Big iDeas Pitch

WHAT TO EXPECT AND
TERMS OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNIVERSITY AND STUDENT

The Big iDeas Pitch is an annual competition for undergraduates to pitch creative or innovative ideas that provide value to society. Ideas can be new products or projects or ones that solve a problem, improve an existing service. Big iDeas are those that are viable, sustainable and bring positive impact to others.

The pitch contest is held on SMU Family Weekend in the Fall. An individual or a team can pitch their ideas. Pitches last 1.5 minutes followed by 2.5 minutes Q&A by the judges.

Teams with Big iDeas receive up to $1000 in seed money and three months to build a prototype or pilot of their idea.

Winners are required to demonstrate their pilot or prototype in the Big iDeas Demo Day Fair, typically held on Friday the last week of January. If the idea shows promise and the team develops a professional business plan, the Big iDeas program is structured to encourage the team to participate in the Big iDeas Business Plan Competition held after the fair.

For students participating in the Big iDeas Pitch, all University policies and procedures apply. The terms below guide student entrepreneurs to work effectively with the University.

1. Big iDeas products, projects or things are unique to SMU and do not compete with any services SMU currently provides or other vendors that provide services to SMU students.

2. Only SMU undergraduates can participate in the Big iDeas Pitch. The idea pitched is the property of the participants.

3. If there is a team involved, it is referred to as the founding team and the Principal Investigator (PI) as the team leader.

4. The PI must be enrolled as an SMU undergraduate for the three-month duration of the pitch contest phase, provide team leadership in prototype development and participation in the Demo Day fair, and be the contact person with the Office of Engaged Learning.

5. Each team must sign up for at least one weekly office hour at CUBE during the duration of the project. This time can be used how you choose.

6. Approved Big iDeas funds are held in a project account for each winning team. Funds are dispersed through reimbursement. Big iDeas teams must submit all receipts to be reimbursed no later than 5pm on the first day of classes Spring Term.

7. Big iDeas funds may be used for expenses that successfully advance the development of the team’s project (see guide below, not comprehensive list). Engaged Learning reserves the right to decide whether expenses are an acceptable use of such funds.
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<tr>
<th>Eligible Expenses:</th>
<th>Funds may NOT be used for:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>– Supplies directly related to prototype development and/or launching a project</td>
<td>– Tuition, textbooks or any other similar expense that students would incur even if they did not participate in the program</td>
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<td>– Meals, alcohol, entertainment</td>
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<td>– Personal computers, phones, other electronics</td>
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<td>– Personal housing unrelated to project</td>
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<td>– Salaries, per diem</td>
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<td>– Cash gifts, hand-outs, microloans, etc.</td>
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<td>– Car rental, including personal car mileage reimbursement</td>
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8. Outside sources may fund Big iDeas projects providing the PI discloses and details in a written document the outside funds to the Office of Engaged Learning.

9. SMU reserves the right to profile Big iDeas students and their projects in current and future SMU marketing materials and campaigns.

10. Students must comply with all applicable SMU policies and procedures, including, but not limited to, the SMU Student Code of Conduct, the SMU Honor Code, the Intellectual Property Policy of SMU, as well as all federal, state, and local laws, including patent, copyright and trademark law.

By my signature below, I acknowledge my team’s application and participation in Big iDeas Pitch, agree to the terms and conditions set forth in this document, and know that participation is voluntary, and that my team may end my participation at any time. I also acknowledge that if my conduct is not consistent with SMU policies and procedures or if my conduct brings disrepute to SMU, SMU reserves the right to terminate or suspend my funding, access to the CUBE and other support services.

**ACCEPTED AND AGREED** by PI on behalf of the team:

By (signature): ___________________________  Date: _____________

Student’s Name (please print): ___________________________SMUID_________________