



IIG \$50,000 PARANORMAL CHALLENGE APPLICATION

The Independent Investigations Group (IIG) is committed to providing reliable information about paranormal abilities and events, both supporting and conducting original research into such abilities/events.

The IIG offers \$50,000 to anyone who can demonstrate, under properly controlled and mutually-agreed observational conditions, any testable, measurable or similarly verifiable supernatural, occult or other paranormal ability or event (jointly referred to hereafter as “paranormal claim”) in a way that rules out chance or any other natural explanation.

Very briefly, the basic steps of the IIG Challenge are:

- (1) *Application* – which you are now reading and need to complete and submit to IIG;
- (2) *Preliminary Demonstration* – a controlled test of both your paranormal claim and of the protocol custom-designed with and approved by you; and
- (3) *Final Test* – if you obtain a positive result in the Preliminary Demonstration, you will need to reproduce a positive result in a Final Test using a more stringent version of the same protocol.
- (4) *Payment & Fame* – and automatic qualification for James Randi’s Million Dollar Challenge!

IMPORTANT NOTE: IIG strongly suggests that you conduct a private controlled, double-blind test to determine whether your paranormal claim is real before you submit this Application. IIG can help you develop a valid method to self-verify your paranormal claim prior to filing an Application.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

SECTION A. – REQUIREMENTS OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS

You cannot become eligible for the IIG Challenge until IIG receives and officially accepts your fully-completed Application. **No exceptions.**

Since paranormal claims vary in character and scope, specific test criteria must be formulated for each applicant. In order for us to help design your protocol, you must clearly describe your paranormal claim in this Application, propose a way to test, measure or similarly verify it, identify its known limitations, and explain when and how you discovered it.

IIG may choose to require an Informal Assessment of your paranormal claim (either in person or by video) before accepting your Application. Any demonstration of your paranormal claim which IIG designates as an Informal Assessment will likely be much less rigorous than a typical Preliminary Demonstration or Final Test and thus will not by itself qualify as proof of anything.

All communication between you and IIG must be in writing, in legible English, by e-mail or postal mail. If you use postal mail, you must send a stamped, self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) with each letter requiring a response (or, for foreign mail, just a self-addressed envelope). IIG will mail a free copy of this Application to anyone who mails us an SASE. It can also be downloaded online at <http://www.iigwest.com>.

SECTION B. – REQUIREMENTS FOR WINNING THE IIG CHALLENGE

Proof of your paranormal claim must be conducted in full compliance with the following conditions:

- 1.** As stated in Section A above, IIG must receive and officially accept your fully-completed Application before you can become eligible for the IIG Challenge. For your Application to be accepted, your paranormal claim must be testable, measurable, or similarly verifiable under properly controlled and mutually-agreed observational conditions in a way that rules out chance or any other natural explanation.
- 2.** After IIG has officially accepted your Application, we'll work with you to design a test protocol appropriate for your paranormal claim, with the goal of finalizing a mutually-approved Preliminary Demonstration Protocol Agreement (PDPA). No demonstration will take place prior to the PDPA being fully executed, after which changes can only be made by written agreement of all parties. If one party requests a change in the PDPA to which the other party does not agree (for example, if a potential flaw is discovered), IIG will suspend your demonstration until the dispute is resolved, even if your demonstration is already in progress.
- 3.** The Preliminary Demonstration must result in outcomes that are self-evident, requiring no subjective interpretation. If one trial of your claim has a substantial statistical probability of yielding a positive result by chance alone (for example, guessing a coin flip), then the PDPA will require sufficient multiple trials to ensure that an overall positive result in your demonstration will verify your paranormal claim.
- 4.** You agree to be responsible for all of your own expenses (such as transportation, accommodation, materials, assistants) as well as certain other agreed costs incurred (such as equipment rental, technician support), if any such thing is needed for your demonstration. If IIG agrees to arrange elements of your demonstration which require an advance payment prior to your arrival at the demonstration site, you agree to remit adequate funds to us beforehand (any unused amount of which IIG agrees to fully refund to you).
- 5.** Demonstrations are normally conducted by IIG members at the Center For Inquiry (CFI) Building in Hollywood, California. Other arrangements may be made under certain special circumstances at IIG's discretion. The PDPA will include all details regarding the demonstration site. Immediately upon arrival at the demonstration site, you agree to show your current government-issued photo ID card to an IIG official.
- 6.** IIG will only accept your live demonstration, conducted by IIG as described in the PDPA, as evidence for assessing your claimed paranormal ability. Anecdotal accounts of past events are not valid information. IIG will not focus on theories or explanations of how your ability might work unless and until both the Preliminary Demonstration and Final Test establish that you actually have that ability.
- 7.** After your Preliminary Demonstration is completed, IIG will determine whether the results are conclusively positive or negative. If the nature of the demonstration allows us to determine results immediately, IIG will give them to you shortly after the demonstration concludes. If the nature of the demonstration requires lengthy analysis of data, IIG will inform you in writing as soon as the results are in.
- 8.** If IIG determines your Preliminary Demonstration results are negative, IIG will close your Application.
- 9.** If IIG determines your Preliminary Demonstration results are positive and that all aspects of your demonstration complied with the PDPA, a Final Test Protocol Agreement will set the Final Test's details.
- 10.** If IIG determines your Preliminary Demonstration results are inconclusive, we will invite you to participate in a Second Preliminary Demonstration, possibly with agreed changes to the PDPA to better ensure a conclusive result. If you decline to repeat the demonstration, IIG will close your Application.

