



2017-2018 YEC Series Requirements & Important Dates

Communities hosting local-level entrepreneurship competitions may apply for a sanction to have their event to be part of the “Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge Series” culminating in a statewide youth entrepreneurship competition (KEC) on April 24, 2018. Community entrepreneurship competitions must meet certain guidelines in order to qualify as part of the series and to be eligible to use E-Community funds to pay for part or all of the competition.*

Important Dates

November 17, 2017 – Deadline for YEC Series online sanction applications due to NetWork Kansas

March 23, 2018 – Cut-off for sanctioned community entrepreneurship competitions to be held

March 30, 2018 – Executive Summaries for KEC State Championship Due to KSU

April 13, 2018 – KEC Finalists announced

April 24, 2018 – KEC State Championship

Requirements for all Events

Local entrepreneurship competitions must meet **all** of the following requirements in order to qualify as part of the Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge series.

- 1.) The physical location of the competition must be in Kansas.
- 2.) The participating students must reside in Kansas.
- 3.) The competition must be open to students in one or more grades between 9-12th grades. The competition may be open to others but at least one of these grades must be represented. *Ex. 7-12th, 9-12th, 10th grade only, or 6-9th grades are all acceptable competition structures.*
- 4.) The competition must include a written Executive Summary following the provided “Executive Summary Guidelines” and a 4-minute Presentation, which can be delivered in the tradeshow, or in a separate phase of competition. The competition **may** also include one or more of the following in-person components: elevator pitch, tradeshow, and/or other event.
- 5.) The competition must reserve at least one judging spot for an active member of the Kansas Masons.
- 6.) Prizes are not mandatory, but competitions offering prizes **must not** exceed a total of \$3,500 in prizes, and **must not** exceed \$1,500 for first place, \$1,250 for second place, and \$1,000 for third place. No other prize should exceed \$1,000. This cap does not include the \$250 prize sponsored by the Kansas Masons for the first place business.
- 7.) The competition must apply for a sanction from NetWork Kansas, either by the deadline of November 17, 2017 or **before the event is held, if an event occurs prior to November 17. Only events awarded a sanction by NetWork Kansas will be considered part of the YEC Series.**
- 8.) The competition must take place between August 1, 2017 and March 23, 2018.
- 9.) The competition organizer must agree to pay a fee of \$1,500 to NetWork Kansas if the event is awarded a sanction. If an E-Community organizes the event, the fee of \$1,500 is waived for the 2017-2018 YEC Series as a benefit of the E-Community Partnership.
- 10.) A student may compete in only one local event per 2017-2018 YEC Series.

About

The Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge (YEC) Series is a NetWork Kansas program. NetWork Kansas is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Any fees or donations for the YEC Series support program costs.

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For more information, visit www.youthshipchallenge.com

The 2017-2018 YEC Series is presented with support from:
NetWork Kansas & the E-Community Partnership
Kansas State University Center for the Advancement of Entrepreneurship
The Kansas Masons



College of Business Administration
Center for the Advancement of Entrepreneurship





Benefits for all Events

- All sanctioned events will gain access to a suite of tools and resources from NetWork Kansas and KSU, including entrepreneurship videos and a resource kit for planning and hosting a local competition, and full access to the YEC Portal, a digital tool for planning, organizing, and running a youth entrepreneurship competition.
- All sanctioned events will earn one guaranteed spot at the KEC to be used by the 1st place business or a first alternate.
- All sanctioned event participants may also apply for the Executive Summary review and compete for up to 15 wildcard spots at the KEC.
- All sanctioned events will receive a \$250 prize sponsored by the Kansas Masons for the 1st place business (or the 1st alternate if the 1st place business is unable to attend the KEC).

Kansas Entrepreneurship Challenge (KEC) - State Championship

For full KEC information, please refer to K-State's Kansas Entrepreneurship Challenge website:

<https://cba.k-state.edu/kec>

Format

The KEC will use an Executive Summary and a 4-minute Formal Presentation with an additional 4-minute judges' Q & A. There will also be a separate, optional Tradeshow competition at the KEC.

Qualifying

The first place winner from each sanctioned YEC Series competition qualifies to participate in the KEC. In the event the first place winner cannot attend, the second place winner is the first alternate and may attend instead. Businesses may also qualify through the Executive Summary Open Review.

Executive Summary Open Review

- Up to 15 teams may qualify for a spot in the KEC through the selection in the Executive Summary open review. The written Executive Summary must be submitted by: March 30, 2018 and meet the Executive Summary format requirements.

KEC Executive Summary Guidelines

Required at local and state levels.

All submitted work must be the original work of the team members. Any submission that does not meet these requirements will be eliminated.

