Frequently Asked Questions
As of October 25, 2021

2022 Conrad Challenge Innovation Summit (In-person Event)
Space Center Houston | NASA’s Johnson Space Center
April 26-29, 2022

Who will be invited to the 2022 Innovation Summit? The top 5 scoring Finalist teams in each category will be invited to the 2022 Innovation Summit, taking place April 26-29, 2022, at Space Center Houston & NASA’s Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

When will the Finalist teams be announced? All Finalists will be announced and receive an invitation from the Conrad Foundation no later than Friday, February 25, 2022. The top 5 Finalist Teams in each category will be given specific instructions for claiming their spots to the Innovation Summit.

Any team that cannot attend Summit will need to request their invitation to participate in the Virtual Finals Showcase. We recognize that teams that are recognized as Finalists may not be able to attend Summit for COVID-related reasons, scheduling conflicts, financial circumstances, or other reasons beyond their control.

When is the deadline for top 5 Finalist teams to accept their spot at the 2022 Innovation Summit? Teams must complete their invitation acceptance or request participation in the Virtual Finals Showcase, as soon as possible, but no later than the deadline of March 11, 2022.

Does our entire team need to attend in person? Based on the continued social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, student teams will not be penalized if the entire team is unable to attend in-person. However, in order to qualify for judging, at least two members of the team must attend in-person. We strongly encourage all members of an invited Finalist team to attend Summit, if invited. ALL members of the team must still contribute to the development of and be showcased in Finalist pitch materials.

Do we need an adult to accompany us in-person at the Innovation Summit?

- All teams must be accompanied by an adult chaperone over the age of 21.
- Official waivers will need to be sent to all Conrad Innovation Summit participants, and those under the age of 18 will need to obtain permission from their legal guardian.
- It is highly encouraged that your coach attends the Innovation Summit, but it is not required.

Do we need to be vaccinated? What are the COVID-19 safety precautions? The Conrad Foundation is committed to safely providing invited Finalist teams this well-deserved in-person opportunity to receive live judge feedback, experience Space Center Houston, and make lifelong memories and connections. With the Innovation Summit months away, we will continue to monitor all
local and federal mandates to adjust planning as needed and will provide real time updates with any significant impact to the in-person event. In addition, we will provide a more comprehensive outline of safety protocol closer to the event. Below are the current standards we plan to follow:

- While we encourage vaccinations, we are currently not requiring proof of vaccination to attend the Innovation Summit.
- We will continue to monitor face-covering procedures as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, regional guidelines, and current venue requirements as we approach the date of the event. *(Currently, masks are required while indoors at our venue Space Center Houston.)*
- We are working closely with our venues and are confident that they are doing everything they can to keep their guests safe, as recommended by their local health agencies and required by their management.

**Will there be a financial requirement for the Conrad Challenge Innovation Summit?**

- **All participants** (Student, coach, and chaperones) **who attend the in-person Innovation Summit will be asked to pay a registration fee to attend the event.** The Conrad Foundation is sensitive to the current global economic landscapes and are continuing to work with our sponsors and partners to provide the most cost-effective solutions to our participants. A final registration fee price will be announced by January 30, 2021.
- **The registration fee covers the following during Summit:** all meals during official programming, VIP Tours and NASA Center admission each day, guest bag which includes a backpack, T-shirt, name badge, transportation to/from the airport to host hotel and to/from Space Center Houston each day, and other fun surprises.
- **Attendees are responsible for their own airfare and hotel accommodations.** We recommend staying at the host hotel, which includes a discounted room rate and breakfast each day. The host hotel will also be the pickup/drop-off location for Summit transportation.

**Will there be financial aid available for Finalist teams to attend the Conrad Challenge Innovation Summit?** As with other fees associated with the Conrad Challenge, discounted rates may apply for qualified title one schools or special circumstances on Summit registration fees only. Unfortunately, The Foundation cannot offer financial aid for travel or hotel expenses at this time.

**Will the 2022 Innovation Summit be live streamed allowing others to view the event?** We expect to live-stream select portions of the Summit. The Conrad team is still working to determine what portions of the programming from the 2022 Innovation Summit will be streamed live. We will share this information closer to the event along with instructions on how to share with others.

**Will we have time to network/collaborate with others?** Yes! The Innovation Summit is a 4-day event with lots of opportunities to network and collaborate, and have fun! We have created several scheduled opportunities for informal and formal networking. In addition, the Alumni Leadership Council will host multiple sessions to promote networking and community with the Finalist teams.

**When will we know all the details for Finalist material requirements, the judging process, and instructions?** Finalists will receive emails from the Conrad team with all information on
details regarding Finalist submission requirements, materials, and deadlines, as well as important in-person Innovation Summit details including official schedules and transportation logistics.

**Do the awards and prizes at Summit differ from the Virtual Finals Showcase?** Yes. The traditional prizes in each category, Pete Conrad Scholar and Power Pitch, will be awarded only at the in-person Summit. We will recognize top teams at Virtual Finals, but they will NOT be eligible for the **Pete Conrad Scholar** and **Power Pitch** awards, which are awarded to the top scoring and most dynamic teams in each category, in the judgment of the Conrad Foundation. All Finalist teams at Summit and the Virtual Finals are eligible for and will receive prizes awarded to all Finalists, as listed on our website from the Conrad Foundation and our sponsors and partners. [View the prizes here](#).

**If one of the top 5 Finalist teams can’t attend Summit, how will other Finalist teams be chosen to attend?** We do expect that some Finalist teams will not be able to attend in person. Should spots become available at the Innovation Summit, invitations to attend will be sent Alternate Finalists and other teams in the order of judge scores.

**If a Finalist team can’t attend Summit, will the team be invited to the Virtual Finals Showcase?** Yes. Any team that cannot attend Summit will be invited to participate in the Virtual Finals Showcase. We recognize that teams that are recognized as Finalists may not be able to attend Summit for COVID-related reasons, scheduling conflicts, financial circumstances, or other reasons beyond their control.