TED AI Open Source Hackathon FAQ

1.0 What is TED AI Open Source Hackathon?

The TED AI Open Source Hackathon is an exciting programming event that challenges you to find ways to use Generative AI to tackle social and environmental issues. You will have the opportunity to use your coding skills and collaborate with fellow developers, all in the name of good.

2.0 When and where will hackathon take place?  
It will be held the weekend prior to the TED AI conference, which is scheduled for Oct 14 and 15, 2023 at Microsoft Reactor in San Francisco, CA. The hackathon is scheduled to start at 10 AM Oct 14, and run through Oct 15 4 PM, spanning 30 hours of hackathon adventure.

**Site Address:**

Microsoft Reactor

555 California Street, Suite 200

San Francisco, CA 94104

Reception is on the 2nd floor, hackathon will be on the 3rd floor.

**Parking:**

555 California Garage

Entrance Address: 424 Pine St

Hourly Rate: $16

Daily Rate: $35

550 Kearny Garage

Entrance Address: 655 Sacramento St

Hourly Rate: $12

Daily Rate: $30

600 California Garage

Entrance Address: 711 Sacramento St

Hourly Rate: $12

Daily Rate: $30

Public Transportation

BART/Muni: Montgomery Station – 0.3 miles, 5 minute walk

Caltrain – San Francisco Station – 1.5 miles, 20 minute drive

**Nearby Hotels:**

Omni San Francisco Hotel

500 California St, San Francisco, CA 94104

4 star hotel

0.1 mile – 3 minute walk

Grant Plaza Hotel

465 Grant Ave, San Francisco, CA 94108

2 star hotel

0.1 mile – 3 minute walk

Four Seasons Hotel San Francisco at Embarcadero

222 Sansome St, San Francisco, CA 94104

5 star hotel

0.2 mile – 4 minute walk

Stanford Hotel

905 California St, San Francisco, CA 94108

4 star hotel

0.4 mile – 8 minute walk

3.0 What is the hackathon timeline?

Aug 11: Application open

Sep 1: Application close

Sep 15: Teams announced

Oct 14: Hackathon start

Oct 15: Hackathon end  
  
4.0 How can I participate in the hackathon?  
TED AI registration will not be required for this hackathon. There will be a separate registration page at something like <https://www.ai-event.ted.com/hackathon> where people can submit their teams. We will then evaluate their submission and let them know. The space is limited so don't wait.  
  
5.0 Who can participate in the hackathon?  
You don't need to be a TED AI attendee to participate in this hackathon. This would be available to anybody who can bring a team of people and is passionate about solving societal and environmental issues using the power of AI. Technical skills will be required in some combinations across the team in roles such ash: Subject matter expert, Data Scientist, Developer, Designer/Developer, among other possibilities.

6.0 Is there a registration fee for the hackathon?

There is no registration fee for the hackathon.  
  
7.0 Can I participate in teams or as an individual?

Teams will consist of 2 to 5 members. If you prefer to participate in a team, make sure all team members are registered for the hackathon and indicate your team’s name during the registration process.

8.0 Are teams required to attend in person or is remote participation ok?

We want to encourage on-site participation and would desire at least one team member from each team to attend live, and preferably, all team members should attend live.  
  
9.0 What should I bring to the hackathon?  
Participants should bring their own laptops, chargers, and any other tools or software they require for coding. The hackathon organizers will provide the space, power, and Internet required for the competition.

10.0 What programming languages and technologies are allowed?  
The hackathon is technology-agnostic, meaning you are free to choose any tool, modern programming language used by AI tools, framework, or technology stack to develop your AI solution. The focus is on creativity, innovation, and the practical maintainable implementation of AI concepts.  
  
11.0 How long is the hackathon?  
The TED AI Hackathon will span 30 hours starting at 10 AM Oct 14 and ending at 4pm 15, 2023. Attendees are welcome to begin developing their projects ahead of time, but this isn't required.

12.0 Will there be technical support available?  
We will provide space, power, and Internet connectivity for the hackathon. There will be some limited mentor and technical support available. Your team should have all the skills to troubleshoot any technical issues otherwise.  
  
13.0 What are the judging criteria for the hackathon?  
The judging criteria for the hackathon will consider factors such as innovation, technical complexity, practicality, user experience, and the overall quality of the AI solution developed during the hackathon. Further details about the judging criteria will be provided closer to the event. We will share the rubric that will be used by judges to evaluate participation. This will be announced closer to the hackathon date.

14.0 Will cloud credits be given to TED AI Hackathon participants?

More details about cloud access will be provided closer to the hackathon date.  
  
15.0 Are there any prizes for the winners?  
Prizes will be awarded to the winners of the hackathon. Details will be announced prior to the hackathon.  
  
16.0 Can I attend the hackathon even if I am not participating?  
The hackathon is primarily intended for registered participants; however, TED AI general attendees may have the opportunity to witness the project presentations.  
  
17.0 How can I stay updated on hackathon announcements?  
To stay updated on hackathon announcements, make sure to regularly check the official TED AI conference website, follow the TED AI social media accounts, and subscribe to the TED AI newsletter.  
  
If you have any further questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out to the TED AI conference organizers via social media or email or via our Discord server..

18.0 What data may I use?

Data should come from public sources with creative commons or permissive licenses or cited according to the data creator’s/publisher’s guidance. The data used in the hackathon must be accessible to a global audience.

19.0 Where will the code reside and what licenses will be considered?

The Linux Foundation will provide the git location for hackathon code. The code should be licensed according to an [Open Source Initiative (OSI) license.](https://opensource.org/licenses/)

20.0 How do I contact organizers about the hackathon?

Send us a message on the Discord server. Your Discord details will be provided by a registration email after successful registration

21.0 Will cloud computing resources be provided?  
One or more cloud providers have granted permission for access to their cloud services and details will be posted soon.