

## FAQ

### **When can I submit my innovation and when is the deadline?**

Registrations will open on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 at 10:00am CST, and close on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 11:59pm CST. You can register here- [Chicago Innovation Challenge](#)

### **What qualifies me as eligible to submit my idea or product?**

- Currently enrolled Illinois Tech Students
- Currently enrolled student at other universities and colleges located in the City of Chicago
- Currently enrolled Chicago Public High School and Chicago Charter School students

### **Can we participate in a Team?**

Yes, contestants can be individual qualifying students, or teams of qualifying students.

### **What is the maximum size of a Team?**

Maximum team size is limited to four (4) team members.

### **My team member is from another university; can we participate together?**

No, all students must attend the same educational institution when forming a team, and maximum team size is limited to four (4) team members.

### **Is there a fee to register?**

No, registrations are free.

### **How do I know if I am a finalist or a winner?**

We will contact you directly to let you know if you are a finalist or a winner.

### **What if I skip agreeing to the Official Rules?**

Contestant will be disqualified in case he/she does not agree to the Official Rules

### **I am under 18, can I participate?**

Yes, you will receive an email once you submit the Registration form, to provide a Parental Consent to advance in the Competition.

### **What goes in the submissions?**

By submitting an Entry and participating in the Contest, each Participant represents and warrants to the Sponsors as follows:

- (i) at each Stage of the Contest, the Entry submitted and any and all additional material submitted pursuant thereto is exclusively and wholly the original work of the Participant or, if applicable, his or her fellow team Participants with all rights thereto and ownership thereof;

- (ii) the Entry submitted and any and all additional material submitted pursuant thereto neither infringes upon nor violates any intellectual property rights or other rights of any other person or entity; and
- (iii) the Entry submitted and any and all additional material submitted pursuant thereto does not and will not violate any applicable laws and complies with these contest Rules. Each Participant hereby agrees to indemnify, defend and hold the Sponsors harmless from and against any and all third party claims, actions or proceedings of any kind and from any and all damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees) relating to or arising out of any breach or alleged breach of any of the warranties, representations or agreements of Participant hereunder.

### **Will submissions be confidential?**

Submissions will NOT be confidential. The Jules F. Knapp Entrepreneurship Center may announce or publicize the entries in the contest or post them on the web. Each Participant who submits an Entry will receive, and by submission of an Entry agrees to receive and to assume all risk associated therewith with, recognition on Illinois Tech's and/or its Jules F. Knapp Entrepreneurship Center's websites as a Participant of the Contest. To be clear, by submitting an Entry, a Participant is expressly agreeing to such use of his or her name and project idea description/drawing if applicable.

### **Who owns the submissions?**

Participants own the ideas but by entering the Contest, each Participant expressly and knowingly, acknowledges, agrees, understands and consents to, and does thereby irrevocably grant to each of the Sponsors, the non-exclusive, world-wide, royalty-free right, at each Sponsors' sole discretion, to publicize, to publish, to use, to edit, to modify and to post, including in the Internet and social media websites, his or her name and the educational institution that they attend and all materials submitted in connection with the Contest, including, without limitation, the Pitch Decks, Mock-ups and Videos, in any and all formats so submitted, at any time for any purpose, including, but not limited to publicity and marketing.

Each of the Participants hereby retains the rights to patent, trademark and/or copyright his/her/their ideas, Entries and all materials submitted in connection with the Contest at their own expense. However, for the avoidance of doubt and regardless of each Participants' retained rights, the right granted in the immediately preceding paragraph is intended, and shall be deemed to have been intended, for all purpose, to vest in the Sponsors the right to use for advertising and promotional purposes and any other purpose the ideas entered in this Contest, as well as the right, as it sees fit, to identify the Participant by name as the creator/author of the Entry, and the identity of the educational institution at which they are enrolled.

### **I have a question not covered here. Whom can I contact?**

Please contact us via the [Contact Us](#) Form.

## Judging Criteria

**What criteria does the judging committee look at when evaluating applicants?**

Judging Criteria for **Registration Round:**

1. Creativeness and originality of the real-world consumer and/or business need or problem identified by the Participants as described in their submitted official entry form **(45%)**
2. Creativeness and originality of the proposed solution to said need or problem as described in their official entry form **(45%)**
3. Quality of the Mock-up submitted with the official entry form, including its ability to effectively communicate the proposed product or application **(10%)**
4. Judging Criteria for Registration Round:

Judging Criteria for **Semi-Final Round:**

1. Overall quality, thoroughness, creativity, and originality of the Pitch Deck, in its entirety **(30%)**
2. Soundness and thoughtfulness of the rationale for why the identified target audience(s) will buy the proposed solution **(20%)**
3. Support and justification for the determination of the defined target audience(s) and size of the target audience(s) **(15%)**
4. Soundness and support for the proposed pricing model and projected revenue streams (15%)
5. Technical soundness and completeness of the updated Mock-up **(20%)**

Judging Criteria for **Final Round:**

1. Overall quality, thoroughness, creativity, and originality of the updated Pitch Deck, in its entirety **(40%)**
2. Soundness and thoughtfulness of the marketing and sales strategy **(25%)**
3. Quality, originality and creativeness of the Video **(25%)**
4. Quality and professionalism of the Presentation **(10%)**

## Competition Timelines

August 22 <sup>nd</sup> to September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	Registrations are open and can be submitted through our website- <a href="#">Chicago Innovation Challenge</a>
October 3 <sup>rd</sup> to October 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	Judges review the applications. If you are under 18 you will receive an email to provide your Parental Consent to advance in the Competition.
October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	Quarter Finalists announced on or before 5:00 p.m.
October 15 <sup>th</sup> to October 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	Quarter Finalists submit Pitch Deck and an Updated Mock Up

November 9 <sup>th</sup> ,2016	Semi Finalists announced on or before 5:00 p.m.,
November 9th to November 15th, 2016	Semi Finalists upload the Final Pitch and Video
November 17 <sup>th</sup> ,2016	Final Live Presentation
November 18 <sup>th</sup> ,2016	Final Prize Winners announced on or before 5:00 p.m.,