

2026 UAiTED Innovation Competition

Information Pack

Welcome

Welcome to the 2026 UAiTED Innovation Competition. This competition showcases high-potential startups incubated by UAiTED member institutions, while fostering cross-regional, multicultural, and interdisciplinary collaboration to accelerate global talent development and impact.

Objectives

- Identify and showcase high-potential startups incubated by UAiTED member institutions.
- Facilitate cross-regional, multicultural, and interdisciplinary global talent development.

Eligibility

- Startup teams spun off from UAiTED Member Institutions or Specially Invited Institutions.

UAiTED Member Universities

Country/Region	Institution
Hong Kong	City University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Malaysia	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
Malaysia	Universiti Malaya
Malaysia	Universiti Putra Malaysia
Malaysia	Universiti Sains Malaysia
Malaysia	Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman
Singapore	Nanyang Technological University
Singapore	National University of Singapore
Taiwan	National Central University
Taiwan	National Chengchi University
Taiwan	National Cheng Kung University
Taiwan	National Taiwan University
Taiwan	National Taiwan Normal University
Taiwan	National Taiwan University of Science and Technology
Taiwan	National Tsing Hua University
Taiwan	National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University

Special Invitation: Six Leading Universities from Japan, Australia, Thailand, and Vietnam

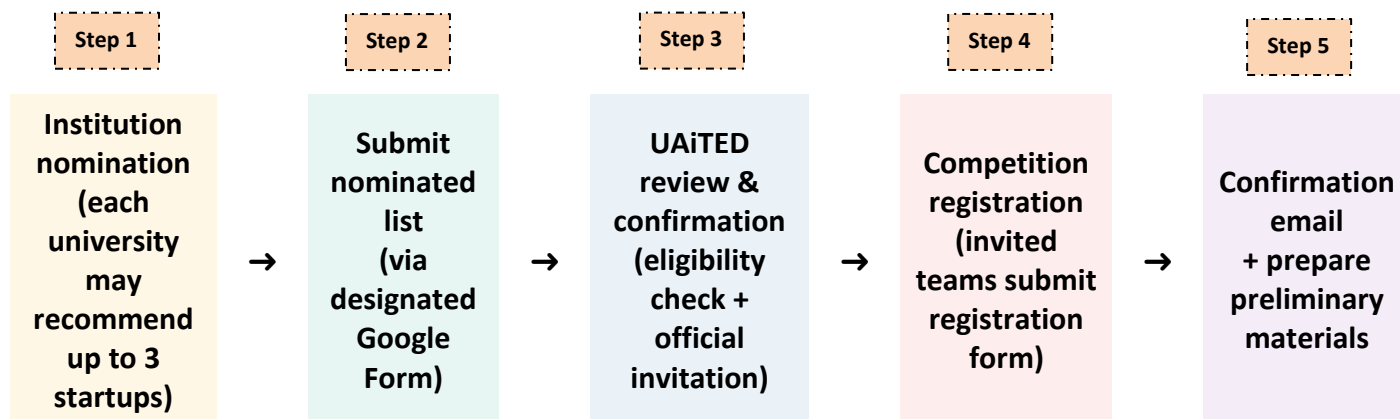
- Each team must include at least one currently full-time enrolled student or faculty member (no limit on team size). Faculty involvement may be either as a team member or through technology licensing/authorization.
- Participating teams must be **Pre-A: seed funding completed, a launched product/service with initial PMF and early traction** (e.g., active users, pilots, or initial revenue), and readiness to scale toward an A-round;

cumulative fundraising of USD 300,000+ is preferred. Teams may provide **redacted proof** (e.g., term sheet/SAFE, investor confirmation, or fundraising progress evidence). UAiTED will use the materials only for eligibility verification.

Theme

- AI for Everyday Life – Innovative Solutions to Enhance Daily Living

How to Enter



Note: Specific submission links and deadlines will be announced by the organizer.

