

GLOBAL HEALTH INNOVATION GRAND CHALLENGE COMPETITION

At the Global Consortium of Innovation and Engineering in Medicine Inaugural Global Summit, Illinois

INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR STUDENT TEAMS

OVERVIEW

Welcome to the Global Health Innovation Grand Challenge 2025, an international student competition that seeks to foster advances in medical innovation on a global scale. This prestigious event brings together university students from around the world to develop creative solutions to some of the most pressing challenges in healthcare today.

Hosted by the Global Consortium for Innovation and Engineering in Medicine, the competition is open to multidisciplinary student teams, who will collaborate and develop solutions they pitch for the competition. The final event will be held at the I Hotel & Illinois Conference Center at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, from April 6-8, 2025. Winning pitches will be awarded funding to advance and scale their solutions through this incredibly robust global network.

THE GLOBAL CONSORTIUM FOR INNOVATION AND ENGINEERING IN MEDICINE

The Global Consortium of Innovation and Engineering in Medicine is an international collaboration between medical and engineering schools, universities, researchers, students, industry leaders, government agencies, and philanthropic organizations. This consortium serves as the premier global network, driving forward the future of medicine and medical innovation through interdisciplinary cooperation and cutting-edge solutions.

GRAND CHALLENGE OPEN CATEGORY FOCUS AREAS

Student teams will be asked to develop solutions within one of the following categories:

- 1. AI Applications to Improve Outcomes in Rural or Underserved Areas Globally**
Innovate how artificial intelligence can help reduce healthcare disparities or improve access and outcomes in rural or underserved populations. Solutions should have some early clinical data and not be theoretical.
- 2. Solutions for Early Disease Detection in Chronic Conditions**
Focus on novel diagnostics or devices to identify chronic diseases earlier or how to better monitor responses to treatments, increasing the chances of successful treatment and saving lives.
- 3. Slowing or Reversing Disease Progression in Aging Populations**
Design interventions or tools aimed at slowing the progression of diseases commonly associated with aging, or possibly reversing their effects to improve quality of life for elderly patients.

4. **Low-Cost Diagnostic, Device, or Therapeutic Solutions for Global Scalability**
Create affordable medical solutions that can be scaled and sustained globally, particularly for low-resource environments, enhancing healthcare worldwide.

GRAND CHALLENGE CORPORATE/PHILANTHROPIC FOCUSED CATEGORY

Corporate members in the consortium (including companies, foundations, and government agencies) as well as philanthropic members may create a focused request for solutions. These may be targeted problems in the industry they are looking for solutions from the consortium to help solve as well as focused problems that the global perspectives and innovations from the consortium can advance or solve. These will be posted on the submission portal and consortium website in November 2024 with similar submission requirements, process, and deadlines as for the OPEN RFS.

COMPETITION FORMAT AND KEY DATES

Initial Submission (Due: January 15, 2025)

Teams are required to submit a **two-page Executive Summary** and a **3-minute video pitch idea** of their innovation through the Global Consortium's online submission portal. The summary must include:

- A clear definition of the problem being addressed
- The team's innovative solution
- How the innovation disrupts the status quo
- Expected outcomes
- Next steps to develop and implement the solution

Semi-Finalists Notified by February 15, 2025

A group of **30-40 semi-finalist teams** will be selected based on their Executive Summaries and 3-minute video pitches of their idea. These pitches will be presented at the conference event in April.

Global Health Innovation Grand Challenge Final Competition (April 6th-8th, 2025)

At the Global Summit conference, semi-finalist teams will present their video pitches, and from this, **6-10 finalists** will be selected to deliver live presentations on stage at our grand final pitch event to a panel of judges on the evening of April 8, 2025. Finalist team(s) will compete for awards from a pool of over **\$250,000** to help advance and validate their idea within the consortium.

ELIGIBILITY AND TEAM COMPOSITION

- **Team Structure:** Teams must consist of a minimum of **3 students**. While interdisciplinary teams are encouraged (including students from medical, engineering, business, and other fields), it is not mandatory. It is also suggested that at least one member of the team be a medical student. There is no maximum number of students allowed per team.

