What is D4SD

Design for San Diego (D4SD) is a city-wide human-centered design challenge focused on exploring solutions to important civic problems facing our region. D4SD follows a human-centered design process. This approach focuses on people and the broader systems at play to address the core, root issues, not just surface-level problems.

Why you should join

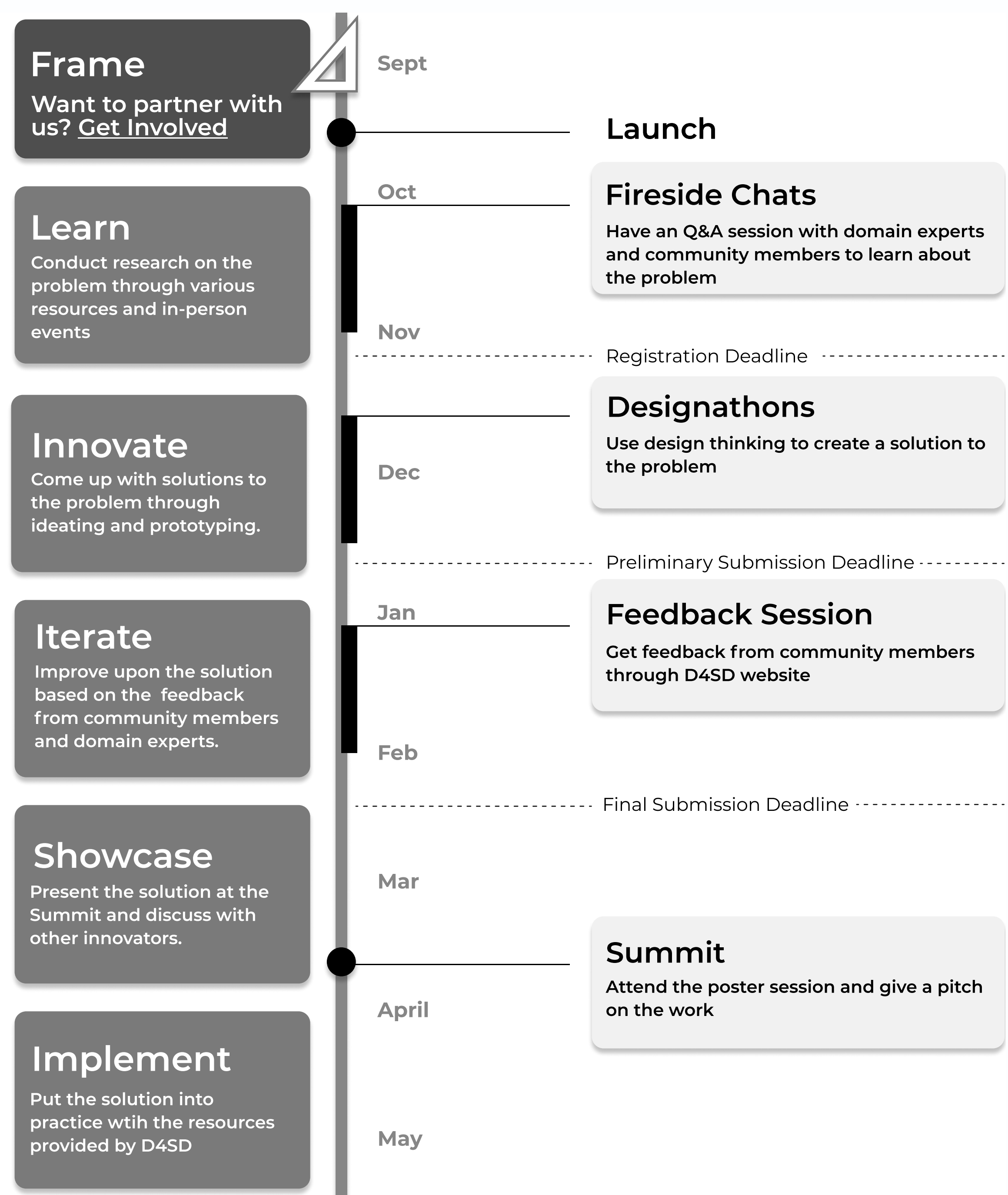D4SD provides educators with a platform to try out experiential learning within their institution.
- Co-design a civic innovation class with D4SD and implement it with your students
- Mentor teams along the challenge and develop knowledge in teaching design thinking
- Have your students participate in D4SD as innovators
- Attend in-person events and enjoy professional networking opportunities

How the process works

D4SD will have 3 major events (Fireside Chats, Designathons, and Feedback Session) besides Summit. They are where you could personalize your D4SD experience.

Fireside chats operate as a chance to gather knowledge and explore the problem with experts who have an in-depth knowledge of the space. Designathons serve as a space to explore and develop potential solutions where prototypes are built. Feedback Session is an online stage where community members are able to critique innovators' work and help them improve their solutions through D4SD website.

Since our aim is to be as inclusive as possible to all participants, you are more than welcome to create your own fireside chats and designathons at your convenient time and space, as long as they align with our themes.

Frame
Want to partner with us? Get Involved

Learn
Conduct research on the problem through various resources and in-person events

Innovate
Come up with solutions to the problem through ideating and prototyping.

Iterate
Improve upon the solution based on the feedback from community members and domain experts.

Showcase
Present the solution at the Summit and discuss with other innovators.

Implement
Put the solution into practice wtih the resources provided by D4SD

Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Feb
Mar
April
May

Launch

Fireside Chats
Have an Q&A session with domain experts and community members to learn about the problem

Registration Deadline

Designathons
Use design thinking to create a solution to the problem

Preliminary Submission Deadline

Feedback Session
Get feedback from community members through D4SD website

Final Submission Deadline

Summit
Attend the poster session and give a pitch on the work

What is next

- Contact us if you'd like to teach a civic innovation class in your insitution and we can provide resources
- Select a topic and begin helping your students dive into the problem space of their choice
- If you'd like to build out your own pathway, plan your own D4SD events(Fireside Chat & Designathon) along our process