Google Developer Groups on Campus 2026 Solution Challenge North America Official Rules

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. CONTEST IS OPEN TO RESIDENTS OF THE 50 UNITED STATES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND CANADA, EXCEPT FOR QUEBEC.

ENTRY IN THIS CONTEST CONSTITUTES YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THESE OFFICIAL RULES.

The **Google Developer Groups on Campus Solution Challenge** (the "Contest") is a skill contest where participant students ("participant(s)", "entrant(s)" or "you") must develop a solution that solves and addresses one of the business problem statements using one or more Google products or platforms. You must also submit a video to YouTube (no more than 120 seconds in length) that demonstrates how a user can utilize the solution.

The solution that you develop and video (from here on called **the "entry"** will be evaluated by judges, who will choose the winner(s) in accordance with these Official Rules. The prize(s) will be awarded to the participant(s) with the highest score for the judging criteria. See below for the complete details.

1. BINDING AGREEMENT: In order to enter the Contest, you must agree to these Official Rules ("Rules"). Therefore, please read these Rules prior to entry to ensure you understand and agree. You agree that submission of an entry in the Contest constitutes agreement to these Rules. You may not submit an entry to the Contest, and you are not eligible to receive the prizes described in these Rules, unless you agree to these Rules. These Rules form a binding legal agreement between you and Google with respect to the Contest.

2. ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible to enter the Contest, you must be: (1) a student above the age of majority in the country, state, province, or jurisdiction of residence at the time of entry; (2) not a resident of or ordinarily resident in a U.S. embargoed country; (3) not a person or entity under U.S. export controls or sanctions or otherwise prohibited by applicable export controls and sanctions programs from participating in the Contest; (4) a member of a Google Developer Groups on Campus community (the team submitting an entry must also have at least one person that is part of a Google Developer Group (GDG) on Campus by the time of submission visit https://gdg.community.dev; (5) enrolled undergraduate or graduate student at accredited institution (6) have access to the Internet as of February 2, 2026. Contest is void in Quebec, and where prohibited by law. Employees, interns, contractors, and official office-holders of Google, Google for Startups Accelerator Company employee, and their parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, and their respective directors, officers, employees, advertising and promotion agencies, representatives, and agents ("Contest Entities"), and members of the Contest Entities and their immediate families (parents, siblings, children, spouses, and life partners of each, regardless of where they live) and members of the households (whether related or not) of such employees, officers and directors are ineligible to participate in this Contest. Google reserves the right to verify eligibility and to adjudicate any dispute at any time.

If you are entering as part of a company or on behalf of your employer, these rules are binding on you, individually, and/or your employer. If you are acting within the scope of your employment, as an employee, contractor, or agent of another party, you warrant that such party has full knowledge of your actions and has consented thereto, including your potential receipt of a prize. You further warrant that your actions do not violate your employer's or company's policies and procedures.

3. SPONSOR: The Contest is sponsored by Google LLC ("Google" or "Sponsor"), a Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 1600 Amphitheater Parkway, Mountain View, CA, 94043, USA.

4. CONTEST ENTRY PERIOD: Contest entries will be accepted beginning at 12:00:00 A.M. Pacific Time (PT) Zone in the United States on February 2, 2026 and ending at 11:59:59 P.M. PT on March 30, 2026 ("Contest Entry

Period"). Contest entries selected to participate in Round 2 must be resubmitted according to the requirements in Section 5 below. *ENTRANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DETERMINING THE CORRESPONDING TIME ZONE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS.*

5. HOW TO ENTER: NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. To enter the Contest, visit the Contest website located at **goo.gle/NorthAmericaGDG** ("Contest Site") and follow the instructions for submitting the "Entry" on or prior to March 17, 2024, 11:59 P.M. PT.

Please find the Entry Requirements outlined below (hereinafter, "Requirements"). Written parts of entries must be in English to be eligible. The Entry must, at a minimum, support English language use.

