

BIF Rules and conditions of entry

1. All entrants must be University of Bolton students ordinarily resident in the UK, and treated as 'Home students' for fee purposes, and currently studying at undergraduate or postgraduate level, or, normally, have graduated on or after 31 January 2021 at undergraduate level or above. Submissions can be made by individuals or groups. It is especially relevant to any students or graduates who have participated in the Business Growth Hub's KickStart programmes hosted by the University of Bolton.
2. Core members of staff* of the University of Bolton are not eligible to enter. *This does not include those who are engaged by the University on casual hourly paid contracts, e.g. those with temporary supply (and / or variable hours tutor)
3. Core members of Staff of The University of Bolton must not have any share in the business or business idea.
4. Entrants must own at least 75% of the business in question.
5. All entrants are required to ensure that they own, or have sufficient permission to use or exploit, any intellectual property that is or will be used by the business or as part of the business idea, and, if required can provide verifiable evidence that the relevant permissions have been obtained. The University of Bolton will not accept responsibility for any such consequences or losses for any IP infringement by an entrant. Entrants will be individually, and jointly and severally, responsible and liable for any consequences or losses that arise as a result of the business using intellectual property without permission.
6. All applicants must be at least 18 years old.
7. By taking part in the competition entrants agree that they will participate in any related media activities and provide their consent and authorisation for the use of any marketing materials obtained during the competition.
8. While The University of Bolton will use its reasonable efforts to respect and protect any clearly labelled confidential information that is provided by entrants, the nature of the competition means that The University of Bolton cannot guarantee to maintain confidentiality and cannot be responsible for any confidential information that is submitted. Entrants should exercise their discretion when deciding what information to provide to The University of Bolton.
9. Any personal data relating to the winners or any other entrants will be used solely in accordance with current data protection legislation and will not be disclosed to a third party without the applicant's prior consent.
10. The University of Bolton reserves the right to withdraw any submission to the competition at any time if it is found to be in breach of any of the pre-established conditions and/or rules laid out in this document.
11. The University will not support activities which might be considered to be unethical and/or could have a potentially negative impact on the reputation of the University. The list below, which is not exhaustive, provides examples of these types of activities. Entries will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
 - Alcohol
 - Drugs (this includes any business or idea connected to tobacco, vaping, CBD oils etc.)
 - Pornography
 - Political or Religious agendas

- Gambling
 - Illegal or Unregulated activity (such as cryptocurrencies)
 - Financial markets or Trading (e.g. any ideas that would need approval from the Financial Conduct Authority)
 - Dating applications
 - Commission-based businesses
12. The judges' decision is final. No appeals will be considered and no correspondence will be entered into.
 13. The use of or reference to The University of Bolton by entrants for commercial or promotional purposes is prohibited unless The University of Bolton has provided prior written consent.
 14. The names of the winners will be available on request by contacting Martyn Shaw or Jane Stuart-Puttnam. Any applicant who has outstanding debts, or is in arrears with University coursework will not be eligible for a prize
 15. Prize money will be paid in the form of a bank transfer in the name of the winning entrant.
 16. No responsibility can be accepted for submissions that are delayed or not received by The University of Bolton for whatever reason.
 17. The competition and these terms and conditions will be governed by English law and any disputes will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England.
 18. By participating in this competition entrants are indicating their agreement to be bound by these terms and conditions.

Data protection statement

The University of Bolton is the Data Controller. By participating in this competition your data will be used by The University of Bolton in accordance with the competition programme, structure, judging process and relevant press activities as laid out in this document. We may contact you in the 12 months after the competition closes in relation to the Higher Education Business and Community Interaction survey and if you are a winner, any marketing communications purposes. We believe that these purposes are justified on the basis of our legitimate interest in running the competition. Your data will be held for five years. You have the right to opt out of your personal data being processed for these purposes at any time and will be withdrawn from the competition.

If you have any questions about how the University processes your personal information about this competition or if you would like to exercise any of these rights, please contact Martyn Shaw (m.p.shaw@bolton.ac.uk).

To receive a copy of the personal information held about you, please contact data_protection@bolton.ac.uk

Assessment and judging guidelines

The Assessment and Judging panels will review proposals with the following items being considered during review:

- The quality of the subject/topic/science and potential for further project development.
- Research feasibility and innovation.
- Demonstrated need.
- Likelihood that funding will result in traversing a translational gap and/or obtaining pilot data that will result in the submission of a subsequent, larger extramural grant.
- Likelihood that use of the pilot funds will result in a substantially more competitive application when resubmitted for funding.
- Appropriateness of budget and project period request
- Did the team identify a significant problem or unmet need and create a venture to solve this problem?
- What is the size of the market and what percentage do you expect to capture?
- Has the team developed a prototype or minimum viable product? How far along are you on the product cycle?
- Does the team have significant evidence that the solution is validated (includes letters of intent, purchase contracts, sales, and partners)?
- How will the prize money help your venture?
- If your venture does not address a social/environmental problem as its primary purpose, does it positively impact society in some other manner? If so, how?
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For Social Ventures:

- Is addressing the social/environmental problem the primary purpose for the creation of the enterprise? If so, why?
- Does it have an innovative, systemic approach to addressing the social/environmental problem? If so, how?
- Does the organization have a sustainable approach to achieving its mission and implementing/scaling its innovative approach to addressing the social/environment problem? If so, explain.