

# AEC

# AMBASSADOR'S ENTREPRENEURIAL CHALLENGE



**INNOVATE,  
PITCH,  
COMPETE!**



**SUBMIT YOUR CONCEPT BY**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT**

**[fi.usembassy.gov/education-culture/aec](http://fi.usembassy.gov/education-culture/aec)**  
**OR [www.facebook.com/finland.usembassy](https://www.facebook.com/finland.usembassy)**



The U.S. Embassy challenges you to tackle a real-life problem, issue, or market opportunity that would improve an enterprise, industry, and/or the country. We invite students from all over Finland to participate in regional competitions. Regional finalists will be hosted in Helsinki for a day of exciting workshops before competing in the national finals. In 2017, finalists participated in workshops led by Harvard Business School and start-ups at Maria 01!

**HOW DOES IT WORK?** Teams of 2-4 students join together to create a business plan or a non-profit service that demonstrates the essential skills for bringing an idea to life: entrepreneurship, innovation, critical thinking, problem solving skills, language ability, and presentation skills. During the regional competitions, each team will deliver a 3-minute (max) “pitch” in English, answer follow up questions from a panel of expert judges, and receive helpful feedback. The winners of the regional finals advance to Helsinki for the national finals and workshops on entrepreneurship, critical thinking, and problem solving.

To enter, submit a one-page description OR a two minute (max) video in English to [AECFinland2018@gmail.com](mailto:AECFinland2018@gmail.com). Submissions must include the name of the team, age category as well as names of student team members and teacher/ advisor, including contact information. Explain your team’s concept and your plan to bring it to life!

### STUDENTS AGES 13 - 15

- Each team must have an adult mentor.
- At least 50% of your team must be Finnish citizens.
- Your concept must be new – no existing businesses allowed!
- One entry per team.
- All team members must be 13 years old and no older than 15 on December 13-14, 2018.

### AWARDS

- Winners receive \$500 in support funding.
- Runners-up will receive \$250 in support funding.

### STUDENTS AGES 16 - 18

- Each team should have an adult mentor.
- At least 50% of your team must be Finnish citizens.
- Your concept must be new – no existing businesses allowed!
- One entry per team.
- All team members must be 16 years old and no older than 18 on July 1, 2019.

### AWARDS

- Winners will receive \$1,000 in support funding and will travel to the United States for a summer entrepreneurship program.
- Runners-up will receive \$500 in support funding.

### TIMELINE

- **Monday, October 1, 2018:** Last day to submit your concept.
- **Regional competitions held during October and November:** Depending on levels of participation, competitions will be held in cities all over Finland. In the past, semifinals have been held in Jyväskylä, Kuopio, Vaasa, Oulu, Rovaniemi, Tampere, Turku and Helsinki.
- **Finals and entrepreneurship workshops in Helsinki on December 13 - 14, 2018.**

For more information, visit our AEC website at [fi.usembassy.gov/education-culture/aec](http://fi.usembassy.gov/education-culture/aec)

Or contact the U.S. Embassy at [AECFinland2018@gmail.com](mailto:AECFinland2018@gmail.com)



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