



## Terms and Conditions

### General

You may or may not have incorporated a company.

If you have incorporated a company you must have no more than 5 paid employees.

Intellectual Property must be owned by you or your company or have appropriate permission from the owner to enter the competition.

Technology development must be based in Northern Ireland.

Technologies that have previously qualified for **the final round** of INVENT and former £25K Awards are NOT eligible to apply.

### Stage of Idea/Product Development

You must have at least developed a basic prototype which can be in digital or physical form.

### Funding

Applicants must disclose any funding already received.

At the point of application, applicants must **not** have received over the value of 200K from any institutional venture capital equity funding or business angel investor for the idea (prototype/technology/invention) being entered.

Institutional venture capital funding includes seed stage and development stage equity investment funds managed by a fund manager.

Institutional funding **does not** include any of the following types of funding: funds from contests, grants, proof-of-concept grants, friends and family, bank loans, angel equity investment, crowd-funding platforms, funding for academic research.

### IP & Confidentiality

The **identities of the applicants** and the **short description** of the technology disclosed in the application, as well as content of any pitch or presentation delivered during Semi-Finals and at the Invent Awards are considered of public domain and can be used by Invent for marketing and PR purposes.

Before submitting applications, all applicants are encouraged to confirm with legal advisors that any intellectual property described in their application is protected by the owner; i.e., by appropriate intellectual property filings, notices, (patent, copyright, etc.).

Invent also recommends that applicants determine in advance whether the technology described in their application relates to an invention, copyrightable work or other intellectual property owned by a third party and that they have been granted permission to use the technology and to enter this competition in accordance with the relevant third party's policy. If you're applying from a university or research institution the relevant Technology Transfer Office (Queen's University Belfast, Ulster University, Agri-Food & Biosciences Institute and HSC Innovation) is available to answer any related questions.

For any doubts about the legal status of applicants own or third-party intellectual property or any other aspect of their application, Invent advises to seek independent legal advice.

Invent confirms that Judges assessing the final stage will be subject to a Non-Disclosure Agreement.

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Applications will be assessed and selected by an independent selection panel to determine entry into the competition.

All entrants with projects based within the following institutions (Queen's University Belfast, Ulster University, Agri-Food & Biosciences Institute and Health & Social Care), must contact the Technology Transfer Office at their institution in advance of entering the competition to ensure the intellectual property ownership is clearly defined and where appropriate the idea is protected.

Undergraduate students are encouraged to contact their Technology Transfer Office for additional support with their applications.

Entrants will self-select a category to compete within. Categories Include; Agri-Science, Creative Media and Consumer Internet, Engineering, Electronics, Life and Health and Enterprise Software. The category chosen may be subject to change at the discretion of the organisers. Entrants will be notified accordingly if a change is made.

Entrants will be shortlisted by an independent panel appointed by Connect at Catalyst Inc who will review each application against eligibility criteria.

Entrants must be willing to devote the time and commitment necessary to all components of the competition with a genuine ambition to commercialise their prototype.

## **Schedule Plan (subject to change)**

*Applications open – 22nd January 2019*

*Closing date for applications – 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019*

*All applicants notified by – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019*

*Qualifying Rounds – 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (invited to deliver 3 min pitch @ Catalyst Inc)*

*Semi Final – 23rd May 2019 (24 semi-finalists deliver 3 min pitch @ Waterfront Studio)*

*Funding Workshop – June 2019*

*Mentor Day – June 2019*

*Business plan submission – July 2019*

*Final Pitches (12 finalists) – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019*

*Invent Awards Dinner – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019*

Successful entrants agree to the use of his/her name and image in any publicity material. Any personal data relating to entrants will be used solely in accordance with current (UK) data protection legislation and, other than disclosure to judges, partners and sponsors of Invent 2019, will not be disclosed to a third party without the entrant's prior consent.

If an applicant is under the age of 18. He/she must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at the events throughout the competition.

Catalyst Inc reserves the right to cancel or amend the competition and these terms and conditions. Any changes to the competition will be notified to the entrants as soon as possible.

By applying through our application platform, you are allowing Catalyst Inc to invite you to events or share appropriate information with you.