The Fourth XJTLU Global "Dream-Chasers"

Entrepreneurial Competition Schedule

Contents

Ⅰ. COMPETITION INTRODUCTION

The XJTLU Global "Dream-Chasers" Entrepreneurial Competition focuses on the early stages of innovation and entrepreneurship, aiming to inspire university students to think about how technology and business can drive social development.

The competition is divided into two tracks: the **Early-Stage Idea Projects** and the **Mature Business Projects** track. On one hand, it encourages students to boldly propose innovative ideas, while on the other hand, it seeks to discover and nurture business projects that can be implemented to create real social value. The Early-Stage Idea Project track emphasizes nurturing students' creative ideas and enhancing their presentation skills, without demanding **an actual product** or market feedback. The Mature Business Project track, however, places greater emphasis on the feasibility and commercial potential of projects. Competing teams are required to provide a complete product prototype, a business model, and preliminary market validation data. The goal is to promote outstanding projects toward practical application and connect them with industry resources and investment opportunities.

The competition serves as a unique project-based learning opportunity, explores new models for entrepreneurship education, promotes practice-oriented learning, and strives to create an innovative education ecosystem that fosters beneficial exchanges among students, educators, and industry partners.

Ⅱ. COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. Each team should consist of at least 2 members, with each member participating in only one team. Participants can be junior college, undergraduate, postgraduate, or doctoral student. Each team can only submit one project idea and has only one submission opportunity.
2. For the first round, the file name of the submission should be named in the format of "Project Title + University Name". After the submission, the team leader will receive a receipt via email, and the number included in the receipt is the project number. For the semi-final and final round submissions, the file name should be in the format of "Project Number + Project Title+ University Name". Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification.
3. First-round PPT submission: The 6-page PPT for the first round should include a cover page, problem/ opportunity, solution, market opportunity, business model, and team structure. The first-round guidelines and reference templates can be downloaded from the official competition website. No animation effects

or video playback should be used in the PPT. Failure to adhere to this limit or violate the aforementioned requirements will be considered a violation and will result in disqualification.

4. Semi-final video submission: The video for the semi-final should be in mp4 format, with a duration of 3-6 minutes and a file size less than 500MB. The video should briefly summarize the content covered in the first-round PPT (project background, core technology, market opportunity, business model, team structure), as well as financial forecasts, competitor analysis, Road Map, and funding. Please ensure that the video content is positive and meets the competition requirements, while adhering to the aforementioned submission regulations.
5. Final Round PPT submission: Teams will have 8 minutes to present their project, and 5 minute to answer judges' questions. The PPT for the presentation should briefly summarize the content submitted in the first and semi-final rounds, and also introduce the prototype or visual concept of the business idea (video/photo), sustainable competitive advantage, risk assessment and control, as well as the business and social impact. No animation effects or video playback should be used. Failure to adhere to this limit or violate the aforementioned requirements will be considered a violation and will result in disqualification.

Ⅲ. COMPETITION THEME

The ideas are not restricted by field limitations, and any idea can be submitted. However, they may refer to the following topics for preparation.

1. Green and Intelligent Technology: Sustainable Technology, Smart Cities, Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, Material Technology and Innovation, etc.
2. Healthy Living and Cultural Technology: Healthcare Technology Innovation, Education Technology Revolution, Food Technology, Creative Culture, etc.
3. Finance and Business Innovation: Financial Technology Innovators, E-commerce Innovation, Social Impact, Future of Work, etc.

Ⅳ. FIRST ROUND JUDGING CRITERIA

1. Quality of Idea: Is the project idea unique, innovative, and potentially disruptive? Does it address an existing problem or fill a market gap?
2. Market Potential: Is there a significant demand for the product/service? Is the target market large enough and potentially profitable?
3. Business Model Viability: Is the proposed business model reasonable and

sustainable? How does the project plan to generate revenue and achieve profitability?

4. Team Quality: Does the team possess the necessary skills, experience, and commitment required for the project's success? Do the team members demonstrate good chemistry and mutual respect? Please consider the diversity of team composition, the clarity of member roles and the demonstration of collaboration ability.

