

Future Founder Challenge 2025: Rules & Regulations for Participation

Participation Criteria

- Open to high school students (Grades 9–12).
- Teams must comprise 2–3 students.
- Each team must have a project name and business idea at the time of nomination.
- 01 School faculty to accompany their student teams if team is selected in Finale.
- A signed disclaimer form from the school is to be submitted during participation in finale.
- 100% attendance in all three online workshops is mandatory for all shortlisted teams after nominations.

Presentation Rules (Finale at UPES)

- Selected teams for the final must mandatorily submit their pitch deck at least 5 days before the event.
- Any other required materials (e.g., product prototypes) should be brought by the selected teams at their own expense and liability.
- Final pitch duration: 7 minutes with 3-minute Q&A by judges.
- Broad Judging Criteria: Innovation, Feasibility, Communication, Teamwork, Responsiveness.

Dress Code for Finale

- Formal attire required – school uniforms are not allowed.
- Boys: Formal shirt and trousers with closed-toe shoes.
- Girls: Formal shirt/trousers/skirt or equivalent formal attire.

Code of Conduct

- Maintain discipline and punctuality at all times at Campus.
- Respect judges, mentors, and fellow participants.
- Unruly behavior may lead to disqualification.

Awards & Prizes

- Main Awards:
 - National Level: Best Startup Team (Winner) and 1st Runner-up
 - Zonal Level: Best Startup Team (Winner) and 1st Runner-up in each zone
- Special Awards {Certificates & Mementos}
 - Best CEO
 - Best COO
 - Best CFO
 - Best CMO
 - Best Presentation
 - Best Prototype
 - Best Technology Idea
 - Best Sustainability Idea

Logistics and Miscellaneous

- Food and accommodation arrangements will be borne by UPES for student teams (Sharing basis) and 01 School coordinator
- Travel to and from UPES Campus for finale to be arranged by Self / Participating Schools
- Students and teachers are expected to follow all safety guidelines provided by the event organizers during their time on the UPES campus.
- By participating, teams consent to the use of their names, photos, and videos by the event organizers for promotional purposes.

*UPES reserves the right to change, modify, or cancel any part of the event structure or rules without prior notice. Selection is subject to UPES's discretion and university's decision shall be final and binding on all matters related to the challenge.