Pitch Contest

STUDENT COMPETITION RULES 2017

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Calendar of Events

Wednesday, October 4, 2017: **Video and Application Form due @ 11:59pm**

Friday, October 6, 2017: **Pitch Contest Finalists Announced**

Friday, October 13, 2017: **Pitch Contest at the Fireplace Lounge inside the Shepherd Union Building @ Noon**

Pitch Contest Overview

The Pitch Contest, sponsored by a generous gift by Weber State Credit Union, is a business idea competition open to all students within Weber State University. Individuals should submit entries and be prepared to pitch, individually. This is not a team competition. The competition fosters and promotes competition and the opportunity for students to strengthen their presentation skills and timeliness. In real life, entrepreneurs must decide which information to disclose in a limited amount of time. Ideas can be raw and underdeveloped, and even outrageous!

A cash prize of $1,000 will be awarded to the individual judged to have presented the most plausible and promising business idea or opportunity. Cash prizes of $500 and $250 for 2nd and 3rd place teams, respectively.

Eligibility

Each participating individual must be a Weber State University student who is **enrolled in at least three credit hours during the Fall semester** of the competition (student standing will be verified by Pitch Contest staff).

Company formation is not a requirement to enter the competition.
Additionally:

- Individuals may apply more than one idea; however, each idea must be registered separately.
- Each presenter must be an enrolled student at Weber State University.
- The business cannot be more than 12 months old as of September 1, 2017.
- The business cannot have generated revenues in excess of $25,000 as of September 1, 2017.
- The business cannot have any external equity funding as of September 1, 2017 (VC, Angels, grants, etc.)
- The business cannot have won any money from previous Weber State competitions prior to September 1, 2017.

**How to Apply**

Participants are required to fill out and submit the application form and a brief 60 second video pitch, briefly explaining their idea/s. This must be submitted online by **11:59pm on Wednesday, October 4th, 2017. Both can be uploaded directly on our website.**

**Application Forms and Video**

The application form is available on our website, [http://www.weber.edu/goddard/pitchcontest.html](http://www.weber.edu/goddard/pitchcontest.html) please fill out online, upload video, and click “submit”. Videos can be nearly any format that can be uploaded and submitted.

Videos should be treated as a practice run for the actual pitch contest. Videos provide an opportunity to set you and your idea apart, and help the application committee better understand your idea and why you should be one of the finalists for the contest. There are no set criteria of what videos should contain. Individuals should decide what details they feel are most applicable for judges to know.
For example, you could use your video to:

- Give a personal “elevator pitch” for your idea
- Show your extreme passion for your idea
- Let your creativity, your personality, and/or the ‘personality’ of your idea shine through
- Clearly demonstrate and explain the product or idea

Follow these simple guidelines when creating your video:

- Videos must be no longer than 60 seconds in length.
- Keep it professional. No inappropriate sounds, language, or images. Videos containing content deemed inappropriate by Weber State University will result in disqualification. A Note Concerning the Video Format and Size: Videos must be no longer than 60 seconds.

Judging

Initial Judging

Initial judging will narrow down the applicants to a total of 10 final participants. Our initial judging panel will carefully review each application along with their attached video pitch. Our panel will be looking for the most polished, well thought out ideas and presentations. Judges will not be affiliated with, or involved in the preparation or funding of, any participating team. The decision of the judging panel will be final and will not be subject to appeal. The overall selection of finalists and winners is based on the viability and likely success of the business, in addition to the creativity and originality of the idea and pitch.

Final Judging

Judging is based on the final presentation alone. Students will have 90 seconds to pitch their idea to a panel of judges. These judges
will consist of successful entrepreneurs and members of the community. Judges will not be affiliated with, or involved in the preparation or funding of, any participating team. The decision of the judging panel will be final and will not be subject to appeal. The overall selection of finalists and winners is based on the viability and likely success of the business, in addition to the creativity and originality of the idea and pitch.

Prizes

The Grand Prize, in the amount of $1,000, will be awarded to the individual with the best final presentation. Two runners-up will be selected and will receive $500 and $250, respectively.

No Confidentiality Agreement

As a competitor, you are responsible to protect any information concerning your plan that you share with advisors, team members, and fellow participants of the competition. Opportunity Quest takes no responsibility for unwanted disclosure in these instances.

Contestants should be careful about disclosing information concerning proprietary concepts. Competitors concerned about the protection of intellectual property may contact or look up answers to technology protection questions on the Technology Venture Commercialization Office website at www.weber.edu/tco.