

# Official Rules Package

Updated January 2024

# Official Rules

This document contains the official rules for the Healthcare Innovation Challenge. The Healthcare Innovation Challenge Executive reserves the right to change or update these rules prior to the competition. The Executive has final say on issues not covered in these rules. Failure to abide by any of these rules may result in immediate disqualification.

## 1. General

1.1. Teams must have a minimum of 2 members and a maximum of 5 members.

1.2. Teams must have a minimum of at least 1 member who is a registered graduate student at the Institute of Medical Science.

1.3. All remaining team members must be registered graduate students (enrolled in a Masters or Doctoral program) at a recognized post-secondary institution in Ontario, Canada.

1.4. Teams that do not have the maximum number of members may indicate that they are seeking additional members (“Free Agents”) on the competition registration form.

1.5. Individuals interested in participating but who do not have a team can sign-up as a “Free Agent”, which indicates that they are available for recruitment. Free Agents shall be assigned to a team with other Free Agents, or to a team that has indicated they are accepting Free Agents.

1.6. Teams that have indicated they are accepting Free Agents are not guaranteed to receive them, as priority is placed on matching Free Agents with one another to generate new teams.

1.7. The competition theme shall be announced prior to the opening of competition registration.

1.8. Failure to respect and follow competition timelines shall result in immediate disqualification.

1.9. The Healthcare Innovation Challenge reserves the rights to all distributed material, including but not limited to logos, videos, as well as information packages, pamphlets, and booklets and the intellectual content and writing therein.

## 2. Structure

2.1. The competition is divided in 2 parts:

- Round 1 (The Written Round): Draft a written solution proposal to the challenge question posed. Your submission includes a 1-page written proposal in response to the challenge question and a 5-slide “pitch” deck outlining your solution.
- Round 2 (The Live Pitch): The top 5 scoring teams from Round 1 will advance to the final presentation round, where they will give a 5-minute pitch outlining their solution to an esteemed panel of expert judges and an audience of University of Toronto students and faculty.

2.2. All registered teams are to submit a written proposal in Round 1.

2.3. Teams can advance to Round 2 based on their performance in Round 1.

2.4. The order of presentations for the Round 2 shall be determined by random draw on the day of the event.

2.5. Attendance of all team members is required in Round 2 otherwise the team risks disqualification.

2.6. Audience members may attend Round 2.

2.7. The use of a faculty advisor or coach is authorized, and encouraged, in preparing submissions for Round 1 and Round 2, with limitations:

- The faculty advisor or coach may not be listed as an official team member.
- The faculty advisor or coach may not participate in Round 2 presentations.
- The faculty advisor or coach may not respond to questions on the teams behalf during the Q & A portion of Round 2.
- The faculty advisor or coach must disclose their involvement in any adjudication to the Healthcare Innovation Challenge in the event that they are simultaneously serving as a member of the judging panel.

2.8. A winner is announced following the completion of all finalist presentations during Round 2.



### 3. Judging & Advancement

3.1. All scoring and decisions are final and may not be appealed except under highly exceptional circumstances, as determined by the Healthcare Innovation Challenge Executives.

3.2. Judging criteria in Round 1 is subject to slight modification year-by-year, but generally is based on the following criteria:

- Depth of background research
- Originality
- Feasibility
- Potential impact and return on investment
- Clarity of thoughts and writing style
- References

3.3. Judging criteria in Round 2 is subject to slight modification year-by-year, but generally is based on the following:

- Depth of analysis
- Originality and feasibility of implementation
- Presentation skills
- Question and answer management

3.4. During Round 1, judges identities shall be kept anonymous from competitors and the identities of competitors shall be kept anonymous from judges to ensure parity.

- To maintain double blinding, submissions shall be void of any identifying information except an assigned team number.
- Judges will be assigned a coded identifier (e.g., Judge A, B, C, etc.).

3.5. Participants reserve the right to see their Round 1 scoring cards regardless of whether or not they advanced to the next round.

3.6. During Round 2, judges shall be allotted at least 5 minutes but no more than 10 minutes following the end of a presentation to complete a scoring card.

3.7. Final scores of Round 2 shall be calculated by at least one member of the Healthcare Innovation Challenge Executive in the presence of the judges.

3.8. Following Round 2, the results will be made available to the public.



## 4. Live Presentations

4.1. Round 2 will consist of a 5-minute presentation with judges permitted to ask questions during a 5-minute designated Q&A period after the presentation.

4.2. Exceeding the allotted presentation time will result in an end of the presentation and initiation of the Q&A period.

4.3. All team members are required to be present for the presentation, but not all team members are required to speak.

4.4. The use of props, including, but not limited to costumes, objects, and cue cards is authorized with limitations:

- Props must be tasteful and should not exude unprofessionalism.
- Props that are deemed to be hateful, sexually lewd, promote violence, or encourage unlawful behaviour or otherwise contradict the Canadian Human Rights Act will result in immediate disqualification.

4.5. Round 2 attire is business professional.

4.6. Finalists shall be seated among the spectators until it is their turn to present.

4.7. Attendance at the live event provides implied consent to being photographed and having your photograph be featured on Healthcare Innovation Challenge social media and used in promotional material.

4.8. Decorum is to be maintained at all times, with particular emphasis during presentations and the judging period.

4.9. Presentation deck slides are to be submitted to the Healthcare Innovation Challenge Executive no later than the deadline set forth in the emailed instructions to the qualifying teams.

4.10. Presentation deck slides may be submitted in PPT, PPTX, Keynote, ODP, and PDF file formats.

4.11. Prizes shall be distributed following the conclusion of Round 2.



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