Coaching Guidelines

The goal of the McGinnis Venture Competition is to encourage and support CMU undergraduate and graduate student entrepreneurs. The competition is intended to provide an early reality check for participants. Teams in the final round compete for $60,000 of investments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROUND</th>
<th>ROUND 1</th>
<th>DOWNTOWN 2</th>
<th>DOWNTOWN 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FORMAT</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>Live</td>
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<tr>
<td>DELIVERABLES</td>
<td>Executive Summary (3-5 pages)</td>
<td>Expanded Executive Summary (3-5 pages)</td>
<td>Mini Business Plan (5-10 pages)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5-min Video Pitch</td>
<td>Expanded 5-min Video Pitch</td>
<td>Live Pitch + Q&amp;A</td>
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Coaching

Each team is assigned a coach whose educational and professional experience matches the team’s industry; each coach is assigned one team. Period of coaching depends on the progress of the team.

Meetings

The team is responsible for scheduling both an initial informational meeting and a feedback meeting for the first round. If the team advances to the next round the coach and the team determines how many meetings they need to proceed.

Feedback

As a coach, keep two questions in mind when reviewing each team’s executive summary and video pitch.

1. Can this team be competitive in the final round?
2. Can this team/company be viable?

Be firm but gentle. The competition is intended to be an educational experience.

Judging

If your team is eliminated in the first round of the competition, you are welcome to become a judge for the second round. If you are interested please contact Allyson Hince at ahince@andrew.cmu.edu.

The Competition Platform

Coaches have access to review their assigned teams executive summary and video pitch via the competition platform, iStart. Login instructions are sent from notification@istart.org with the subject “Invitation to Coach the McGinnis Venture Competition” once the teams are assigned. Login problems? Contact support@istart.org and cc ahince@andrew.cmu.edu