyramid. The judge will notify the team when 30 seconds, 20 seconds, and 10 seconds remain.

- 9) The judge will stop the timer when the last plastic cup has been placed onto the pyramid. Or, the judge will call "time" after one minute has passed.
  - a. The judge will record the time needed to complete the trial.
  - b. The judge will count the number cups successfully stacked on the second tier or higher (i.e. cups still stacked at the end of the trial).

### SCORING:

- 1) Team points-to-time ratio = total points divided by trial time in seconds (00.00)
  - a. 20 points awarded for each plastic cup on the second tier or higher; plastic cups on the first tier will NOT earn points (maximum of 15 cups x 20 = 300 points)
  - b. Time needed to complete trial (maximum of 60.00 seconds)
- 2) Maximum of 4 points awarded for sketches and materials table
- 3) Final Score = best points-to-time ratio plus (+) sketches/table points
  - a. The best points-to-time ratio of the two trials will be used
- 4) A deduction of 20% of the final score will be assessed for an incomplete lab book and a deduction of 50% of the final score will be assessed for a missing lab book.



### AWARDS:

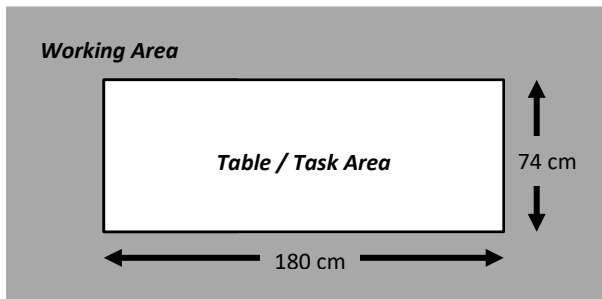
- Medals will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place based on the greatest Grand Total Score.
- Ribbons will be awarded for Innovative Engineering Design utilizing low-cost materials.
- Only teams placing in the Total Score category will advance to Regional MESA Day.

### ATTACHMENTS/APPENDIX:

- Competition Area Specifications
- Equipment
- Inspection & Score Sheet for Prosthetic Arm
- Lab Book Requirement Rubric

### Competition Area Specifications

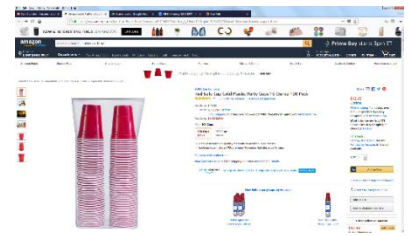
- A standard six foot table with approximate dimensions of 180 cm (L) x 74 cm (W) x 75 cm (H).



- A perimeter of approximately one (1) meter around the table will be marked with tape. Only the team member actively participating during the trial will be permitted in this *Working Area*.

## Equipment

- 21 pre-stacked Red Solo 16 ounce plastic cold cups from Amazon (Link to cups on Amazon <https://goo.gl/Rw85ga>) or equivalent (recommend additional plastic cold cups as replacements)
- Standard six foot table
- Measuring tape
- Masking tape to outline the *Working Area*
- 1 stop watch to record trial time
- *Dryer Sheets – Bounce Free and Soft*



**ENGINEERING LAB BOOK:**

The Engineering Lab Book must be properly labeled (names, school, center, grade level, etc.) and contain and cover the following sections using the template provided:

**1. IDENTIFY THE PROBLEM** (at least 2 sentences for each question)

State what is the challenge being worked on? What are the limits/constraints? How do you think you can you solve it?

**2. EXPLORE**

Find out what others have done (research). Clearly list at least 5 sources (web pages, books, etc.). Identify (cite) and describe them.

**3. DESIGN**

Brainstorm ideas (at least 3 ideas) and record them. Each idea should be represented by a sketch or drawing.

a. One sketch should be of the anatomy of the human arm and the other sketches of the device. These sketches **MUST** be hand-drawn or student's original computer-generated. Sketches should indicate a progression in the thinking and design of the device, and be detailed. Sketches must be no smaller than one page, and can either be drawn on the lab book page directly or attached.

b. The sketch of the anatomy of the human arm AND the sketches of the device should include the following eight required and correctly labeled structures:

- Radius/Ulna
- Flexor Carpi Ulnaris
- Radiocarpal Joint
- Carpus
- Carpometacarpal Joint
- Metacarpus
- Phalanges

Select one idea and create a plan (at least 5 sentences) to build a prototype from. Generate a list of materials for your prototype. Table should list all materials utilized for the above eight required structures.

**Sample Materials Table**

Structure	Material
Radius/Ulna	Mailing Tube
Flexor Carpi Ulnaris	Bungee cord
Radiocarpal Joint	Hinge

**4. CREATE**

Using your plan, build your prototype. Include a picture of the actual project prototype.

**5. TRY IT OUT**

Test your idea/prototype. Attempt at least 3 trials/attempts of your test. Measure the results of your test (by project performance criteria). Provide evidence of the use and application of at least 2 appropriate mathematical concepts in your tests. This section must include the calculations for both the following:

- Calculate how much work is done by the artificial fingers in grabbing an object by using  $W = Fd$ .
- Calculate the grab and release speed of the artificial fingers by using  $d = rt$ .

**6. MAKE IT BETTER**

Describe how you can make the project better and what modifications you will be making (at least 5 ways you can improve project). Build and prepare competition ready project. Include a picture.



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*Lab Book Requirement Rubric (criteria may vary by individual competition)*

**Project:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please use this rubric to assess lab book entries. An incomplete lab book (i.e., missing 1 to 2 specified criteria) will lead to a 20% deduction from the total project score. A missing lab book (i.e., not submitted OR missing 3 or more specified criteria) will lead to a 50% deduction from the total project score and will make team ineligible to place.

TEAM MEMBER NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_ CENTER: \_\_\_\_\_

LEVEL (circle one):    6<sup>th</sup>            7/8<sup>th</sup>            9/10<sup>th</sup>            11/12<sup>th</sup>

Section		YES	NO
	Is the lab book properly labeled? <i>(Names, Grades, School, MESA Center)</i>		
1	<b>Identify the Need (at least 2 sentences for each)</b> <i>State what is the challenge being worked on? What are the limits/constraints? How do you think you can you solve it.</i>		
2	<b>Explore</b> <i>Conducting research (listing 5 cited/referenced sources), gathering materials, try using materials</i>		
3	<b>Design</b> <i>Brainstorming ideas (at least 3 iterations) each represented by a picture, sketch or drawing. Creating a plan for selected idea (at least 5 sentences). A list of materials for the prototype.</i>		
4	<b>Create</b> <i>Building a prototype. Describing the building of the prototype (at least 5 sentences). Including a final picture of the project.</i>		
5	<b>Try it Out</b> <i>Testing idea/prototype. Attempting at least 3 trials/attempts. Measuring each trial result (by specific performance criteria like distance traveled, time, etc.). Providing evidence of the use and application of at least 2 appropriate mathematical concepts in the tests.</i>		
6	<b>Make Better</b> <i>Evaluate results. List at least five ways project can be improved</i>		
<b>TOTAL</b>			
<b>Lab Book Complete</b> (mark with X)			

Is this considered an **incomplete** note book (circle one)?    **NO**                            **YES (-20%)**

Is this considered a **missing** lab book? (circle one)

**NO**

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**YES (-50%)**