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LAMBERT HIGH SCHOOL IGEM TEAM WINS GRAND PRIZE IN PARIS

Lambert earns top honors for its honeybee research. Denmark High School takes silver in its iGEM debut.

CUMMING, Ga. — Lambert High School's iGEM team won the High School Grand Prize at the 2026 iGEM Grand Jamboree, held November 13–16 in Paris, France. The international competition hosted 152 high school teams. Lambert was named to the global Top 10 and was one of two high school finalists for the Grand Prize.

Lambert also earned a gold medal and four additional honors, winning Best Model, Best Wiki, Best Sustainable Development Impact and the Village Award for Conservation.

For their winning project, SWARM: Protecting the Hive, Lambert students set out to address two connected threats to honeybee colonies: Varroa mites and the deformed wing virus they spread. The team developed an approach aimed at both threats and used education and outreach to help others understand why healthy honeybee colonies matter to the crops we rely on for food.

Through iGEM, students have the opportunity to choose a problem that matters beyond their school, use what they learn in class to develop a response and share their work with people who can build on it. For Lambert, that meant bringing student research on pollinator health to an international audience.

Denmark High School also represented Forsyth County Schools in Paris, bringing home a silver medal in its first appearance at iGEM. Denmark's project, ECLIPSE, explored how computer modeling could speed up the design of diagnostic tests, using malaria as a case study.

View the official 2026 iGEM competition results