

Frequently Asked Questions



Is this competition only open to Multichoice Resource Centre schools?

The competition is open to all schools whether public or private for kids in secondary, combined or high schools.

Our schools will be closed during this period what can we do? Does this mean schools which are closed cannot enter?

This competition is not a schools competition but a competition targeted at individual learners. Learners are encouraged to enter whether the schools are open or not. This might very well be a suitable time for them to enter as this will not interfere with their school work.

How do I enter this competition?

Entry forms and the booklet will be available at MultiChoice Africa Offices or MultiChoice Resource Centres and from the competition website (www.dstvstarawards.com). Entrants from South Africa may collect entry forms from the Mindset Learn Offices in Johannesburg.

You are required to select 1 way of entry either writing an essay or design a poster on how you think satellite technology can change Africa or your country. Films on satellite technology (called the Magic Circle Films) will be broadcast on Mindset Learn and a booklet with information on satellite and their everyday use will also be available at the MultiChoice offices.

Can I submit more than one entry?

No you are not allowed to submit more than one entry – this will lead to you being disqualified.

How do I submit my entry? Can I email my entry through?

Only complete entries submitted by post or deposited in an entry box at theMCA country or regional offices specified on the entry form, or in the case of South Africa the Mindset Network offices in Johannesburg, will be accepted. South African students can also enter by posting entries to: **MultiChoice Africa, Corporate Affairs, 141 Bram Fischer Drive, Ferndale Randburg, Attention: Anda Ngani**

No entries submitted by email will be accepted

Who do I contact if I have a question?

Question or queries can be emailed to: dstvstarawards@multichoice.co.za or phone your nearest MultiChoice Office. For South African entries phone Chris Maduna on +27 11 781 9950.

Will I receive confirmation that my entry has been received?

No communication between MultiChoice and the entrants will be entertained except during the announcement of winners.

Will I get feed-back on my entry?

The decision of our Panel of Judges will be final and is not subject to an appeal with regard to the selection of winning essays and posters as well as the selection of essays and posters meeting the minimum qualification criteria. Given the number of entries feedback on individual entries will not be possible.

Can I submit my entry in my mother tongue or any other language than English?

Entries can only be submitted in any of the 3 languages which are English, French and Portuguese.

Will the competition material be available in other languages?

Entry forms and booklets on the website will all be available in English, Portuguese and French. However please note that television programmes broadcast on Mindset Learn will only be broadcast in English. French and Portuguese language versions of the television programmes can be viewed at www.dstvstarawards.com.

Are there any restrictions on who may enter?

The learners need to be registered in a secondary, combined or high school and be between the ages of 14 and 19 years.

What is the topic we are supposed to write the essay on or design the poster?

Students who are eligible to enter will be required to design either a poster or write an essay on the following topic: ***How could satellites further improve Africa's development or the development of the country you live in?***

What will the judging criteria be for the competition?**Criteria for Essay:**

Language: English, French or Portuguese

Length: 1200 – 1400 words

Must be typed in Arial 12, 1.5 spacing and pages to be numbered

Entries may include illustrations, graphics, or diagrams

Criteria for Poster:

Design a creative poster by illustrating an idea on the competition topic. The poster must be accompanied by a creative explanation/ summary in the following format:

- Title
- Summary idea/concept
- Problem statement (what area is being addressed through the proposed solution)
- Description of solution (how the problem is addressed)

- References (all sources consulted during the preparation of the entry)
Language: English, French or Portuguese
Entries may not be bigger than A3 Size (42 X 29.7 cm only)

Only hardcopy entries will be accepted. No electronic submission will be accepted

The panel of independent judges will be looking for innovative ideas in the following criteria:

Essay:

- Accuracy of information/knowledge of subject matter (30)
 - Structure of essay/poster (20)
 - Language (15)
 - Creativity of presentation/innovative ideas (25)
 - Bibliography/Referencing (10)
- 100

Poster:

- Accuracy of information/knowledge of subject matter (30)
 - Creativity of presentation/innovative ideas (20)
 - Overall layout of poster (15)
 - Graphic or illustrative style (25)
 - Bibliography/Referencing (10)
- 100

What are the prizes in the countries and the overall awards?

For more information on prizes for country awards please contact the MultiChoice Office for detailed information. Country winners will include the Best Essay and Best Poster, Runner up Essay and Runner up Poster awards. The overall winning entries will receive prizes as follows:

Prizes	Description
Best Overall Entry Award	A trip for the winning student and his/her parent/legal guardian to Eutelsat in France and attendance of a rocket launch.
Runner up Best Overall Entry Award	A trip for the runner up and his/her parent/legal guardian to Eutelsat in France
Merit Award for Essay Category	A trip for the Essay Merit Award winner his/her parent/legal guardian to the MCA and Mindset offices in South Africa
Merit Award for Poster Category	A trip for the Poster Merit Award winner and his/her parent/legal guardian to the MCA and Mindset offices in South Africa

What about the copyright of my poster/essay?

All the submitted essays and posters will be the property of the organisers. The organisers reserve the right to modify the format and content of any submitted essay or poster before publication. Also note that the organisers have the sole right to publish the submissions in any media.

What is the closing date for entries?

1 August 2011

When will the winners be announced?

20 September 2011

Who will compete for the final overall awards?

Country winners will all compete for the final overall prizes.

Can I exchange my prize for cash?

No - prizes cannot be exchanged for cash.

Can more than one person enter or work on the same essay/poster?

Only 1 individual is permitted to enter per entry. Students are however encouraged to consult with their science or technology teacher to increase the quality of their entries.