



ONE MONTANA

Teenpreneur Roundup Frequently Asked Questions

Who is One Montana?

One Montana is a Bozeman-based nonprofit organization. Our mission is to create a vibrant, healthy and sustainable Montana. We do this by serving as a trusted nonpartisan catalyst that brings together diverse stakeholders to address our state's common economic, environmental and social challenges.

What is Montana Teenpreneur Roundup?

Montana Teenpreneur Roundup is an investment in Montana's next generation of entrepreneurs and business and community leaders. We seek to provide a virtual gathering place where Montana's youth can exhibit their entrepreneurial spirit by proposing innovative products and services that target contemporary problems in their lives and opportunities to improve our communities, Montana and country.

The Roundup fills a vital space in Montana's high school entrepreneurship ecosystem by providing an all-students-welcome competition during which Montana's most innovative youth, regardless of gender, race, socio-economic status, academic courses, or CTSO affiliation, can demonstrate their entrepreneurial savvy through a statewide, third-party judged program.

Why is it important for high school students to think and act like entrepreneurs?

The future of Montana and the vibrancy of our state's diverse rural and urban communities are linked to how successfully we empower our children to see themselves as having agency to create their futures.

The Roundup provides a means to find, reward and celebrate, and to provide accelerated entrepreneurship training to promising high school students. It is our hope that success in the Roundup will motivate them to continue along this path during their remaining time in high school and into their adult lives. Montana will be well served when they do!

The Roundup provides an opportunity for students to fuel their self-image as creative problem-solvers and business innovators. How important is it for Montana's future to motivate high school students to see themselves in this light? ...critically important!

Who is eligible to participate in the Roundup?

Any of Montana's 40,000+ high school students are eligible to submit their ideas for new businesses or the existing businesses they already run. Students can enter the Roundup as individuals or as teams.

The Roundup is open to all high school students, whether they are enrolled in public, independent, or religious schools, are homeschooled, or HiSET. Students can be participating in CTSOs like BPA, DECA, FCCLA, and FFA or in community youth organizations like 4-H, Boy or Girl Scouts.

Students can also enter the Roundup if they are unaffiliated with any of the above.

All students entering the Roundup must have an adult sponsor.

Can individual students and teams enter Montana Teenpreneur Roundup?

Yes. Students may work alone or in teams. If a team wins one of our cash prizes, those students and their teachers will decide how to distribute the prize.

What are the two contest categories?

The Roundup provides two competition tracks to showcase students' abilities as business innovators.

- Category 1- New Business Idea: Students who have ideas for new products or services that address a need will compete in this category. Students who develop business ideas for their CTE courses or CTSO competitions are encouraged to submit these ideas to the Roundup. Why not win two awards for one outstanding idea!
- Category 2- Existing Business: Students who run small businesses are already demonstrating their entrepreneurial savvy. Some students run their businesses to make spending money or money for college. Other students run businesses as fundraising ventures for their BPA, DECA, FCCLA and FFA clubs. Any student or club that sells a product or service to raise money is eligible to enter their business in the Roundup.

What are the critical dates for the 2018-2019 Montana Teenpreneur Roundup?

- January 6, 2020: Online platform opens for submissions.
- February 21, 2020: Contest closes at 11:59 pm. No additional submissions will be accepted.
- March 1 - 15, 2020: Our panel of judges will evaluate submissions and select the top-scoring finalists.
- March 16 – 20, 2020: Results announced
- April 2020: TBD- Awards ceremony hosted by Governor Bullock at the Capitol

What materials are required when submitting an entry?

- *Requirement #1*: Up to a 2-minute video in which students make the case for their product or service. In business terms, this is known as making a pitch. Only the content and persuasiveness of the pitch will be judged. The quality of the video will not be judged, as there are too many technical variables that can impact video quality.
- *Requirement #2*: A written Business Summary that uses our template and contains no more than 1,000 words.
- *Requirement #3*: A *Release Waiver Form* completed by parents/guardians and students is required. The completed form must be submitted as a PDF when uploading the Video Pitch and Business Summary. If a team is submitting, all members of the team must complete the form AND scan and upload it as a single PDF.

How do students submit their entries to the Roundup?

All students participating in the Roundup must submit their entries electronically through our online portal that is located on the sidebar of the Roundup homepage.

Who will select the top-scoring submissions?

A panel of volunteer judges representing Montana's diverse business community will evaluate and rank all submissions using our Roundup rubric. Judging will take place from Monday, February 11th until Friday, March 1st. Submissions will be ranked based on the combined scores of the Video Pitch and Business Summary, with each component given equal weight.