

# OCSEFhacks

# Student & Parent Handbook

AN ORANGE COUNTY  
SCIENCE AND  
ENGINEERING FAIR  
AFFILIATE EVENT



**Prompt:**

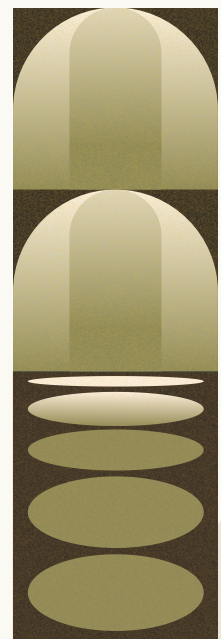
Pitch & Project for the UN's 17  
Sustainable Development Goals.

**November 14th-15th, 2026**

14325 Goldenwest St,  
Westminster, CA 92683

**Contact**

**Phone** 949-992-4684  
**Website** [ocsefhacks.hackpac.net](http://ocsefhacks.hackpac.net)  
**Email** [hello@hackpac.net](mailto:hello@hackpac.net)  
**Address** 14325 Goldenwest St, Westminster, CA 92683



# About Us

As students in high school, we have won in 15 hackathons locally and internationally. From a competitor's perspective, we know what makes an event successful. We have and will continue to dedicate hundreds of our hours to personalize this event for all students and ensure an overall success.

We are hosting Southern California's largest pre-college hackathon. A hack-a-thon is very much like an invent-a-thon where like-minded individuals with various backgrounds come together for a weekend to "invent" something, ground up. This free, two-day event will challenge students to brainstorm, create, and pitch projects aligned with the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

OCSEF has a 70-year legacy of fostering scientific literacy and critical thinking skills, with support from organizations like the Broadcom Foundation and the Arnold & Mabel Beckman Foundation. With over 38,000 projects in its history, OCSEF demonstrates a commitment to STEM education. Our partnership with Westminster High School, which has made a positive impact on hundreds of students through OCSEF STEM mentorship programs, provides a dynamic venue and amplifies our reach to an even larger audience.

## Vision



- We are renovating Westminster High School's gym with an **audio/visual and decor setup**.
- We are expecting 120 students, with a 40% beginner turnout with a 60% advanced turnout; high school students **only**.
- Over **20k** in confirmed in current prizes, and we're looking for more!

## Mission



- **Equal opportunity** for all backgrounds, including underserved or beginner students.
- Access to **community resources** to help the students learn & succeed, **even after the event**; we will provide *workshops, premium subscriptions, and more!*
- **Inspire** and **motivate** the next generation of innovators.

# Scenes from previous years!



## Event Highlights



300+ attendees overall,  
from Orange County and  
San Diego.

Each participant got a  
minimum of \$600 in  
prizes, including software!

AirPods, TVs, Monitors,  
and mini fridges – hackers  
competed hard for these

10+ sponsors, with lasting  
connections between  
students and companies



# About the Event



**OCSEFhacks** is a beginner-friendly high school hackathon to foster computer **science literacy and critical thinking** skills throughout Southern California. It will take place on November 14-15th, in a 30-hour long competition where students will need to brainstorm, create, and pitch a project that fits one of the *UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals* or address different prompt revealed in person.

Students can participate individually or in **teams of up to four**. Throughout the event, workshops will be held to educate students on different aspects of (including workshops such as **Beginner to Python, setting up websites, and how to pitch a project**). While the hackathon is a competition, it is first and foremost an opportunity for students to **learn computer science and teamwork skills**

## Event Highlight



Free admission for a 2-day event!

All participants get prizes to help with their coding journey!

Free meals, snacks, and drinks provided!

Workshops and industry experts available throughout the event



# Event Schedule



## Day One

Nov  
14

### **Opening ceremony, hacking time, and free food!**

Hackers will arrive at our event, receiving swag and instructions at our opening ceremony. Once everyone gets started, we will be hosting four workshops allowing sponsors to promote their product, make comments, and make connections. Food is provided.

---

 14325 Goldenwest St, Westminster, CA 92683



## Day Two

Nov  
15

### **Hacking time, workshops, judging, and prizes!**

Hackers will arrive at the venue at the same time, and they are permitted to start coding ASAP. Hacking will stop at 2:30; we will have pitch-style judging until 5 PM. Hackers will have fun activities and get (free) snacks. From there, we will have closing remarks and awards.

---

 14325 Goldenwest St, Westminster, CA 92683