

Full list of prizes awarded for the 2025 Cozad New Venture Challenge



TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEUR CENTER | GRAINGER ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY PARTNERS | Gies College of Business & Carle Illinois College of Medicine

FUNDING & CASH PRIZES

Top Placement Prizes (\$200,000 total)

*Sponsored by the Cozad Prize Fund**

Grand Prize Winners - TIE | \$60,000 each

Nora AI
Tandem

Third Place | \$35,000

kWh

Fourth Place | \$25,000

Sprout

Finalist Prizes | \$10,000 each

VOCA Health
Earlynosis

Rural Health Innovation Prizes (\$30,000 total)

*Sponsored by the Barkmeier Tice Rural Health
Innovation Fund at Carle Health Center for
Philanthropy*

\$7,500 - 1st Place

Heart Restart

\$7,500 - 2nd Place

PINATA Diagnostics

\$5,000 - 3rd Place

Earlynosis

\$5,000 - 4th Place

FASTPads

\$5,000 - 5th Place

CareID

Health Innovation Prizes (\$25,000 total)

Sponsored by the Carle Illinois College of Medicine

\$7,500

Sprout

\$5,000

VOCA Health

\$5,000

Blink Systems

\$5,000

Dila Sure

\$2,500

Electrokare

Landuyt Business & Engineering Partnership Prizes (\$20,000 total)

Sponsored by Rick and Gayle Landuyt

\$5,000 each

EchoMe
Electrokare
CreatoRain
AirEmbrace

Grainger Engineering Cozad Prize (\$25,000 total)

Sponsored by The Grainger Foundation

\$5,000 each

Avea Robotics
Instinfo
Rapid Analytix Division (RAD)
VeriGuard

Advancement in Sports Medicine (\$20,000 total)

*Sponsored by the Henry Dale & Betty Smith
Sports Medicine Innovation Fund*

\$10,000

FASTPads

\$6,000

Heart Restart

\$4,000

PINATA Diagnostics

DREAUM Award (\$15,000)

Sponsored by Samyang Chemical Group

kWh

Dr. Paul Magelli Innovation Award (\$10,000)

Sponsored by Illinois Ventures

Tandemn

AWARE Prizes (\$10,000 total)

Sponsored by Craig & Sabrina Vodnik

\$1,000 each

Avea Robotics

Lane Trax

Meta Frazo

Sensiboo

Snap Smoke

\$500 each

Blynk AI

CretoRain

EduConvert

Elite

iBlow Hub

OEASE Organization Management System

\$250

BlogThought

BoardWatch

Fiscal Nexus

Navara

NoshBox

PhinD

Sharing Smiles Legacy

SheHeal

Commitment to Entrepreneurship Prizes (\$9,500 total)

Sponsored by the Hoveida Family Foundation

\$500

CareLogic.ai

eFold

Mirage

OEASE Organization Management System

TUPO Design

Martha AI

\$250

ActiveLinks

Affluent

Arcel AI

Augmented

Brainstorm

BypassAI

CareID

Credence Cleantech

EduConvert

Electrokare

EZStop

Glioblastoma Microgel

Graze Anatomy

Habitly

Influx

InvoGenix

Klink!

Menopatch

Meta Frazo

Musicators

Ryde Latch

Secure-ET

SHELBOW

Thermal Eye

Tiny Airway Taskforce

Unity Motion

Universum

Voyjournio

Workshops and Practice Pitch Night Prizes (\$9,500 total)

Sponsored by Cozad Asset Management and AWARE (Craig and Sabrina Vodnik)

\$1,250

Board Watch

\$1,000

AirEmbrace

Avea Robotics

\$750

kWh

Instinfo

Meta Frazo

Cyto Detect

\$500

Sensiboo

LaneTrax

Thermal Eye

Emerald Vue

\$250

Snap Smoke

Talenta

Hera AI

RemenAI

Tandemn

Global Impact Award (\$7,500 total)