The Entry must:

- Address one of the provided technical business problem statements.
- Have been built and submitted only by a team of university or college students, containing a minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 total team members, including the member that submits the entry.
- Come from a team whose members are a part of a Google Developer Group (GDG) on Campus at the time of submission.
- Be built between:
    - For Round 1: February 2, 2026 - March 30, 2026
    - For Round 2: February 1, 2026 - May 22,, 2026
- Include a link to custom code written by members of the team submitting the Entry. Ensure that it is shared appropriately and is accessible.
    - The link should direct the judges to a repository containing your code, which can be hosted on a Version Control System, such as Github or Bitbucket. In that repository, you should include a README.txt or README.md file in the root directory. This file should contain clear instructions on how to run their code for Judges to test out the solution.
- Use of one or more Google products or platforms including, but not limited to:
    - Android
    - Angular
    - AR / VR
    - Gemini
    - Google Cloud
        - Serverless functions
        - Kubernetes
        - ML Services
        - Data engineering
    - Firebase
    - Flutter
    - Google AI Studio
    - Google Analytics
    - Google Assistant
    - Google Maps Platform
    - Google Play
    - Machine Learning
    - Web
    - Google Pay
    - Google Wallet
    - Earth Engine
    - Vertex AI
    - Google Workspace

    - Other Google products or platforms (learn more)
- Can include other open-source projects but must clarify where this is the case (doing so within the code is sufficient).
- Can include generative AI, but must clarify where this is the case (doing so within the code is sufficient) and comply with the requirements in this Section 5.
- A team cannot reuse or resubmit a previously submitted Solution Challenge project or another contest submission.
- Include a video, uploaded as unlisted to **YouTube**, that is not longer than 120 seconds in length; the Entry, including the video, must meet the following criteria:

    a) It must not be derogatory, offensive, threatening, defamatory, disparaging, libelous or contain any content that is inappropriate, indecent, sexual, profane, indecent, torturous, slanderous, discriminatory in any way, or that promotes hatred or harm against any group or person, or otherwise does not comply with the theme and spirit of the Contest, at Google's discretion.

    (b) It must not contain content, material or any element that is unlawful or otherwise in violation of or contrary to any applicable federal, state, provincial or local laws and regulations, including the laws or regulations in any state where the video is created.

    (c) It must not contain any content, material or element that displays any third party advertising, slogan, logo, trademark, or otherwise indicates a sponsorship or endorsement by a third party, commercial entity, or that is not within the spirit of the Contest, as determined by Sponsor, in its discretion.

    (d) It must be an original, unpublished work that does not contain, incorporate or otherwise use any content, material or element that is owned by a third party or entity.

    (e) It cannot contain any content, element, or material that violates a third party's publicity, privacy, or intellectual property rights.

    (f) Any work generated and/or enhanced by artificial intelligence must be significantly revised without the use of artificial intelligence such that the party submitting the work would be an author of the work as the term author is defined by the United States Copyright Act. For clarity, the party presenting the work must provide enough content to the work that the submission is an original expression of the party submitting the work, and not the work of an artificial intelligence engine or another person.

    (g) It cannot be longer than 120 seconds. If it is longer than this, judges will evaluate only the first **120 seconds**. It must be produced at 1x speed and cannot be adjusted (i.e. accelerated) to meet demo video duration requirements. Video audio must be in English to be eligible.

    (h) The demo must show your working solution. It must show how a user will interact with the custom code built by the team running through the User Interface.

LIMIT ONE (1) ENTRY PER PERSON. Subsequent entries will be disqualified. All Round 1 entries must be received by 11:59 p.m. (PT) on March 30, 2026**.** All Round 2 entries must be received by 11:59 p.m. (PT) on May 22, 2026**.** Entries are void if they are in whole or part illegible, incomplete, damaged, altered, counterfeit, obtained through fraud, or late. All entries will be deemed made by the authorized account holder of the email address submitted at the time of entry, and the potential winner may be required to show proof of being the authorized account holder for that email address. The "authorized account holder" is the natural person assigned to an email address by an Internet service provider, online service provider, or other organization responsible for assigning the email address for the domain.

