

Geothermal Lithium Extraction Prize FAQ

Question #	Category	Question	Response
1	Eligibility	Are American-made challenges reserved to US-based companies? Can Canadians participate?	<p>Per the rules document: An individual prize participant (who is not competing as a member of a group) must be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident. Participants must also be affiliated with an accredited U.S. institution of higher education. Applicants of technical colleges, community colleges, and historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) are especially encouraged to compete.</p> <p>A group of individuals, competing as one competitor team, may win, provided (a) that the online account holder of the submission is a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident and (b) that all group members are affiliated with an accredited U.S. institution of higher education. Groups competing as a team do not need all members to be affiliated with the same institution of higher education.</p>
2	Eligibility	Does it mean that only personnel from University or national labs could submit for this prize competition?	Please see the answer to question 1. All official team members must be currently affiliated with an accredited U.S. institution of higher education.
3	Eligibility	Hi everyone! Thanks for running this webinar. I have a quick set of questions about eligibility. At what level must a startup be affiliated with a university to be eligible for the prize? Would it be sufficient for a startup to work through a university professor or graduate student to be eligible for the competition? Similarly, at what level can an individual be affiliated with a startup and remain eligible?	All official team members must be currently affiliated with an accredited U.S. institution of higher education. Groups competing as a team do not need all members to be affiliated with the same institution of higher education.
4	Eligibility	Does the University Affiliate have to be	See answer to Question 2

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5	Industry Part	Any restrictions on industry partners?	<p>The prize is supported by a hand-selected panel of Industry Advisors who will play a critical role throughout the competition. Teams must work with the selected IAP members and are not eligible to select their own industry advisor outside of the request that is submitted at the end of Phase 1. A group of individuals, competing as one competitor team, may win, provided (a) that the online account holder of the submission is a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident and (b) that all group members are affiliated with an accredited U.S. institution of higher education. Groups competing as a team do not need all members to be affiliated with the same institution of higher education.</p>
6	General	What is the definition of a geothermal brine?	<p>Geothermal brine is a concentrated saline solution that has circulated through crustal rocks in an area of anomalously high heat flow and become enriched in substances leached from those rocks; it often contains dissolved metals; in which case it forms an important intermediary in the deposition of ore. Geothermal brine is frequently a byproduct of geothermal power production.</p>
7	General	Is there a FOA number?	<p>As this is a Prize rather than a FOA, there is no FOA number for this opportunity.</p>
8	General	Can there be multiple submissions for different ideas or one submission for multiple ideas from the same group?	<p>Each submission should cover a single solution. Teams are only allowed to submit one proposal. Multiple teams from the same academic institution may participate.</p>
9	General	Are Innovators also Team members, or are those separate categories for participants?	<p>HeroX classifies all members of the HeroX communities as “Innovators” – this includes followers and team members. Team members are individual innovators who work together on a team.</p>
10	IP	How does the IP handled by the program?	<p>Intellectual property developed by a participant in the prize competition is owned by the participant. All IAP members have signed a Non-Disclosure Agreement (IAP) as a condition of their participation in this prize.</p>

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11	IP	Where are the documents relative to IP o	The intellectual property and data rules for the prize are found in Sections V.I. (Universal Contest Requirements, page 22), V.4. (Submission Rights, pages 23-24), V.5. (Copyright, page 24), and V.10. (Records Retention and the Freedom of Information Act, pages 25-26). The technical narrative, technical assistance request, and letters of commitment/support, if properly marked according to Section V.10. (page 26), are not made public. The video submission, cover page, and summary slide are made public and the video submission must be released under a CCBY license.
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