

September 11, 2023

Dear Participants,

The Fairfax Area 50+ Technology Committee is proud to offer the 8th Annual “Shark Tank” Technology Challenge open to all students in Fairfax County-or the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church, to develop an innovative device or app that will have a positive impact in the lives of older adults, adults with disabilities, or caregivers. Cash prizes will be provided by our sponsor, INTEGRITYOne Partners. Winning student(s) are recognized by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors at a May reception.

The Shark Tank Challenge Packet includes all of the necessary information and all the essential forms. It is available to download from our [website](#).

This year the committee is particularly interested in projects that may enhance the independent enjoyment of life, increase social connection, and reduce isolation, for older adults, adults with disabilities, and wounded warriors. **Successful projects are innovative either in that it is not currently found in the marketplace, or it improves a product currently available.**

You may wish to view the video produced by Fairfax County Public Schools of the “Shark Tank” judging event featuring students who have participated:

[FCPS Students Win Fairfax Shark Tank Technology Challenge - YouTube](#)

All information is available on our [website](#).

The challenge process is outlined below. The final project submission form assumes that the project has been completed and tested at time of submission. It is highly recommended that students test their ideas and finished project with their target audience. The 50+ Technology Committee can assist in finding places to conduct product testing with seniors and/or adults with disabilities. Project submissions are initially reviewed by a judging panel and finalists will be invited to pitch their product at our “Shark Tank” event in the spring. Winners will be notified at the conclusion of the “Shark Tank” event.

2023-2024 Contest Timeline

Friday, December 15, 2023	Initial Proposal Due (required)
Wednesday, April 3, 2024	Full Project Submission Due (required)
Thursday, May 2, 2024	Shark Tank Event

Sincerely,
Tara Turner, Director
Fairfax Area Agency on Aging
Email: dfstechchallenge@fairfaxcounty.gov