



## **Student Startup Competition *Rules & Regulations***

The Forge@Mac Student Startup Competition online application process will be open between January 4th, 2017 to February 5th, 2017 at 11:59PM. This is a strict deadline. **Late applications will not be accepted.**

### **The process for the Competition will be as follows:**

- Complete the Forge@Mac Student Startup Competition application before the deadline on February 5th. You must **not** change the format of the application. Doing so will cause us to deny your application.
- If you are chosen as a semi-finalist, you will be notified. Forge@Mac staff will work with you to create a video pitch, basic business plan and pitch deck.
- Ten finalists will be chosen to pitch their startup to a panel of distinguished judges and in front of 200+ guests and media at our official competition date March 23rd, 2016.

This competition is open to teams with **at least one McMaster University student**. A McMaster student must fill out the application, present, and pitch the startup. The student must also be a founding member of the startup (i.e. the student cannot simply be an employee).

**You will be competing for cash and in-kind prizes, with the top startups winning up to \$20,000 in cash AND a spot in Hamilton's startup accelerator The Forge.**

If you have any questions, please let us know at [info@theforgehamilton.ca](mailto:info@theforgehamilton.ca). This is a great opportunity for you and your startup team, so don't delay!

### **Rules to Register:**

- Your team must include at least one McMaster University student (undergraduate, graduate, PhD) from the Fall 2016/Winter 2017 school year.
- The McMaster student must be the one who fills in the application form for the application.
- The McMaster student must be a founding member of the startup (i.e. the student cannot simply be an employee).

- If your startup is chosen to participate in the competition, the McMaster student must represent the startup through the pitch portion, and only **one** student is allowed to pitch.
- Student is encouraged to prepare a slide deck to present.

**Rules for prize winners:**

- Prize winners are required to join The Forge (McMaster Innovation Park) starting May 2, 2016, and to work on their startup full-time during Summer 2017 (at minimum). Prize winners are required to attend Startup Bootcamp, which starts May 2, 2016.
- Prize money will be dispensed in 3 tranches. You must meet set business milestones to qualify for the full amount.
- You have until August 30, 2017 to meet your milestones and claim the full prize amount.