The Sponsor, its agents and/or the Judges (defined below) will be evaluating each Entry to ensure that it meets the Requirements. The Sponsor reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any entrant who submits an Entry that does not meet the Requirements.

6. JUDGING: Each entry will be judged by a panel of experts who are employees of Sponsor and/or are registered members of the Google Developer Expert program and/or are employees of the participating Google for Startups Accelerator company ("Judges").

Round 1 Submission: Participants submit their entries between February 2, 2026 to March 30, 2026.

Round 1 Judging: From approximately April 2, 2026 to April 16, 2026, each Entry will be evaluated by the Judges based on the judging criteria below to select Final 10 entries.

Round 2 Submission: Participants of the Final 10 entries will have a chance to resubmit their entries after mentorship from Google Developer Experts between April 27, 2026 to May 22, 2026.

Round 2 Judging: From approximately May 27, 2026 to June 3, 2026, each Entry will be evaluated by the Judges based on the judging criteria below.

Final 10 Entries: Out of all the initial entries from round 1, Judges will select the final 10 entries. The teams that submitted these final 10 entries will be offered the opportunity to undergo mentoring with experts to improve their solution. The final 10 entries will get a chance to showcase their entries during the virtual 2026 Solution Challenge Regional Demo Day.

Top 3 Entries: During the virtual event, Judges will select the official top 3 potential winner(s) for the 2026 Solution Challenge in North America based on the judging criteria below as applied to the entries presented at the 2026 Solution Challenge Regional Demo Day.

<u>Judging Criteria</u>

Functionality & Feasibility (5 points)

- How well does the solution actually solve the stated business problem?
- Can the solution be realistically implemented with available technology and within reasonable constraints? Is it scalable?
- Is the technical implementation well-executed with proper coding, design, and architecture?
- Does the solution optimize resources (time, cost, labor)?

Impact & Value (5 points)

- Does the solution offer tangible benefits to the business? (e.g. increased efficiency, cost savings, improved customer experience)
- Does the team describe the success of their solution using metrics, goals, outcomes, or cause and effects?
- What is the potential reach and significance of the solution? Could it have a wider impact beyond the immediate problem?

Innovation & Creativity (5 points)

- Does the solution effectively leverage Google technology in a creative way to address the problem?
- Does the solution offer a new approach or perspective to the problem? Is it unique compared to existing solutions?

Presentation & Communication (5 points)

- Is the solution explained in a clear, concise, and understandable manner?

- Are diagrams, mockups, or prototypes used effectively to communicate the solution?
- How well is the solution presented? Is it persuasive and engaging?
- Did the team demonstrate a structured approach to problem solving including research, analysis, and testing?

Judges will evaluate and attribute a score to each Entry made up of scores based upon the above-listed judging criteria. From Round 1 Submission entries, the final 10 entries that receive the highest overall scores will be selected as the potential final 10 shortlist. Out of the final 10 potential winner(s), judges will choose the official top 3 potential winner(s) for the 2026 Solution Challenge North America based on the above-listed judging criteria as applied to the entries presented at the 2026 Solution Challenge Regional Demo Day. From the top 10 entries presented at the 2026 Solution Challenge Regional Demo Day, the winning 3 entries that receive the highest overall scores will be selected as the **potential winning 3 winner(s)** for the 2026 Solution Challenge North America**.** In the event of a tie, the Entry that received the higher score from the Judges in the category of "Impact & Value" "Innovation & Creativity" will be selected as one of the potential winner(s). In the event a potential winner is disqualified for any reason, the Entry that received the next highest total score will be chosen as the potential winner.

