



Pitch Competition Rules and Guidelines

The following outlines the details and schedule of the Biofest Invest pitch application. Competition timelines are located on the BioFest Invest webpage at: <https://biomedsa.org/biofest/>.

The Biofest Invest Pitch Competition is hosted by BioMedSA. Sponsors provide substantial prize money and high-value in-kind awards as supporters of this event and competition.

Overview

As an economic centerpiece for Healthcare and Bioscience in San Antonio, BioMedSA is dedicated to helping today's startup community take the next step in turning their innovative ideas into a reality. This competition is aimed at promoting the commercialization of emerging technology around the state of Texas. This competition recognizes Texas-based companies with high-growth potential and gives them the opportunity to connect with investors that can help effectively execute their ideas and advance product development.

Eligibility

The Biofest Invest Pitch Competition is open to all Texas-based companies that meet the following eligibility criteria:

- For-profit biomedical companies that have a physical address and operate in the state of Texas may enter this competition. All applicants must hold legal U.S. resident status.
- This competition is for biomedical-focused independent ventures in the pre-seed/seed, start-up, or early growth stages that are or will be seeking outside equity capital. The Biofest Invest Committee will determine all eligibility on a case-by-case basis.
- 1st place award recipients from previous BioFest Invest Pitch Competitions are not eligible to re-apply. Any other participants from previous competitions, including the runner-up, are encouraged to re-apply a maximum of 1 additional time.
- Each competing company will be required to submit a Form W-9 prior to the competition.

Confidentiality and Intellectual Property Guidelines

By submitting the competition application for review by the Biofest Invest Committee, applicants represent and warrant all rights, title and/or interest in the business plan submitted and the information it contains is accurate and complete. By submitting this information, the competition applicants are not and will not be violating any contract or any third-party rights, including any patent, copyright, trade secret, proprietary or confidential information, trademark, publicity or privacy rights.

Due to the nature of the competition, judges, reviewers, staff and the audience will not be asked to sign or agree to non-disclosure statements for any participant of the competition.



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Any data or information discussed or divulged in the application, executive summary, or pitch sessions should be considered information that will likely enter the public domain, and participants should not assume any right of confidentiality in any data or information discussed, divulged or presented in these sessions.

Portions of the executive summary may be used by the competition to advertise the event. Information submitted by participants, other than the executive summary, will not be publicly distributed or used for purposes other than evaluation of the competition by judges and competition personnel. Any information disclosed by the participants during the competition will, as noted above, be accessible by the public.

Registration

Companies seeking to enter the BioFest Invest Pitch Competition must complete the online application and submit the form for review before the deadline date posted on the BioFest/application page. Any applicant that does not submit the completed application before the deadline will not be considered for review.

For all companies that are invited to the competition, a registration fee will be required to be paid no later than 5 business days after the notification of acceptance into the competition. Members of BioMedSA, BioAustin, BioNTX, or BioHouston will receive a member discounted rate of **\$150** (membership dues must be current before the application deadline to receive discounted rate); all other applicants will have a registration fee of **\$250**. Any applicant that does not pay the registration fee in the timeline outlined above will be dismissed from the competition. The registration fee provides 2 tickets to access all pre-competition events including educational, networking, meals and awards reception.

Interested companies can access the application page at: <https://biomedsa.org/biofest/biofest-invest-application/>

Completed applications must be electronically submitted through the online portal. Questions or problems should be addressed to the following email address: jstein@biomedsa.org

Pre-Competition Coaching

A one-on-one meeting with UTSA SBDC Technology Commercialization Center or other professional pitch coach approved by BioMedSA is required in advance of the BioFest Invest Pitch Competition. This coaching is critical to help prepare participants for the best pitch possible. More information will follow upon acceptance into the pitch competition.

Presentation

All presenting companies need to arrive 30 minutes before the start of the pitch competition and meet in the stage area 15 minutes before the pitch competition starts.



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During the competition each startup will be given 7 minutes to present their pitch.

The winners will be announced at the end of the Biofest Invest program. Each participating startup is required to stay until after the winners have been announced for a group photo.

Awards

Details of the 2024 prize pool will be announced as the competition date approaches. There are multiple opportunities to win prize money and sponsor-named in-kind prizes.

The prize packages include non-dilutive cash awards, but additional in-kind or investment prizes will also be offered and awarded directly by sponsors. The prize packages are updated real time on the Biofest Invest website.