- **Institutional Sponsorship:** Teams must be sponsored by a full member institution of the Global Consortium for Medical Innovation. Each participating institution is responsible for selecting the teams it will sponsor, in whatever manner they deem most appropriate for their local structures, resources, and timelines. Institutions with multiple submitting teams are encouraged to run their own internal competitions in **November or December 2024** to select which teams they will sponsor to submit for the global competition at the summit in April. Teams of students from more than one institution must identify which institution will be the primary sponsor for the submission and responsible for supporting that team attending the event if selected for the semifinal competition.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS

1. **Executive Summary (Deadline: January 15, 2025)**
 - Submit through the Global Consortium website.
 - Two pages outlining the problem, the proposed solution, and its impact on global health.
 - Along with the above, your application form will collect the following information from you:
 1. Name of Primary Contact
 2. Name of Sponsoring Institution or Organization (can only have one sponsor institution for each team)
 3. Names of all Team Members
 4. Contact Information (email, phone number, etc.)
 5. Project or Submission Title
 6. Project Description
 7. Category: Open or Focused RFS and Track within the OPEN RFS (AI solution (AI), solution for chronic diseases (Chronic) , solution for aging populations (Aging), or low cost solutions for scalability(LowCost))
 8. Institutional letter of support ([Fillable form can be found here](#))
 - Executive Summaries should be uploaded as pdf files, named using the following guidelines: Lead applicant surname_Institution shorthand_number for category and track. For example, Joe Bloggs from Trinity College Dublin, submitting to the OPEN RFS for AI solutions would be listed as Bloggs_TCD_Open_AI. Alternatively Jane Doe from Carle Illinois College of Medicine submitting a low cost device solution in the open category would label their file as Doe_CIMED_Open_LowCost
2. **Video Pitch**
 - **Duration:** 3 minutes
 - **Content:** Structure the pitch to clearly communicate the innovation's impact, its potential for global scalability, and the solution's disruptive nature in the healthcare space.
3. **Judging Criteria:**

Teams will be evaluated based on:

- **Global Impact:** Potential to affect global health challenges
- **Innovation:** Creativity and originality of the solution
- **Message Clarity:** Coherence and conciseness of the idea presented
- **Execution and Feasibility:** Practicality and feasibility of the proposed next steps for validation/implementation

For video pitches, additional judging criteria include:

- Impact of the message
- Structure and flow of the presentation
- Delivery and engagement of the speakers
- Quality of the content with respect to innovation

NEXT STEPS FOR STUDENTS

1. Find a Sponsor

Students must contact the relevant faculty or administrative offices at their university to determine how their member institution will select teams to sponsor for submission and possible presentation at the Global Health Innovation Grand Challenge Competition in person in Champaign Illinois April 6-8, 2025. Each student team **MUST** have a sponsor letter of support for submission from an institution that is a member of the consortium. Teams of students from more than one institution must identify which institution will be the primary sponsor for the submission and responsible for supporting that team attending the event if selected for the semifinal competition. Full member Institutions with more submissions than they can financially support may decide to run internal competitions to determine which teams will be prioritized to formally submit into the global competition at the summit.

2. Prepare Your Proposal

Start working on your team's Executive Summary and video pitch, and prepare to submit by **January 15, 2025**. This will determine which teams are selected to move on to the semi-finals.

3. Stay Connected

Semi-finalists will be notified by mid-February 2025. Stay informed through your institutional contact for any updates or additional submission requirements.

TIMELINE OF KEY DATES

- **October 21, 2024:** Global Health Grand Challenge Competition Opens
- **November-December 2024:** Internal competitions at institutions
- **January 15, 2025:** Executive Summary and video pitch submission deadline
- **Mid-February 2025:** Semi-finalists notified to present at the Global Summit in April 2025 in Illinois
- **April 6th-8th, 2025:** Global Health Innovation Challenge Pitch Semifinal and Final

Competition at the I Hotel & Illinois Conference Center at the University of Illinois,
Urbana-Champaign

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further questions, please reach out to your institution's representative or visit the Global Consortium for Medical Innovation website at <https://medicine.illinois.edu/about/global-consortium>.