Sponsored by the Global Impact Fund

\$4,000

EduConvert

\$2,000

Meta Frazo

\$1,000

StructSense

\$500

ConnectED

Innovate & Iterate Prototyping Microgrants (\$7,500 total)

Sponsored by Matt Gornick, OrangeQC Founder/CEO

\$500

AirEmbrace

EchoMe

yoTally

Blink Systems

LuminAir

BRiMS

Dila Sure

Menopatch

OEASE Organization Management System

NexGen Robotics

Patronus Tech

Strand Logic

TempGuard

\$250

Beta Biofluidics

Collie

Stir Sentry

Syrian Lentil Soup

Finals Best Pitch (\$5,000)

Sponsored by Cozad Asset Management

Sprout

Dr. P. Street College Prize

Sponsored by EnterpriseWorks and AWARE (Craig and Sabrina Vodnik)

\$1,000 + \$2,500 in-kind support from EnterpriseWorks

Strand Logic

Larry F. Voitik Prize (\$3,000 total)

Sponsored by Larry F. Voitik

\$1,500

EduConvert

Snap Smoke

Ag Innovation Prize (\$2,500)

Sponsored by the Edwin Moore Family

SkyLinkX

Demo Day Best Pitch Prize (\$500)

Sponsored by Cozad Asset Management

Instinfo

Demo Day Out of The Box Thinking Award (\$500)

Sponsored by the Hoveida Family Foundation

Sound of Molecules

Social Impact Award (\$500)

Sponsored by the Hoveida Family Foundation

kWh

IN-KIND PRIZES

Intellectual Property Clinic Services (Valued at \$94,000)

Sponsored by the College of Law. The IP Clinic runs under the supervision of Prof. Joe Barich.

Trademark Assistance (valued at \$2,500 each)

AIORide
Avea Robotics
Blink Systems
DilaSure
EmeraldVue
FASTPads
GoldenRest
Hera AI
Igneous AI
Instinfo
InvoGenix
Klink!
MateBridge
MBlade
Meetfinity
Musicators
Navara
Patronus Tech
SafeFit
Secure-ET

Sensiboo
SheHeal
SinterTech
SnapSmoke
Sprout
ThermalEye
TUPO Design
VitalSpeak

Patent Assistance (valued at \$12,000 each)

Oasis
yoTally

Chicago TechNexus Prize (Valued at \$48,000 total)

Sponsored by TechNexus Venture Collaborative

Tandemn
Nora AI
VOCA Health

mHub Co-Working Membership (Valued at \$30,000 total)

Sponsored by mHub

3-Month Membership (Valued at \$3,000 each)

Blink Systems
SkyLinkX
Menopatch
EmeraldVue
Universum
MateBridge

6-Month Membership (Valued at \$6,000 each)

Earlynosis
Sprout

Cooley LLP Legal Support Prize (Valued at \$15,000 total)

Sponsored by Cooley LLP

Tandemn
Nora AI
kWh

EnterpriseWorks JumpStart Prize**(Valued at \$10,000 total)***Sponsored by EnterpriseWorks in the Research Park*

PINATA Diagnostics
Instinfo

EnterpriseWorks Student Startup**Tenancy Prize (Valued at \$6,000)***Sponsored by EnterpriseWorks at the Research Park*

Earlynosis
Sensiboo
Sprout
Tandemn
yoTally

**BioPhia Healthcare Consulting Services
Prize (Valued at \$6,000)***Sponsored by BioPhia Consulting*

Earlynosis
Air Embrace

Retailbound Accelerator Prize**(Valued at \$5,000)***Sponsored by Retailbound Accelerator*

yoTally

IBC Startup Consulting Services Prize**(Valued at \$6,000)***Sponsored by Illinois Business Consulting (IBC),
Gies Business Magelli Office of Experiential Learning*

PowerWear

Singleton Legal Support Prize**(Valued at \$2,400)***Sponsored by Singleton Law Firm*

AirEmbrace
Collie

***COZAD PRIZE FUND CONTRIBUTORS**

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