



## **BSC Capital Connections Business Pitch Competition Guidelines and Rules**

Two categories will be available for the 2023 BSC Capital Connections Business Pitch Competition: businesses in operation for six (6) months or fewer, hereafter referred to as "Startup Business", and businesses in operation for six (6) months or more, hereafter referred to as "Existing Business".

Employees of the Business Success Center, the Urban Chamber of Commerce, and all associated sponsors of the Pitch Competition are ineligible to participate. All determinations as to participant eligibility shall be made at the sole discretion of the Business Pitch Committee reviewing the initial pool of applicants.

The competition in both categories is open to businesses in any industry. To qualify, entrants must meet the following criteria:

### **Startup Business Eligibility**

1. Must have operated for six months or fewer
2. Must represent a business project or concept in the early stages of development or launch

### **Existing Business Eligibility**

1. Must have been in operation for more than six months (proof of licensing required).
2. Must represent a business project or concept in the early stages of development or launch.

### **Application Process and Timeline**

1. Applications must be submitted by **Friday, December 1, 2023, by 11:59 PM PST**. Application must include the following items:
  - a. Completed application form ([Click Here](#) to complete the form online)
  - b. Two-minute elevator pitch (upload video and audio or submit a link)
  - c. Executive Summary (4 pages maximum)
  - d. Copy of current Nevada business license(s)
2. All documents submitted in digital format must be submitted via the online form.
3. Failure to submit any of the required documents will result in the disqualification of your application.
4. Applications will be accepted up to Friday, December 1, 2023, at 11:59 P.M. Pacific Standard Time.
5. Finalists will be selected, and all applicants will be sent a notification email by Monday, December 4, 2023.
6. Finalists must reply to the notification email to participate in the Live Pitch Event at the BSC Capital Connections Business Pitch Competition by Tuesday, December 4, 2023, at 4:00 P.M. Pacific Standard Time. Failure to confirm will result in disqualification.

7. Competition organizers reserve the right to delay or extend the registration period and adjust the number of finalists selected to make the presentation pitch at any time.
8. By applying, you agree to the competition terms and conditions.
9. If your business is not selected as a finalist, you are still encouraged to attend. You will have a great opportunity to network with like-minded entrepreneurs and learn about business development resources available in Nevada.
10. All finalists have the option to join the "Practice Your Pitch" session on Thursday, December 7, 2023, from 6:00 P.M to 8:00 P.M PST.

## Competition Guidelines and Rules

1. All Pitch Application submissions will be reviewed by the Business Pitch Competition's Committee prior to the competition's final qualification date.
2. If a registrant's application is selected as one of the competition finalists prior to the final qualification date, the registrant will be invited to compete in the BSC Capital Connections Business Pitch Competition.
3. Up to 5 finalists will be selected (3 final presenters, 2 alternates) to compete in the Live Pitch Event. In the event one or more finalists cannot compete on the day of the conference, alternate applicants may be selected by BSC organizers to replace them. BSC organizers reserve the right to adjust the number of finalists at any time.
4. One representative of each finalist company will have 2 minutes to make their pitch presentation before the judges' panel. Pitches will be hard stopped at 2 minutes. Time will begin when the presenter begins speaking. The presentation will be followed by a 3-minute Q&A with the judges.
5. Presenters must be physically present for the Live Pitch Event at the BSC Capital Connections Business Pitch Competition, which will be held on Saturday, December 9, 2023, by 08:30 AM PST. Failure to arrive by 08:30 AM PST may result in disqualification. No prerecorded presentations will be permitted.
6. Companies may have a "back up" presenter ready to make the pitch if an emergency arises or unforeseen circumstance prevents the original presenter from participating.
7. The use of PowerPoint or slide presentations is not permitted. Props, posters, or prototypes may be used or displayed, however, set up time will not be provided. Handouts and samples may not be distributed to the judges or audience during your presentation.
8. All public sessions of the competition may be recorded and rebroadcast by event organizers, the public at large, or members of the media. Participants should not expect or assume any rights of confidentiality related to data or information presented or discussed during the public session.
9. The winners will be announced at the BSC Capital Connections Business Pitch Competition the same day and must be present to claim their award.
10. Competition organizers reserve the right to disqualify any application submission that it deems inappropriate, unethical, or offensive – or to disqualify any finalist that violates the rules of the Live Pitch Event.