11. If your Preliminary Demonstration results are negative, you may apply for the IIG Challenge again (and as often as you like) after one full year has passed from the date of your Preliminary Demonstration, regardless of whether you wish to demonstrate the same ability or a different ability.

12. The PDPA will stipulate that no cheating, trickery or deceit of any kind is permitted during your Preliminary Demonstration or Final Test. If you or your associate(s) are observed violating this stipulation, IIG will immediately terminate your demonstration and close your application.

13. You agree that all data and materials (photographic, recorded, written, etc.) submitted by you or gathered during your demonstration are IIG's property and may be used or assigned by us for any purpose.

14. You agree to waive, to the maximum extent allowed by the appropriate California statute(s), any and all rights to legal action against James Underdown, Spencer Marks, Tom Glover, the Independent Investigations Group, the Center For Inquiry, the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry (CSI), and any other of IIG's, CFI's or CSI's officers or members. This applies to injury, accident, or any other physical or emotional damage or pain, and/or financial or professional loss or reputation damage of any kind. IIG hereby advises you that some applicants have felt embarrassment, humiliation, and other emotional states after a negative result.

15. You agree to advise IIG of any medical conditions, whether physical or psychological, that could possibly be relevant to your demonstration, such as but not limited to being on any medication(s) that might affect your awareness or other mental state. You acknowledge that you are responsible for your own health and if you have any question at all whether traveling and/or participating in a paranormal test might be bad for your health, you will first consult an appropriate, licensed medical professional at your own expense.

16. The prize money will not be deposited in escrow, displayed in cash, or otherwise produced prior to you completing a Final Test with a conclusively positive result.

17. The IIG Challenge \$50,000 Paranormal Challenge is offered by Center For Inquiry (CFI) and by the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry (CSI), and not on behalf of any other person, agency, or organization. Though others may become involved, or add additional reward money to the total in certain special circumstances, the implementation and management of the IIG Challenge will be carried out solely by the Independent Investigations Group. No special rules, exceptions, conditions, standards, or favors will be granted without mutual agreement of all parties. No changes to this offer will be permitted except by an authorized officer of the IIG, made in writing, and approved by authorized officers of CFI and CSI. No other persons are authorized to negotiate or make any changes to this offer on behalf of the IIG. Verbal changes or promises of any kind are not permitted under any circumstances.

18. The IIG Challenge is open to any and all adults in any part of the world, regardless of gender, race, educational background, etc., except for members of IIG, CFI and CSI, and their families.

THE APPLICANT INFORMATION PORTION OF THIS APPLICATION IS ON THE NEXT PAGE

Please mail your completed Application and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

IIG Challenge Application
c/o Center for Inquiry-Los Angeles
4773 Hollywood Boulevard
Hollywood, CA 90027 USA

Or e-mail a PDF scan of the completed and signed application to info@iigwest.com

APPLICANT INFORMATION FOR THE IIG \$50,000 PARANORMAL CHALLENGE

(You must answer all items. Feel free to attach additional pages if needed.)

Your Legal Name (Printed): _____

Your Mailing Address: _____

Your Phone No. and E-mail: _____

Clearly describe your testable paranormal claim. _____

How do you propose we test/measure/verify it? _____

What would be positive and negative results in your proposal? _____

Identify all time, location, or other limitations of your paranormal claim. _____

When and how did you discover it? _____

AGREEMENT

- **I, the undersigned Applicant, have read, understood, and agreed to all of the Terms and Conditions in this Application and request acceptance for IIG’s \$50,000 Paranormal Challenge.**
- **I acknowledge that IIG suggested I conduct a controlled, double-blind test of my paranormal claim before submitting this Application and that IIG offered to help me design such a test.**
- **I understand previous applicants have experienced public embarrassment, humiliation or other emotional states after their demonstration’s negative result, and I am willingly risking the same.**
- **I have clearly described my paranormal claim, proposed how to test it and how to judge the results, identified all known limitations of it, and explained when and how I discovered it. If IIG needs further information, I agree to provide additional details as requested.**
- **I understand that unless otherwise agreed with IIG in the protocol, a Preliminary Demonstration and/or Final Test will take place in the Los Angeles area, and I that I will need to pay my own travel costs, plus any agreed expenses for equipment, technicians, etc.**
- **If my demonstration result is negative or if I’m disqualified or withdraw from my demonstration, I understand I must wait at least one full year before submitting another Application.**

Signature of Applicant ↑

Date

Officially Accepted By:

Date