



SMALL BUSINESS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY GUIDELINES

All submissions must be completed through vealeentrepreneurs.org by 11:59PM on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. An Executive Summary no longer than 5 pages is required in .pdf, .doc, .docx or .txt format. The questions below are provided to guide you in completing your Executive Summary and fulfilling the criteria in the scoring rubrics. It is preferable to answer the questions in the given order. The [Small Business](#) and [Innovation](#) judging rubrics are available at the website if you wish to view the scoring criteria.

Provide statistics and/or findings from research you've conducted (e.g., surveys, interviews, internet searches, etc.) whenever possible in your answers to support your assertions and achieve maximum points. This could be in the form of data, graphs, citations, etc. You may attach up to 3 images (sketches, diagrams, prototype photos, etc.) along with your entry to help the judges visualize your concept.

Concept

- Describe your concept.

Customer / Problem

- Who are your customer / user segments and what problem are you solving for them?
- How do you know that this is a real problem experienced by the customer / user?

Your Solution

- Describe how your solution solves the problem.
- What is your product or solution's unique value proposition?

Business Model

- Please describe the components of your business model.
**Business model may contain distribution channels, key partners, key activities, value proposition, key resources, pricing, cost structure, revenue stream, etc.*
- Tell us how you'll generate revenue.
- Tell us about your team and their roles/qualifications? How do you plan to obtain the skills / resources required for your business?

Market

- How large is the market for your product/service?
- What share of the available market do you aim to capture?

Competition

- Identify and describe your competitors?
- What's your competitive advantage or "secret sauce"?
- How will you be able to defend your position against competitors?

Growth

- Describe the next steps you will take to launch this business.
- Tell us how you will grow your business. What are your most immediate needs?