On or about April 21, 2026, the potential final 10 winner(s) will be selected and notified by telephone and/or email at Sponsor's discretion. If a potential winner does not respond to the notification attempt within **5** days from the first notification attempt, then such a potential winner will be disqualified, and an alternate potential winner will be selected from among all eligible entries received based on the judging criteria described herein. With respect to notification by telephone, such notification will be deemed given when the potential winner engages in a live conversation with the Sponsor or when a message is left on the potential winner's voicemail service or answering machine by the Sponsor, whichever occurs first. Except where prohibited by law, each potential winner may be required to sign and return a Declaration of Eligibility and Liability and Publicity Release and provide any additional information that may be required by the Sponsor. If required, potential winners must return all such required documents within **21** days following attempted notification or such potential winner will be deemed to have forfeited the prize and another potential winner will be selected based on the judging criteria described herein. In the event the potential winner is a minor, his or her parent or legal guardian must sign the documents and return them as described herein. All notification requirements, as well as other requirements within these Rules, will be strictly enforced.

In the event that no entries are received, no prize will be awarded. Determinations of judges are final and binding.

7. PRIZES FOR CONTEST WINNERS:

- **Final 10 Entries:**. All qualifying teams will receive a digital Certificate.
- **Top 10 Entries** (maximum 4 participants per Entry): will be awarded an opportunity to showcase their entries to Googlers and startup founders in North America during the virtual 2026 Solution Challenge Regional Demo Day, Virtual mentorship from Googlers and GDEs.
- **Top 3 Entries:** (maximum 4 participants per Entry) Each individual from the top 3 winning teams will receive a travel and lodging sponsorship to Google for a campus tour, including breakfast & lunch, connect with Googlers and peers, Google branded swag (ARV: $100). Participating startups may offer a job shadow or internship opportunity.

In addition, Winning Teams will be featured on Google Developers channel(s) to have their stories published and shared with relevant audiences.

Odds of winning any prize depend on the number of eligible entries received on or before March 30, 2026, 11:59 p.m. (PT) and the skill of the entrants. The prize(s) will be awarded within approximately **10-12** weeks of receipt by

Sponsor of final prize acceptance documents. No transfer, substitution, or cash equivalent for the prize(s) is allowed, except at Sponsor's sole discretion. The Sponsor reserves the right to substitute a prize, in whole or in part, of equal or greater monetary value if a prize cannot be awarded, in whole or in part, as described for any reason. Value is subject to market conditions, which can fluctuate, and any difference between actual market value and ARV will not be awarded. The prize(s) may be subject to restrictions and/or licenses and may require additional hardware, software, service, or maintenance to use. The winner shall bear all responsibility for using the prize(s) in compliance with any conditions imposed by such manufacturer(s) and any additional costs associated with its use, service, or maintenance. Contest Entities have not made, and Contest Entities are not responsible in any manner for any warranties, representations, or guarantees, express or implied, in fact, or law, relating to the prize(s), regarding the use, value, or enjoyment of the prize(s), including, without limitation, its quality, mechanical condition, merchantability, or fitness for a particular purpose, with the exception of any standard manufacturer's warranty that may apply to the prize(s) or any components thereto.

Money Prizes. Money prizes will be awarded in U.S. dollars and may be delivered in the form of cash, gift card, or other cash equivalent. Google may work with an authorized third-party to convert money prizes into a local currency. You understand that Google has sole discretion to choose which currency exchange rate to apply in order to convert any money prize into a non-U.S. dollar currency.

8. OTHER WINNERS:

One publicly voted favorite Entry (anyone including participants, students, friends and/or family members of the participants, 2026 Solution Challenge Regional Demo Day viewers would be able to vote for their favorite entry from among the top 10 entries). The entry that receives the most votes from public viewers during the 2026 Solution Challenge Regional Demo Day will be selected as the publicly voted favorite potential winner(s). The publicly voted favorite potential winner(s) will receive a digital certificate, Google Cloud credits, and featured social media posts.

