Hadley’s New Venture Competition

How to Apply:

Submit the following documentation:

* Completed business CANVAS template,
* Executive summary, and
* Written proof of legal blindness.

Plans are judged on the likelihood of achieving a viable new venture. The outcomes of the judges' decisions as to award amounts and award recipients are final.

The Prize:

Cash awards are not to exceed $30,000. We will recognize award recipients at the Annual meeting of the Hadley Board of Trustees on September 23, 2021. Winners must be present to receive a cash award.

Timing:

Upload submissions to nvc@hadley.edu by midnight Central Time on Friday, July 2, 2021.

Participant Rules and Requirements:

If you participate in the Hadley New Venture Competition, you agree to accept and abide by its rules. Hadley reserves the right to:

* update add to or subtract from the competition's rules at any time.
* refrain from giving any cash award to any applicant to the competition.
* refrain from awarding the full amount of available funds in the pool; and
* deny an applicant to the competition for any or no reason.

The following business models are excluded from the competition: buy-outs, real estate related investments, tax shelters, franchises, or businesses covered by the Randolph-Sheppard priority. Randolph-Sheppard vendors are encouraged to apply if they have a business plan to expand into the private sector for a venture unrelated to their Business Enterprise Program facility.

Contact FCE@hadley.edu if you have any questions.

* The rules and requirements for eligibility are as follows:
* Candidates must provide written proof of legal blindness from either an eyecare professional or a vision rehabilitation professional.
* Candidates must successfully complete the Starting a Business workshop series. Completion of the series is for the purpose of properly preparing a completed business CANVAS and executive summary, per the series.
* The candidate must be at least 18 years of age and be a United States legal resident.
* The candidate’s business must reside within the United States.
* The candidate must play a significant operational role and have majority ownership in the business.
* The candidate may only submit one business CANVAS for the competition.
* All winners of the New Venture Competition must participate in the promotional activities of Hadley associated with this competition.
* Winners must be willing to share information about their business and the use of the award money towards developing the new venture. Such information is necessary to support Hadley’s grant commitments and funding of future competitions.
* Promotional activities and information sharing provisions will continue up to three years beyond the completion of the New Venture Competition.

Submissions:

1. Preliminary Submission: NO LATER THAN two weeks prior to the final submission date, ALL participants are required to submit their materials for a preliminary review by Hadley FCE Staff. This review will check the documents for clarity, completeness, grammar and spelling, and consistency with the workshop series requirements. Participants will receive feedback as to suggested improvements and revisions. These suggested changes must then be incorporated into the documents prior to final submission.
2. Final Submission: Once the preliminary review is complete and suggested changes are made, the required materials are eligible to be submitted. ALL entries MUST be submitted no later than the final submission date.
   1. Only business CANVAS and executive summary documents from the Starting a Business workshop series will be accepted. Please submit all documents in the template formats provided in the workshop resource section.
   2. We will acknowledge submissions via email notification, and participants may be asked to provide additional information subsequent to the submission deadline.