



Here are some frequently asked questions about the Tata Varsity Pitch 2024.

Q. When do entries open & close?

A: Entries will open at 12:00 BST on Monday 29th July 2024 and close at 12:00 BST on Friday 6th September 2024.

Q. Am I eligible to apply?

A: The competition is open to current UK students or those that have graduated in 2017 and after from any UK university, college or further education institution.

Q. How do I apply?

A: You apply by completing the application form online, accessed via our TVP2024 main webpage [Tata Varsity Pitch](#).

Q. Can I submit more than one application?

A: Yes, you can submit more than one application, if you are currently working on more than one business or business idea.

Q: What sort of supporting materials should be submitted?

A: In the online application, we ask for an elevator video pitch where you get to tell us about yourself and your venture or business idea. The video should be no more than 60 seconds and is a short compelling intro, designed to spark interest in your business or idea. Check out our [Top Tips - on how to prepare your 60 seconds video pitch](#).

Q: Are my ideas kept confidential?

A: We don't share your application publicly. Your full application will only be seen by the category's judging panel and NACUE team. However, we share on our [Tata Varsity Pitch](#) website a summary of Semi-finalists' and Finalists' business ideas and video pitches they provide. If there is any information in your application which you are particularly concerned about, please advise our team via events@nacue.com.

Q. I have an existing video pitch which is longer than 60 seconds – can I still enter it?

A: You are welcome to enter an existing video, however the judges will only take the first 60 seconds into consideration when shortlisting, to keep the process fair. You should ensure therefore that all the relevant information is included in those first 60 seconds. It is strongly recommended that you review the [Application Pack](#) which recommends the aspects to include.

Q. Someone in our business isn't a student or recent graduate – can we still apply?

A: Yes, certainly just as long as at least one member of your business meets the criteria then it does not matter if there are other members who do not. If this is the case, the submission should be led by the individual who meets the eligibility criteria.

Q. Can I apply if my business concept is at the early stage and not generating revenue yet?

A: Absolutely! The 'Early Stage' category is ideal for you! We're looking for the most creative and innovative ideas out there, whether they are just an idea or a fully-fledged business already selling a product. Remember every business has to start somewhere...

Q. Does my business need to be for the UK market?

A: No but the business needs to be UK based. The competition allows for you to launch your business internationally so long as you attend a UK university or college or have graduated from a UK university or college no earlier than 2017.

Q. I have returned to my home country, I'm exceptionally keen to enter the competition although I'm not sure whether I will be eligible to apply?

A: You can enter the competition from any location around the world. However, if you are shortlisted as a finalist you will have to come to the UK for the 2-day Bootcamp in October and Grand Final event in November.

Q. If I have already submitted my application can I update my 60 second video pitch?

A: We cannot edit any applications however you can email events@nacue.com to request that your application be deleted. You are then responsible for re-submitting your application through a new application.

Q. How does the Online Peoples' Vote work?

A: This year's Online People's Vote will open 12:00 BST on Monday 23rd September 2024 to 12:00 BST on Friday 27th September 2024. All submitted video pitches will then be published onto our [Tata Varsity Pitch](#) webpage and you can then share this amongst your networks to gain votes, so get preparing your strategy! Your supporters can vote for your video pitch and the one with the highest number of votes will be fast-tracked to the Bootcamp and Grand Final. The Online Peoples' Vote winner be contacted first and then publicly announced on Monday 30th September 2024 via NACUE social media channels, so keep an eye out...

Note: It is not compulsory to enter the Online Peoples' Vote, you can opt out using the appropriate section of the online application form.

Q. How do I know that the other applicants Online Peoples' Vote is genuine?

A: All voters must register to vote on the Online Peoples' Vote portal, one registration represents one vote. Any pitches which have unusual or suspicious voting activity on them will be subject to investigation by NACUE and may result in disqualification from both this year's event and all future NACUE competitions.

Q. When will I find out if I've reached the semi-finals?

A: You will be contacted immediately before the official announcement on Monday 30th September 2024. Please ensure that you have provided the correct contact details on your application so that NACUE staff can contact you. If you have not received confirmation by close of business on the Monday 30th September 2024, regrettably you will not have been successful this year. Due to the significant number of applications, we are unfortunately unable to provide individual feedback at the preliminary stage of the competition.

Q. Does the competition offer any support or mentorship?

A: Yes! We offer a 2-day bootcamp for the shortlisted finalists and you will interact with mentors and speakers from various organisation so make the most of the opportunity. After the competition, Tata Group Companies may stay in touch. Any updates about your business, we always welcome and you can drop us a note at events@nacue.com, and we always try and support you where we can.

Q. Do I need to be available for all dates?

A: If you are shortlisted, you will be required to pitch online on Friday 11th October 2024. If you are later selected as the finalist in your category, you must be able to attend (in person) the 2-day Bootcamp on 23rd October 2024 and 24th October 2024 and the Grand Final (in person) on Tuesday 12th November 2024 (both these in person events are in London).

Q: Can I apply for the competition multiple times?

A: Absolutely. Your idea can evolve and develop throughout the years, so you can apply every year while you are eligible to enter the competition (up to 7 years after you graduated) and have not previously won the competition.

Q: Do I need to have a registered company in order to apply for the competition?

A: No, you don't need to have a registered company to enter the competition. However, if you win the competition, you will be required to set up a bank account in the company name before the prize money can be released, as per the competitions [Terms & Conditions](#).