

Part 2 Frequently Asked Questions

1. How will intellectual property be handled in this challenge?

By participating in this Challenge, each individual (whether participating as an individual or in a group) warrants that he or she is the sole author or owner of, or has the right to use, any copyrightable works that the submission comprises, that the works are wholly original of the Solver (or is an improved version of an existing work that the Solver has sufficient rights to use and improve), and that the submission does not infringe any copyright or any other rights of any third party of which Solver is aware. In addition, each individual (whether participating individually or in a group) and each entity grants to NSF an irrevocable, paid-up, royalty-free nonexclusive worldwide license to reproduce, publish, post, link to, share, and display publicly (e.g., on websites) the submission and abstracts on the web or elsewhere, and a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to practice, or have practiced for or on its behalf, the solution throughout the world. Each participant will retain all other intellectual property rights in their submissions, as applicable. To participate in the Challenge, each Solver must warrant that there are no legal obstacles to providing the above-referenced nonexclusive licenses of Solver's rights to the federal government. To receive an award, Solvers will not be required to transfer their intellectual property rights to NSF, but Solvers must grant to the federal government the nonexclusive licenses recited herein.

2. Can I submit multiple solutions to be judged?

No, each individual or team can only submit one solution to the challenge.

3. What is the submission deadline for Part 2?

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4. Do I have to leverage one of the winning concepts from Part 1 in my prototype for Part 2?

No, while leveraging winning concepts from Part 1 is encouraged, solvers are not required to leverage any or all of the concepts from Part 1 when developing their Part 2 submissions.







5. How can I find other solvers to form partnerships for Part 2?

NSF is encouraging solvers looking for partners to connect with each other on social media using the hashtag #NSFCareerCompass.

6. What is envisioned after Part 2? Will there be multiple winners whose prototypes will receive grants to develop further?

One winner will be awarded a cash prize of \$75,000 for a functional prototype that meets the evaluation criteria. There will not be multiple winners in Part 2, and there are not currently plans to further develop the prototypes through grants.

7. Are you looking for participants with a particular kind of skillset? For instance, if we have ideas on how this should flow/look, but don't know how to build a program or an app, is there a way for us to connect with people who have app-building or programming skills?

We are not looking for participants with any particular skillset. Instead we are interested in solutions that meet the criteria outlined in the challenge guidelines. We are encouraging those with ideas to partner with others who have expertise to build solutions. We are encouraging anyone who is interested in forming partnerships to connect with each other on social media using #NSFCareerCompass.

8. Can there be multiple solutions from the same institution?

Yes, however each person can only submit one entry either individually or as part of a team.

9. Can a company submit an entry?

Yes, companies may submit entries to the challenge.

10. What if you have a web-based interface as well as an app - can we submit links to both?

Yes, you can submit links to both.

