



Maverick Elevator Pitch Contest Rules

1. Eligibility

The competition is open to all majors within the College of Business provided that all participants are:

- ❑ Full-time undergraduate students enrolled in the College of Business
- ❑ In good academic standing with no active disciplinary issues.
- ❑ Available to pitch in person one of the two preliminary rounds on October 2 or 4, and also on Maverick Networking Night on November 7 for the championship.

2. Pitch Content

- ❑ **Objective:** The pitch must be directed towards a potential employer and should focus on how the participant can add value to the company.
- ❑ **Industry:** Participants are free to pitch to any industry or type of company, provided it aligns with their career goals.
- ❑ **Restrictions:** Self-employment or venture pitches are not permitted.

3. Judging Criteria

Participants will be evaluated based on the following five criteria:

- ❑ **Clarity of Introduction:** Does the participant clearly and effectively introduce themselves and the purpose of the pitch?
- ❑ **Value Proposition:** How well does the participant articulate their unique value and what they can bring to the company?
- ❑ **Closing and Call to Action:** Does the participant provide a strong closing and a clear call to action?
- ❑ **Vocal Delivery and Movement:** Is the participant's delivery confident, clear, and engaging? Are their movements purposeful and supportive of their message?
- ❑ **Overall Impression:** What is the overall effectiveness and impact of the pitch?



4. Time Limits

- ❑ **Duration:** Each pitch should be 30-60 seconds long.
- ❑ **Grace Period:** A 5-second grace period is allowed. Pitches exceeding 65 seconds will be disqualified from the competition.

5. Rounds Structure

- ❑ **Preliminary Round:** All participants will deliver their pitch in-person. This round will be recorded and used for judging in the virtual round.
- ❑ **Virtual Round:** Judges will review recorded pitches to determine who advances. The number of students advancing will be determined based on the total number of participants.
- ❑ **Final Round:** The top 6-8 participants from the virtual round will compete in the final in-person round on Maverick Networking Night on November 7.

6. Submission Details

- ❑ **Preliminary Round:** Participants deliver their pitches in-person.
- ❑ **Virtual Round:** Participants will upload a pre-recorded video of their pitch to a cloud drive of their choice. The video must abide by the following rules:
 - ❑ All elevator pitches must be 30-60 seconds.
 - ❑ All contestants must be standing in their video.
 - ❑ All contestants must be in business formal attire.
 - ❑ Reading off a screen will be heavily penalized by the judges.
 - ❑ Contestants may shoot a vertical or horizontal video.
 - ❑ The video must be done in one shot. Re-takes, jump cuts, and other video editing techniques are prohibited.
 - ❑ Intros, Outros, B-roll, and any other footage that is not of the speaker is prohibited.
 - ❑ The video must be accessible to the judges upon first viewing. If a video does not give the proper drive permissions in advance, then the contestant will be disqualified.
- ❑ **Final Round:** The final round will be conducted in-person on Maverick Networking Night. No remote pitches are allowed.



7. Prizes

There will be three cash prizes awarded in the final round:

- ❑ **First Place:** \$500
- ❑ **Second Place:** \$350
- ❑ **Third Place:** \$150

8. Code of Conduct

Participants are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

- ❑ **Behavior:** Participants must not engage in disruptive behavior, such as heckling other contestants or showing unsportsmanlike conduct towards contest staff or judges.
- ❑ **Memory Aids:** No notecards, scripts, or other memory aids are allowed during the pitch.
- ❑ **Props and Media:** No props, slides, phones, or pre-recorded media are allowed.
- ❑ **Attire:** Business attire is required for both the preliminary and final rounds.
- ❑ **Delivery:** Pitches must be delivered in-person during the preliminary and final rounds.

Violations of any of the rules above can lead to automatic disqualification from the contest by the Contest Chair. The Contest Chair's decision on these violations is final.

9. Support Materials

Participants must deliver their pitch without the use of slides, props, or memory aids. The pitch should be a purely spoken presentation.

10. Judging and Audience

- ❑ **Judging Panel:** A panel of judges will evaluate the pitches based on the criteria outlined above. A different panel will judge each round.
- ❑ **Ballot Voting:** Judges will vote via ballot in all rounds.
- ❑ **Advancement:** The top 6-10 participants from the virtual round will advance to the final round. In the final round, the top 3 participants based on the highest scores will earn prizes.



- **Audience:** The final round will be conducted in front of the judges and all Maverick Networking Night attendees.