

References and citations are permitted in the pre-proposal round and are not included in the 3-page pre-proposal limit. Appendices are not allowed in the pre-proposal round, but will be permitted in the final round if your team is selected to participate.

The 3-page pre-proposal PDF must contain the following:

1. Problem Statement

A description of the problem or need that your project will address, which communicates your understanding of relevant research/statistics on the problem. (About ½ - 1 page in length)

2. Existing Solutions

Overview of any existing services, programs, interventions or products that have been designed or implemented to address this problem. Where applicable, discuss the limitations of these approaches and the gaps that still exist. (About ½ - 1 page in length)

3. Proposed Innovation

A summary of your innovative idea (e.g., project, service, or product), how it works, and its intended impact. Provide a brief description of how your project will look in its first year of implementation, and why it is different from other approaches. If you expect to encounter implementation challenges, briefly explain how you will address these in your approach. Note that judges are instructed to consider, above all else, how innovative and creative your project idea is. (About 1 page in length)

4. Team Bios

A list of key project team members with brief biographies that explain the capability of your team to pursue your idea. If you have not yet found team members that fulfill the skillsets needed to carry out your innovation by the pre-proposal deadline, note in this section how you plan to recruit the expertise that will be integral to your project. (About ½ page in length)