Competition Timeline

Date	Item
Jun 3	Nomination opens
Jul 1	Nomination closes
Jul 5	Registration Deadline
Jul 30	Preliminary submission deadline
Sep 4	Announcement of finalists
Oct 15	Final pitch deck submission deadline
Oct 20	Grand Final (in-person, Taipei, Taiwan; details to be announced)

The organizer reserves the right to amend the timeline. Prior notice will be given.

Awards



Silver Prize

USD 8,000



Gold Prize

USD 15,000



Bronze Prize

USD 4,000

Prize Rules

- UAiTED reserves the right to modify the number of winning teams based on competition results and judges' evaluations.
- UAiTED may disqualify a winning team and revoke awards if any team member is found to violate competition rules.
- Prizes will be disbursed in USD or the official currency of the winner's region, based on the exchange rate at the time of payment.
- All cash prizes will be paid in a lump sum. Prizes may be remitted to the winning company or the company's legal representative.
- Any taxes arising from the awards are the sole responsibility of the recipient.

Post-Award Support for Winning Teams (2027)

- One-year mentorship for startup development.
- Access to corporate resources, including market insights, corporate visits, network introductions, and support for overseas market expansion.

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight
Problem Identification & Market Need	15%
Innovation & Market Differentiation	15%
Business Model & Sustainability	25%
Execution & Feasibility	25%
Pitch Clarity & Communication	20%

The decisions of the judges are final and binding.

Competition Round Details

There are two rounds in the UAiTED Innovation Competition.

Round 1: Preliminary Round (Documentation Review)

- Pitch Deck (PDF): no more than 10 pages. File name format: TeamName_PitchDeck.pdf. All submission materials must be prepared in English.

Pitch Deck – required content areas (minimum):

- Problem & Target Users (including use case)
- Solution & Differentiation (value proposition and why it is distinct)
- Market & Business Model (market context and how the venture intends to create value)

- Progress & Go-to-Market Plan (traction/validation and planned approach to reach users/customers)
- Historical Performance Metrics (Past 12–24 Months): Revenue/GMV, Gross Margin, CAC, LTV, Retention/Churn (or closest available traction metrics for pre-revenue teams).
- 3-Year Financial Projections & Use of Proceeds: Financial forecast with key assumptions, monthly burn/runway, and a clear breakdown of how this round of funding will be used.
- Ask & Contact Information (what support is sought and how to reach the team)

Note: The pitch deck must include at least one slide introducing the team. A separate, more detailed Team Bio (e.g., short CVs) may be submitted optionally.

- Optional video (recommended): no more than 3 minutes; either a product demo or a Problem–Solution pitch. Submit as a link (e.g., YouTube or cloud drive); no file upload required. (If applicable, narration/text should be in English.) Please set link access to public view or download.

Round 2: Final Round (In-Person Pitch)

- Up to 6 finalist teams will be invited to pitch at the Grand Final before the judging panel.
- UAiTED will sponsor **flight and accommodation** for up to **3 members per team** (details to be announced).
- Final Pitch Deck (PDF): no more than 10 pages. The updated deck should reflect the latest progress since the initial submission. Slide deck must be submitted before Oct 15, and no replacement is allowed on the spot.
- On-site pitch format: **Pitch 6 minutes; Q&A 5 minutes.**

Liability and Rights

- UAiTED does not endorse any specific submission or the messages expressed within them and disclaims any liability arising from competition participation.
- Participants retain full ownership of their original work. UAiTED does not claim copyright over any submissions.
- By entering the competition, participants grant UAiTED a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use, reproduce, and display their submission solely for non-commercial purposes related to the administration, promotion, and showcasing of the competition, with appropriate credit. Participants retain ownership of their intellectual property.
- Participants agree to indemnify and hold harmless UAiTED and its affiliated entities, officers, directors, employees, interns, and agents from claims or liabilities arising from violations of rules or third-party rights connected with the competition.

Other Rules

- Submitted materials must be original and free from third-party intellectual property violations.
- The organizer reserves the right to disqualify any application that does not comply with the competition rules.

Enquiries

If you have any questions regarding the competition timeline, rules, or other related matters, please contact:
uaited2019@gmail.com