

Smart Campus Competition



Verizon is bringing the Smart Campus Competition to Northeastern University to challenge students to reimagine their personal experiences through innovation, and Verizon's 5G and technologies.

Collaborating with the university, student teams will identify an area of opportunity and conceptualize a solution utilizing Verizon's 5G and technologies.

Criteria

- 1 Content:** The problem statement must be clearly defined and accompanied by a comprehensive explanation of the proposed solution, demonstrating its relevance and potential impact, and should include supporting research, data, and references.
- 2 Creativity:** The idea should be original and unique, showcasing innovative use of Verizon's 5G and technologies. It should reflect the ability to think outside the box and propose novel solutions.
- 3 Feasibility:** The implementation plan must be practical and viable, addressing potential challenges, providing a realistic budget and resource requirements, and demonstrating the solution's scalability and sustainability.
- 4 Presentation:** The presentation should be clear and well-organized, effectively communicating ideas and concepts, utilizing visuals, prototypes, and supporting materials, and engaging and persuading the audience.

Participants

To participate in this competition, individuals or teams must meet the following criteria:



Eligibility:

Open to second- and third-year undergraduate students.



Size:

Teams will consist of three to six students, of which three are studying computer science, engineering, or relevant technical field.

Stages

Competition kickoff:

Sept. 25, 2025

Preliminary preparation:

Teams will form, register, choose a concept, and develop a value proposition.

Registration closes:

Oct. 22, 2025

Drop-in session:

In late October/early November, teams can receive feedback from Verizon mentors on their project idea.

Round one:

Concept pitch (video submission)

Teams upload their video submission for the first round of judging; approximately 15 teams will be selected to advance to round two.

Timeline: Nov. 16, 2025

Round two:

Poster showcase

Teams will create poster presentations to be judged by Verizon mentors; mentor support will be provided to teams invited to this round. Approximately seven teams will be selected to move to round three.

Timeline: Jan. 28, 2026

Round three:

Project presentation

Finalist teams will have 10 minutes to present their fully formulated plan. Three teams will be selected to the Winner's Circle.

Timeline: Feb. 24, 2026

Winner's Circle

Three teams will be selected to present their idea to Verizon and university leadership at a Verizon location.

Timeline: March 11, 2026

Stakes

- 1** Teams advancing to the third round will receive a \$500 stipend to use for further project development, and the chance for one-on-one interaction with field experts.
- 2** Top three teams will be chosen to join the Winner's Circle. The overall winning teams will get the chance to present their idea to Verizon and university leadership and receive a monetary prize of \$3,000 per team.
- 3** Teams may receive additional opportunities to expand their ideas with Verizon.