9. TAXES: PAYMENTS TO POTENTIAL WINNERS ARE SUBJECT TO THE EXPRESS REQUIREMENT THAT THEY SUBMIT TO GOOGLE ALL DOCUMENTATION REQUESTED BY GOOGLE TO PERMIT IT TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE, FEDERAL, LOCAL, AND FOREIGN (INCLUDING PROVINCIAL) TAX REPORTING AND WITHHOLDING REQUIREMENTS. ALL PRIZES WILL BE NET OF ANY TAXES GOOGLE IS REQUIRED BY LAW TO WITHHOLD. ALL TAXES IMPOSED ON PRIZES ARE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WINNERS. In order to receive a prize, potential winners must submit the tax documentation requested by Google or otherwise required by applicable law, to Google or the relevant tax authority, all as determined by applicable law including, where relevant, the law of the potential winner's country of residence. The potential winner(s) are responsible for ensuring that they comply with all the applicable tax laws and filing requirements. If a potential winner fails to provide such documentation or comply with such laws, the prize may be forfeited and Google may, in its sole discretion, select an alternative potential winner.

10. GENERAL CONDITIONS: All federal, state, provincial, and local laws and regulations apply. Google reserves the right to disqualify any entrant from the Contest if, in Google's sole discretion, it reasonably believes that the entrant has attempted to undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest by cheating, deception, or other unfair playing practices or annoys, abuses, threatens or harasses any other entrants, Google, or the Judges.

11. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: *By submitting an Entry in this Contest, the entrant warrants and represents that they own or have the right to use the intellectual property in the Entry for the purpose of the Entry. Further, the entrant agrees that if any portion of the Entry should be deemed to be owned by the entrant that they will,*

as a condition of entry, grant Google a perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, and non-exclusive license to use, reproduce, publicly perform, publicly display and create a derivative work from, any Entry that Participant submits solely for the purposes of allowing Google to test and evaluate the Entry for purposes of the Contest and to advertise, display, demonstrate, or otherwise promote the Contest. The participant specifically agrees that Google shall have the right to use, reproduce, publicly perform, and publicly display the Entry in connection with the advertising and promotion of the Contest via communication to the public or other groups, including, but not limited to the right to make screenshots, animations and video clips available for promotional purposes.

12. PRIVACY: Participant acknowledges and agrees that Google may collect, store, share, and otherwise use personally identifiable information provided during the registration process and the Contest, including, but not limited to, name, mailing address, phone number, and email address. Google will use this information in accordance with its Privacy Policy (http://www.google.com/policies/privacy/), including for administering the Contest and verifying Participant's identity, postal address, and telephone number in the event an entry qualifies for a prize.

Participant's information may also be transferred to countries outside the country of Participant's residence, including the United States. Such other countries may not have privacy laws and regulations similar to those of the country of Participant's residence.

If a participant does not provide the mandatory data required at registration, Google reserves the right to disqualify the Entry.

Participant has the right to request access, review, rectification or deletion of any personal data held by Google in connection with the Contest by writing to Google at this email address: **north-america-gdg-team@google.com.**

13. PUBLICITY. By accepting a prize, the entrant agrees to Sponsor and its agencies use of his or her name and/or likeness and Entry for advertising and promotional purposes without additional compensation, unless prohibited by law.

14. WARRANTY, INDEMNITY AND RELEASE: Entrants warrant that their Entries are their own original work and, as such, they are the sole and exclusive owner and rights holder of the submitted Entry and that they have the right to submit the Entry in the Contest and grant all required licenses. Each entrant agrees not to submit any Entry that (1) infringes any third-party proprietary rights, intellectual property rights, industrial property rights, personal or moral rights or any other rights, including without limitation, copyright, trademark, patent, trade secret, privacy, publicity or confidentiality obligations; or (2) otherwise violates applicable state, federal, or other laws or regulations.

