

Overview

Mini - Pitch Night is an elevator pitch competition. An elevator pitch is a concise, compelling introduction that can be communicated in the amount of time it takes to ride an elevator (no more than three (3) minutes). The competition is open to small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs in Tillamook County, Oregon. A well-planned elevator pitch can open the doors to success in your future entrepreneurial endeavors and give you a chance to win up to \$250 in funds to kick-start your business and a chance to move on to the Frist Annual Tillamook Pitch Finale held on January 13, 2024 with a first place prize of \$10,000.

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be a resident of Tillamook County, Oregon.
- The business must be headquartered within Tillamook County, Oregon.
- The pitch must be for a start-up concept or for a new product or service.
- Businesses must be for-profit and be able to show that they have a sustainable future
- Applicants must be ready and available to pitch their business idea at Pitch Night as well as the Pitch Contest Finale, January 13, 2024.
- Applicants must be able to explain how they will use the prize funds.

Format

- Mini - Pitch Night is comprised of an at-large submission process, application at www.edctc.com.
- The submission process will be online and limited to the first six contestants that submit complete submissions.
- A maximum of six (6) pitches will be allowed at the mini -pitch competitions and a maximum of eight at the Tillamook Pitch Finale.
- The top two winners of each of the Mini-Pitch competitions will move on to the Tillamook Pitch Finale.

Application Guidelines

- The person submitting the application should be the owner of the business/business idea and should be the same person who will be pitching live during the Mini - Pitch night and Pitch Finale.
- The application will include the following questions:
 - What is your primary business focus?
 - Tell us more about your service and or product?
 - Who is your target market?
 - What does the future look like for your company?
 - What would you use the money for?

Pitch Guidelines

- The purpose of a pitch is to quickly get the judges' attention, let them know what your product or service is, and what you need the funds for.
- Distributing material, samples and/or prototypes to judges prior to or during your pitch is permitted and encouraged.
- At the Mini - Pitch presenters will be allowed a strict three (3) minutes to pitch followed by five minutes of questions from the panel of judges. The pitches for the finale can be longer, up to 10 minutes with up to 15 minutes for questions/discussion. There will be a time clock and remaining time warnings.

Judges & Scoring

- Individual submissions will be prescreened and applicants will be notified if they can present at the Mini - Pitch competition.
- A panel of two or more judges will be present at the Mini - Pitch competition and three or more will be present at the Pitch Finale.
- Judges will use a scoring sheet and criteria provided by the Tillamook LevelUp Core Team that will be tallied to determine the highest-ranking pitch, individual scores will not be given to participants.

Schedule & Awards

- Participants will be organized in a randomly selected order and will be required to present at their designated time (no swapping).
- The winners will be announced at the conclusion of the Mini - Pitch competition and the Pitch Finale.
- No cash will exchange hands; the Economic Development Council of Tillamook County will work with the winners to provide the award funds.

Other Notes

- This document is intended as a set of guidelines for participants as they prepare to apply and participate in the Pitch events. The information given here is subject to change. If you have questions or need help developing your pitch, please feel free to contact maria@edctc.com or (503)842-8222 ext. 1430.
- The Mini - Pitch Competition(s) and Tillamook Pitch Finale presentations may be recorded (photography and videography) for future promotional use by the organization. By applying, you agree for your image, likeness, and name to be used in any publications or purposes by the LevelUp Tillamook or the Economic Development Council of Tillamook County.