

International College Students' Innovation Competition (2025)

Central Asian Regional Competition

The China International College Students' Innovation Competition actively promotes international exchange and cooperation to build a global platform for college students' innovation practice competitions. It has become the world's largest innovation event in participation scale. In 2025, the Competition will launch a Central Asian Regional Competition, sincerely inviting outstanding young people from the Central Asian region to actively participate, realize their dreams of innovation, and create a better future for the world.

I. Competition requirements

1. Entries should closely align with social needs, fostering the development of new products, business formats, and models. They should drive the transformation and upgrading of industries such as manufacturing, agriculture, healthcare, energy, environmental protection, and strategic emerging sectors. Additionally, they should facilitate the deep integration of digital technology into sectors including education, healthcare, transportation, finance, consumer services, cultural dissemination and beyond. For detailed information on project categories, please contact the invited Chinese universities or overseas co-organizers of the competition.

2. Entries must embody positive values and adhere to authenticity, wholesomeness, and legality, without violating laws or regulations. Furthermore, all inventions, patents, and resources involved in the project must have clear intellectual property rights. Any act of plagiarism, misappropriation of others' work, or submission of false information will result in immediate disqualification from the competition, revocation of all awards, and full legal liability.

3. Participants must select the appropriate group to register for the competition. Each participating team is required to complete and submit all project-related materials truthfully and on time via the registration system. Projects that have won gold or silver awards in the finals of past competitions are ineligible to register for this year's competition.

4. Participants must be aged under 35 (born after March 1, 1990).

II. Competition method

1. The competition requires registration in teams. Cross-school team is permitted. Each team must consist of 2~15 members (including the team leader), all of whom must be the actual core members of the project.

All members of the participating team must be current students or graduates within five years (i.e., graduates after 2020, as defined below) from regular higher education institutions in Central Asian countries. The team leader shall serve as the primary applicant for the competition. The participating school represented by the team is determined by the applicant's

academic status or degree at the team leader's institution. The represented school must be unique. Projects are classified into undergraduate and graduate groups based on the applicants' academic levels. Within both groups, there are Creative and Entrepreneurial categories according to the project development stage. Please ensure that projects are registered under the appropriate competition category based on your institution's guidelines.

The specific entry requirements are as follows:

(1) Undergraduate group

1. **Creative Group.** Entries in this category must feature innovative concepts and relatively well-developed product prototypes or service models. Additionally, they must not have undergone business registration or other formal registrations prior to April 26, 2025. The applicant must be the project leader, who—along with all team members—must be undergraduate or junior college students.

2. **Entrepreneurship Group.** Entries must have completed all formal registrations (e.g., business registration) prior to April 26, 2025. The applicant must be both the project leader and the legal representative of the participating enterprise. They must be either an undergraduate/junior college student or a junior college graduate within five years.

(2) Graduate group

1. **Creative Group.** Entries in this category should feature innovative concepts and a relatively well-developed product prototype or service model.

They must not have completed formal registrations (e.g., business registration) prior to April 26, 2025. The applicant must be both the team leader and a graduate student. Project members must be either graduate or undergraduate students.

2. Entrepreneurship Group. Entries must have completed all formal registrations (e.g., business registration) prior to April 26, 2025. The applicant must be both the project leader and the legal representative of the participating enterprise. They must be either a graduate student or a postgraduate graduate within five years.

III. Competition schedule

The regional competition consists of four stages: online registration, qualification review, online review, and on-site competition, all organized by the competition's organizing committee. To enhance the quality of entries, an offline college student exchange camp will be held during the competition period, and project teams may opt to participate voluntarily.

1. Online registration (May 1–June 10, 2025): Log on to the designated website or submit registration materials to the designated email address.

2. Qualification Review (June 11–20, 2025): The competition's organizing committee will review the eligibility and material completeness of registered international projects according to the main evaluation points in the evaluation rules.

3. Online Review (June 21–30, 2025): The online review will evaluate

qualified projects to determine the finalists.

4. On-Site Competition (early July 2025): Selected projects from the online review will advance to the on-site competition. For projects unable to participate on-site, the defense and review will be conducted via an online roadshow.

The Innovation Exchange Camp for College Students will be hosted in Astana, Kazakhstan between June 11 and June 14. Through project pitches, high-level forums, youth dialogues, and site visits, the camp aims to refine participating projects. Teams interested in joining should submit their registration by May 31. The organizing committee will finalize the list of selected projects by June 3. Selection for the exchange camp does not guarantee a place in the final competition.

IV. Competition rewards

Awards:

The regional competition sets up Gold Awards, Silver Awards, and Bronze Awards according to the competition categories. The award-winning projects in the regional competition will be recommended to participate in the finals of the China International College Students Innovation Competition (2025). Specifically, Gold Award projects will directly qualify for the on-site competition of the finals, while Silver Award and Bronze Award projects will directly qualify for the online evaluation of the finals.

Other awards:

1. The travel and accommodation expenses for the teams selected for the College Students' Innovation Exchange Camp in Astana, Kazakhstan will be covered by the regional competition organizer.

2. The international travel and accommodation expenses for teams qualified for the regional competition will be covered by the regional competition organizer.

3. Travel expenses for teams qualified for the competition final following the regional evaluation will be covered by the regional competition organizer.

4. Selected excellent teams will receive support from the regional competition organizers to participate in a short-term exchange program in China.

V. Registration for the competition

1. Entries may be registered through the competition's official registration system or through email.

System registration: Participating projects must register and submit materials via the official website of the Promotion Association for Global Youth Innovation Leaders Community (PILC) (<https://www.pilcchina.org/>). For registration details, please refer to https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/J8vCG4XK9XDfFP-O_hsuxw.

Email registration: Send competition materials to cicsic_ca@163.com. The email subject line should be formatted as: [Project Leader's Name] +

[Project Name]. Attachments must not exceed 50 MB. Materials submitted via email include: identity proof, personal photo, enrollment certificate (for the Creative Group), degree certificate (for the Entrepreneurship Group), and project PPT.

2. Participants must submit a business plan in PPT format and may optionally provide a Word-formatted business plan or a one-minute video as supplementary materials. To facilitate the judges' review, please convert the PPT business plan into PDF format before uploading.

3. To facilitate participant eligibility verification, all team members must submit academic credentials (for creative groups) or shareholding certificates (for entrepreneurial groups) by the registration deadline. Teams with instructors must concurrently provide instructor information in the registration system.

4. In principle, all materials and on-site defense should be in Chinese or English.

VI. Evaluation rules

For competition rules and additional information, please visit the National College Student Entrepreneurship Service Network (<https://cy.ncss.cn>) or the official website of the Promotion Association for Global Youth Innovation Leaders Community (PILC) (<https://www.pilcchina.org/>)

VII. Other

The final interpretation of these terms resides with the Organizing Committee of the Central Asian Regional Competition of the China International College Students' Innovation Competition.

8. Contact information

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