To the maximum extent permitted by law, each entrant indemnifies and agrees to keep indemnified Contest Entities at all times from and against any liability, claims, demands, losses, damages, costs, and expenses resulting from any act, default, or omission of the entrant and/or a breach of any warranty set forth herein. To the maximum extent permitted by law, each entrant agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Contest Entities from and against any and all claims, actions, suits or proceedings, as well as any and all losses, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys fees) arising out of or accruing from (a) any Entry or other material uploaded or otherwise provided by the entrant that infringes any copyright, trademark, trade secret, trade dress, patent or other intellectual property right of any person or defames any person or violates their rights of publicity or privacy, (b) any misrepresentation made by the entrant in connection with the Contest; (c) any non-compliance by the entrant with these Rules; (d) claims brought by persons or entities other than the parties to these Rules arising from or related to the entrant's involvement with the Contest; and (e) acceptance, possession, misuse or use of any prize or participation in any Contest-related activity or participation in this Contest.

Entrant releases Google from any liability associated with: (a) any malfunction or other problem with the Contest Site; (b) any error in the collection, processing, or retention of entry information; or (c) any typographical or other error in the printing, offering or announcement of any prize or winners.

15. ELIMINATION: Any false information provided within the context of the Contest by any entrant concerning identity, mailing address, telephone number, email address, ownership of right or non-compliance with these Rules or the like may result in the immediate elimination of the entrant from the Contest.

16. INTERNET: Contest Entities are not responsible for any malfunction of the entire Contest Site or any late, lost, damaged, misdirected, incomplete, illegible, undeliverable, or destroyed Entries or entry materials due to system errors, failed, incomplete or garbled computer or other telecommunication transmission malfunctions, hardware or software failures of any kind, lost or unavailable network connections, typographical or system/human errors and failures, technical malfunction(s) of any telephone network or lines, cable connections, satellite transmissions, servers or providers, or computer equipment, traffic congestion on the Internet or at the Contest Site, or any combination thereof, including other telecommunication, cable, digital or satellite malfunctions which may limit an entrant's ability to participate.

17. RIGHT TO CANCEL, MODIFY OR DISQUALIFY: If for any reason the Contest is not capable of running as planned, including infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other causes which corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of the Contest, Google reserves the right at its sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Contest. Google further reserves the right to disqualify any entrant who tampers with the submission process or any other part of the Contest or Contest Site. Any attempt by an entrant to deliberately damage any website, including the Contest Site, or undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest is a violation of criminal, and civil laws and should such an attempt be made; Google reserves the right to seek damages from any such entrant to the fullest extent of the applicable law.

18. NOT AN OFFER OR CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT: Under no circumstances shall the submission of an entry into the Contest, the awarding of a prize, or anything in these Rules be construed as an offer or contract of employment with either Google or the Contest Entities. You acknowledge that you have submitted your Entry voluntarily and not in confidence or in trust. You acknowledge that no confidential, fiduciary, agency or other relationship or implied-in-fact contract now exists between you and Google or the Contest Entities and that no such relationship is established by your submission of an Entry under these Rules.

19. FORUM AND RECOURSE TO JUDICIAL PROCEDURES: These Rules shall be governed by, subject to, and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California, United States of America, excluding all conflict of law rules. If any provision(s) of these Rules are held to be invalid or unenforceable, all remaining provisions hereof will remain in full force and effect. To the extent permitted by law, the rights to litigate, seek injunctive relief or make any other recourse to judicial or any other procedure in case of disputes or claims resulting from or in connection with this Contest are hereby excluded, and all Participants expressly waive any and all such rights.

20. ARBITRATION: By entering the Contest, you agree that exclusive jurisdiction for any dispute, claim, or demand related in any way to the Contest will be decided by binding arbitration. All disputes between you and Google of whatsoever kind or nature arising out of these Rules, shall be submitted to Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. ("JAMS") for binding arbitration under its rules then in effect in the San Jose, California, USA area, before one arbitrator to be mutually agreed upon by both parties. The parties agree to share equally in the arbitration costs incurred.

21. WINNER'S LIST: You may request a list of winners after June 15, 2026 but before Dec 30, 2026 by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Google LLC
1600 Amphitheater Parkway Mountain View, CA 94043 USA

(Residents of Vermont need not supply postage).