



## I. Welcome

Welcome to the annual **FAU Business Pitch Competition (FAU BPC)** powered by the [FAU Adams Center for Entrepreneurship](#). The FAU BPC has no entry fee and provides competitors with valuable resources in the following areas.

Networking	Networks of entrepreneurs, investors, and potential partners
Mentorship	Mentorship by successful and seasoned professionals
Insight	Education in business pitching skills and general entrepreneurial insight
Belonging	Team building opportunities
Funding	Funding and support to help the winning teams start their ventures

## II. Competitor Eligibility

The student track of the FAU BPC competition is for FAU current students and recent graduates (students who have graduated in the past year). Current students must be in good academic standing and currently enrolled on a full or part-time basis. BPC finalists from previous years are not eligible to compete in subsequent FAU Business Pitch Competitions. Instead, we encourage you to apply to the [FAU Tech Runway Venture Program](#).

### Students are expected to:

- ☐ *Be a key force behind the new venture*
- ☐ *Have played a key role in developing the business concept*
- ☐ *Anticipate having a key management role in the venture, and own significant equity in the venture*

The competition is for new, independent ventures in the seed, start-up, or early growth stages. Generally **excluded** are the following: buy-outs, expansions of existing companies, real estate syndications, tax shelters, franchisees, and licensing agreements for distribution in a different geographical area. The competition is supportive of teams that have created a business concept or plan to launch a new venture based on university-developed research and innovations.

All submitted work must be original work of team members or appropriately licensed work of others. Any submission that does not meet these requirements will be eliminated from the competition.

### III. Important Dates

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Description</i>
November 3, 2023 (Friday)	9:00 a.m.	Applications open
February 2, 2024 (Friday)	11:59 p.m.	Applications close – no exceptions
February 3 – 8, 2024	N/A	Applications scored by judges
February 9, 2024 (Friday)	by EOB (4:30 p.m.)	Results shared with applicants
February 23, 2024 (Friday)	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Pitch Scrub (required/closed) *5-min pitch   5-min Q&A   2-min transition
March 15, 2024 (Friday)	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Pitching Practice (required/closed) *5-min pitch   5-min Q&A   2-min transition
March 27, 2024 (Wednesday)	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Finals! (open to the public) *5-min pitch   5-min Q&A   2-min transition
March 28, 2024 (Thursday)	5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Awards Reception (required for participants/open to the public)

## IV. Important Rules

Business attire should be worn for all presentations.

Teams are welcome to observe all pitches and Q&A sessions. All competitors are expected to show comradery and support for everyone competing.

Teams will send pitch decks electronically 48 hours prior to each of the pitching days to [adamscenter@fau.edu](mailto:adamscenter@fau.edu). The presentation room is equipped with a large-screen projector and a PC to run your presentation. If you have questions about audio/video equipment, please contact the competition coordinator at [adamscenter@fau.edu](mailto:adamscenter@fau.edu).

Any data or information discussed or divulged in sessions by entrants should be considered information that could possibly enter the public realm, and entrants should not assume any right of confidentiality.

All decisions regarding the competition rules, procedures, processes and selection of teams are at the sole discretion of the 2024 Business Pitch Competition Committee. While not anticipated, the rules and prizes are subject to change.

If a team uses copyrighted materials and/or images from a third-party in its submissions or presentation, the team must obtain permission and authorization in advance from the owners to use this material and be able to provide such documented permission/authorization upon request from the FAU BPC Committee, Adams Center for Entrepreneurship staff, mentors, or judges.

**No competitor under any circumstances may contact a judge before or during the competition to discuss the team's entry. Any such behavior will result in disqualification.**

**No judge, mentor, volunteer or competition staff member may have any vested interest, equity stake, or financial stake in any of the competing companies. Any such associations will result in disqualification of the team and/or removal of that individual from his/her associated position with the competition.**