Ⅴ. SEMI-FINALS JUDGING CRITERIA

1. Financial Forecast: Are projections realistic and based on well-researched assumptions?
2. Competitor Analysis: Does the project demonstrate a clear understanding of its competitors, including their strengths and weaknesses? Does it highlight unique differentiating factors and a well-defined competitive strategy that sets it apart in the market?
3. Project Progress and Planning: Even at this early stage, has any significant progress been achieved? Is there potential for scalability in production and market expansion? Please consider setting milestones, developing partnerships and any further development plans for the next 2-3 years.
4. Investment Potential: Does the project have the advantage of attracting a large amount of investment and support from various investors? Is there a viable exit strategy for investors?

Ⅵ. FINALS JUDGING CRITERIA

5. Technological Integration: Explains how the business concept utilises innovative technologies to address the identified problem. Is there a prototype or visual concept that demonstrates the technical solution? The evaluation will focus on the clarity with which the technical aspects are articulated. Key considerations include the distinctiveness compared to existing technologies, and how it directly contributes to resolving the identified issue.
6. Sustainable Competitive Advantage: Does the project have distinct and long-term advantages (e.g., proprietary technology, partnerships, or unique models)? Is the competitive advantage stable and scalable in the long term, and can it be continuously strengthened and expanded with market changes and technological advancements?
7. Risk Assessment and Control: Has the project comprehensively and systematically identified various potential risks in areas such as technology, market, finance, and management, including potential risks and their impact? Have specific and actionable risk control measures and response strategies been developed for the identified risks, and are these measures targeted and

effective?

8. Social Impact and Benefits: Focus on explaining the measurable impact your business idea will have on society or the target population. Emphasize the positive outcomes and benefits of your solution in improving lives, creating employment, and driving social change.

Ⅶ. COMPETITION TIMELINE

April 26, 2025 – October 27: First round registration

- Access the competition website, download the PPT preparation guidelines, and the recommended template.
- Submit PPT
- Attend training workshop online or onsite:

    1. Principle of finance
    2. Principle of law
    3. Digital transformation

October 27 - December 9: First Round Evaluation

- The review team conducts initial evaluation.
- Announce the list of teams advancing to the next round (top 100).
- Notify the selected teams to prepare for the next round of competition.

December 9 - February 16, 2026: Semi-finals submission

- Access the competition website, and download semi-final video preparation guidelines.
- Submit the videos for the semi-final competition.

February 16, 2026– March 10: Semi-finals Evaluation

- The review team conducts the semi-finals evaluation.
- Announce the list of teams advancing to the finals (top 60).
- Notify the selected teams to prepare for the next round of competition.

March 10 – April 3: Finals Submission

- Access the competition website, and download finals preparation guidelines.
- Submit the PPT for the finals.

April 10: Final Evaluation and Award Ceremony

The 60 participating teams will present their projects in parallel sessions, with each team having 8 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for Q&A with the judges. After the presentations in the parallel sessions are completed, the judges will select the top 9 outstanding projects from the 60 projects for a second-round presentation in the main venue, where the final 3 first prizes and 6 second prizes will be determined. The remaining projects that do not proceed to the second round will be awarded third prizes, excellence awards, and participation awards based on their scores.

- Announce the competition results and hold an award ceremony.

Ⅷ. AWARDS SETTING

1. Cash prize

Item	Qty	Unit (After Tax)	Total (After Tax)
1st Prize	3	RMB 20,000 (2,730 USD)	RMB 60,000 (8,191 USD)
2nd Prize	6	RMB 15,000 (2,048 USD)	RMB 90,000 (12,288 USD)
3rd Prize	9	RMB 8,000 (1,092 USD)	RMB 72,000 (9,829 USD)
Excellence Awards	18	RMB 3,000 (410 USD)	RMB 54,000 (7,372 USD)
Participation Awards	24	RMB 1,000 (137 USD)	RMB 24,000 (3,276 USD)

2. Additional Rewards:

1) Opportunity to participate in a 1-on-1 technopreneur mentorship.
2) Obtain scholarship in MSc Entrepreneurship and Innovation programme.
3) Opportunity to access the laboratory resources of the Innovation Factory, join the X^3 Co-Venture, and Immersive Technopreneurship Summer School.
4) More surprise gifts.

