

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can our team have male members on it?

While this competition is designed to highlight collegiate women entrepreneurs, male team members are eligible to participate, and are permitted to attend Competition Day if your team is selected. **However, the Team Leader must be a female, undergraduate student.** If it is determined that a team with male members is simply “using” a female for eligibility purposes, the team will automatically be disqualified and forfeit all monetary awards.

Does the Selection Committee pick a certain number of teams from each school?

The first round evaluation process is a double-blind process. Applicants do not know members of the selection committee nor does any member of the committee know the schools with which applicants are affiliated. **It is very important that your school name does not appear in the Executive Summary or on the completed Business Model Canvas.**

How are written applications evaluated and ranked?

Each written submission will be evaluated by three (3) members of the selection committee. Scores will be aggregated and averaged. The top ranked teams will move on to the next round of the competition. (See “Judging Criteria” for guidance on preparing both written, visual showcases, and oral pitches for each round of the competition.)

How soon after the deadline we will find out if we made it to Round 2?

Team Leaders will receive an email from draper@smith.edu by no later than 11:59p on Saturday, March 26, 2016 informing them of the status of their application.

Will the Competition Judges have read our team’s executive summary prior to Competition Day?

The Competition Judges will be provided with all executive summaries for Semi-Finalist teams prior to Competition Day.

How many Judges will see our team’s showcase during the Trade Show Expo?

The Competition Judges will walk through the Expo in teams of two. Each pair of judges will be responsible for evaluating approximately one-third of all of the Semi-Finalist displays on Competition Day. The amount of time the judges dedicated to each team will vary. However, teams should anticipate interacting with the judges assigned to their venture for approximately 3-5 minutes. Team Leaders should be prepared to present the venture and answer questions posed by the judges. (See “Judging Criteria” for guidance on preparing written materials, visual showcases, and oral pitches for each round of the competition.)



Draper Competition

for Collegiate Women Entrepreneurs

MONDAY, APRIL 18 2016

3:30p – 7p

Indoor Tennis/Track Facility; Smith College

When will we know if our team is selected to pitch in the final round?

At the end of the Trade Show Expo and approximately fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of the oral pitches, Finalist Team Leaders will be informed that they are moving on in the Competition. Each Team Leader should be prepared to deliver a 90-second pitch to the Competition Judges, in front of the entire audience, and participate in a brief Q&A with the judges (no more than 4 minutes).

Can more than one team member deliver the pitch?

While multiple team members can deliver the oral pitch, each pitching team member must be ***an eligible female member of the team***. Remember, each team will receive 90-seconds only. No props, PowerPoint, or note cards are permitted.