



Campus Spark

Student Innovation Challenge

Applicant Eligibility & Criteria

Overview of the Program

Many student-led innovations struggle to transition from concept to market-ready solutions due to limited exposure, mentorship, funding, and linkage to industry partners. The Campus Spark is a student Innovation Challenge, spearheaded by the Network of Entrepreneurial Leaders Institutions (NEIL), that seeks to bridge this gap by providing a national platform for university students to showcase, refine, and scale innovative solutions that address real-world challenges.

1. Eligibility

- You must be a student (undergraduate or postgraduate) from a NEIL member university.
- Applications can be team-based
- Each team should have at least 3–5 members with complementary skills.
- A faculty mentor/supervisor is encouraged.

2. Innovation Requirements

Your innovation should:

- Address a real-world problem affecting communities, industries, or society.
- Fall within one of the following focus areas:
 - Agriculture & Food Security
 - Health & Wellbeing
 - Digital Transformation & AI
 - Climate Action & Green Innovation
- Be at idea, prototype, or early-stage development. *Having a prototype or MVP is an added advantage but is not mandatory.*

3. What We Are Looking For

We evaluate innovations across three dimensions:

a) Desirability — User Need

Are you building something that people truly need?

- Solves a clear and meaningful problem.
- Targets a well-defined user or customer group.
- Shows some level of user validation (e.g., feedback, testing, interviews).

b) Feasibility — Buildability

Can your solution work in the real world?

- The solution is practical and implementable.
- The team has (or can access) the skills and resources needed.
- The idea can be realistically developed within available constraints.

c) Viability — Sustainability

Can your innovation grow beyond the idea stage?

- Has a clear path to sustainability (revenue, partnerships, or funding).
- Demonstrates potential for growth and scalability.
- The value created outweighs the cost of delivering the solution.

4. Additional Considerations

- Innovations with a prototype, pilot, or early traction will have an added advantage.
- Teams with a clear understanding of their market and users are encouraged to apply.
- Prior funding is not required, but should be disclosed if received.

5. Commitment

Applicants should be willing to:

- Participate in training, mentorship, and pitching sessions.
- Engage throughout the program.

Ready to Apply?

Submit your innovation and take the next step in your journey to becoming
the next Student Innovator of the Year!

<https://forms.office.com/r/zNQsK9b8MR>