Ⅸ. PDP PART (XJTLU ENTREPRENEUR COLLEGE (TAICANG) STUDENTS ONLY)

By participating in competition-related activities and accumulating a total of 100 hours, participants will be eligible to receive a certificate issued by the Competition Organisor. Students could access e-bridge, and upload the certificates for evaluation by the Academic Advisor. The e-bridge will properly record the hours in increments of 100, 200, 300. Stage 1 (30 hours):

1. Successfully submit first-round registration materials and be qualified for the first round of the competition.
2. Participation in at least one competition-related activity/event is required: Q&A session, seminar or workshop (May 2025 - October 2025).

Stage 2 (30 hours):

1. Successful advancement to the semi-final round of the competition.
2. Participation in at least two workshop/training. (November 2025 - February 2026).
3. Fulfilment of all Stage 1 requirements.

Stage 3 (40 hours):

1. Successfully advancement to the final round of the competition.
2. Fulfilment of all Stage 2 requirements.

If the students do not successfully advance to the final round, they can choose to merge the time they have fulfilled in the competition-related activities with the time accrued from the X3 Co-Venture or Innovation Factory activities for the overall calculation.

X .CONTACT US

Email: Dream.Chasers@xjtlu.edu.cn

Website: XJTLU Global "Dream-Chasers" Entrepreneurial Competition - Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University

Register and Submit:
https://premiumpro.learningmall.cn/dream.html#/dreamchasers

XI. POST-COMPETITION INCUBATION: SETTING YOUR DREAMS AFLOAT, BEYOND THE COMPETITION

All award-winning projects will unlock exclusive in-depth incubation opportunities with the Innovation Factory and X^3 Co-Venture of Xi’an Jiaotong-Liverpool University. We are dedicated to collaborating with you to build a “Industry-Academia-Research-Innovation-Training” five-in-one innovation and incubation ecosystem focused on high-tech industries. We provide comprehensive support from 0 to 1, accelerating the realization of your entrepreneurial dreams!

Smart Guidance: Comprehensive Incubation & Guidance

During the “Smart Guidance” comprehensive incubation phase, we tailor incubation paths for projects at different stages of development to ensure our support is precise and effective.

- **Early-Stage Idea Projects:** We provide targeted business coaching, business model refinement, and strategic planning to help you effectively avoid common startup pitfalls, overcome development bottlenecks, and achieve rapid iteration and healthy growth for your project. Furthermore, if you need to create a product prototype, you can apply to the Innovation Factory (InnovationFactory@xjtlu.edu.cn) to gain exclusive access to our laboratory facilities, rapidly transforming your creative ideas into tangible products.
- **Mature Business Projects:** For mature projects that already have a clear business model and market validation, we provide more advanced acceleration services. These include, but are not limited to: connecting you with industry experts for in-depth strategic consulting, linking you with market channels and supply chain resources, expanding your professional network, and assisting your team in optimizing equity structures and corporate governance to lay a solid foundation for scalable growth.

Rooting and Growth: Direct Access to the Yangtze River Delta

To help your project take root and flourish, we leverage X^3 Co-Venture’s priority recommendation mechanism to build a seamless bridge connecting your team with local governments and top-tier industrial parks. Additionally, this system is committed to fostering deep integration between your project and leading industry enterprises, providing robust technical support and resource networks. The goal is to fully empower your project to deeply integrate into the regional innovation ecosystem, achieving a leap from innovation to industrialization.

Capital Boost: Multi-Channel Financing Opportunities

In terms of capital, we open up multiple financing channels to inject strong momentum into your project's development. All XJTLU student projects entering X3 Co-Venture are eligible for a seed fund of RMB 15,000 to support initial operations. Outstanding performers will have the opportunity to receive angel investment from XJTLU Technology Transfer Co., Ltd., further addressing the financial challenges of the early stages. For projects with significant long-term potential, we will prioritize recommending them to a broader network of investment institutions and capital partners, such as Hai Chuanghui (HCH Technology Entrepreneurship Development Co., Ltd), providing continuous capital support for subsequent large-scale development.

How to Join: After the finals, we will arrange one-on-one project matchmaking meetings. Please pay close attention to the official competition announcements for information on subsequent steps and required materials.

More Information:

Innovation Factory - Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University;

XJTLU X3 Co-Venture - Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University