Limited Submission Funding Opportunity

Venturewell (formerly National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA))

BMEStart

http://venturewell.org/students/bmestart/

This competition is open to undergraduate students only.

Students enrolled in senior biomedical engineering capstone design courses are especially encouraged to apply to BMEStart. Multidisciplinary teams are also encouraged to apply and may include undergraduate students from diverse fields such as business, nursing, physical therapy, life sciences, physical sciences, or other related disciplines.

Note that this competition is distinct from BMEIdea (http://venturewell.org/students/bmeidea/) that was due recently. Undergraduate teams who submitted an entry for BMEIdea are also eligible for BMEStart.

Since 2010, the BMEStart competition has recognized the finest in undergraduate biomedical engineering innovation. Strong BMEStart submissions define a problem to be solved and demonstrate the development of a device, product, or technology designed to solve it. Examples include but are not limited to: surgical devices, home health care devices, diagnostic, therapeutic, and preventative applications, rehabilitative and assistive technologies, or other innovations that will have a substantial impact on clinical care and patient outcomes.

Competition winners will receive cash awards ($10,000 for first place, $5,000 for second place, and $2,500 for third place), as well as access to resources to be used for further development and commercialization of their products. They will also have the opportunity to present their designs and business plans to representatives of investor organizations. Cash prizes will be disbursed to each of the winning team’s departments to be allocated at the discretion of the faculty advisor.

ELIGIBILITY

- The BMEStart competition is open to all undergraduate student teams at colleges and universities. Teams that include graduate students are not eligible for BMEStart.
- Each team must include at least one engineering student.
- Your Department Chair and Faculty Advisor must verify their support of your competition application.

LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PROPOSALS PER ORGANIZATION

There is a limit of three entries per academic institution.
KEY DATES
Internal Letter of Intent Due: April 23, 2015 (by midnight)
Notification by: April 30, 2015
Sponsor Proposal Due: May 22, 2015

SUBMITTING A MANDATORY LETTER OF INTENT
A letter of intent is required but not binding.

1. Click here to access the LOI form.
2. Name the LOI as follows: “LastName-FirstInitial-LOI-BMEStart”, replacing “LastName” with your last name and “First Initial” with your first initial.
3. Click on the Vault ticket: https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6492931_1-t_nwLNAiw
4. Click the Upload button.
5. Click the Browse button and navigate to your file on your hard drive or network.
6. Click the OK button.

Note: You will get a tiny confirmation message upon upload. If you do not see it, you may contact Karen Cielo k-cielo@northwestern.edu for a confirmation.

COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES
The Office of Research Development offers assistance in identifying and facilitating collaborations, putting together interdisciplinary teams, programmatic and administrative development of large, cross-school proposals, and leveraging institutional resources for outreach and education. Contact Fruma Yehiely (yehiely@northwestern.edu), Director of ORD, for more information.

CONTACT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Fruma Yehiely, Associate Vice President for Research, Director of ORD, 847-491-1074, yehiely@northwestern.edu
Limited Submissions web site: http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/