Format:

- No longer than three pages; must be submitted in PDF format
- At least 10 point font
- At least .75" margins on all four sides

KEC Executive Summary and Presentation Judging Criteria

Optional at local level, required at state level.

Market opportunity - 30%

Sizable market need presented, with the ability & plan to capture it

Business Model - 30%

Company has a viable plan to grow a profitable business

Management Capability - 20%

Founder / team demonstrates ability to effectively grow company

Product / Service Offering - 20%

Customer focused solution with a clear value proposition



E-Communities & the YEC Series

For NetWork Kansas E-Communities submitting a sanctioned event, the following additional guidelines must be observed in addition to the “Requirements for all Events” in order to access E-Community loan funds to pay for the event. Sanctioned E-Community events are permitted to use up to \$5,000 in loan funds per event to pay for the cost of hosting an event, educational materials, prizes, travel fees, and other costs associated with hosting a sanctioned YEC series competition.

Additional Requirements for E-Community YEC Events:

- At least one member of the local E-Community leadership team and/or financial review board must help organize and/or host the entrepreneurship competition. This person will work with guidance from their regional E-Community representative to set up the event.
- E-Community events must take place in the geographic boundaries of an E-Community, even if they choose to admit participants from beyond that geographic area.
- E-Communities must invite a local or regional public sector business resource partner to participate in the process as a committee member, educational resource, mentor, and/or judge. Partners may come from these organizations: KSBDC, SCORE, Kansas Department of Commerce, Certified Development Companies, Kansas Main Street, USDA, City or County Economic Development organizations, college or university business department instructors.
- E-Communities hosting a sanctioned event should establish a working group or committee as a subset of the leadership team to organize the event. The committee can have members from outside the leadership team.
- E-Communities should include private sector business resource partners as committee members, resources, mentors, or judges such as bankers, attorneys, insurance, accountants, and entrepreneurs.

Additional Benefits for E-Community YEC Events:

- As a benefit of the E-Community Partnership, **the \$1,500 sanction application fee is waived** for the 2017-2018 Series.
- All E-Community sanctioned events will receive a \$250 prize sponsored by NetWork Kansas for the school or classroom of the 1st place student.
- E-Communities gain access to additional assistance from their regional E-Community representative to plan and host the event.
- E-Communities will be provided a judge for their local event by NetWork Kansas if needed.
- E-Communities gain access to additional travel grant funds to pay for state competition travel expenses if needed.

More Information

For more information, please consult your region’s assigned NetWork Kansas E-Community representative, or contact: Anne Dewvall, Manager, Entrepreneurship Community Partnership adewvall@networkkansas.com. Visit www.youtheshipchallenge.com for updates.

** E-Communities may use loan funds or admin/marketing funds to pay for part or all costs incurred hosting a youth entrepreneurship fair that meets the YEC Series qualifications. Exemptions to one or more requirements might be granted on a case-by-case basis. Competitions being held outside an E-Community will not be able to access E-Community loan funds or other NetWork Kansas funds to pay for the cost of hosting a competition. Contact adewvall@networkkansas.com to discuss.*





Sanction Form Guide

The following questions must be answered to complete the NetWork Kansas YEC Sanction Application. This application is required and must be completed in order to have your local event sanctioned as part of this year's series. The application helps to ensure that you understand and will abide by the rules regarding the structure of local competitions. It is also required in order for E-Communities to use loan funds to pay for event expenses. Only events that are sanctioned are officially part of our YEC Series and can qualify winners to compete at the KEC State Championship.

Note: This paper guide does **NOT** count as completing the sanction form. It must be completed online at: <https://yecapp.knack.com/yec-version-20#welcome/> Login or create an account to fill out the form.

Organizers

The Organizer of a YEC Series competition is the person in charge of creating, marketing and executing a local YEC event. Often, this person is the E-Community point person but not in every case.

- Event Organizer First and Last Name:
- Phone Number:
- Email:
- Event Website:
- Is there another organizer for the competition? Contact info:

E-Community

- Will this event be in an E-Community? Y/N - Choose appropriate E-Community

Schools and Teachers

- How many schools do you expect to participate?
- Which schools do you think will participate?

Teacher Champions

Teacher Champions are teachers at local schools that assist students in preparing for a YEC Series competition. They can be teachers, counselors, or administrators.

- Will students work on their business during school hours?
- Grades Eligible to participate:
- Estimated number of students competing:
- Is this the first year your community has hosted a YEC Series competition?
- How many years have you hosted a youth entrepreneurship competition?

Event Information

- Competition Name:
- Competition Date/Time:
- Competition Location and Address:
- Which components do you plan to use as part of this competition? (The Executive Summary and 4-Minute Presentation are required.)
- Will you be awarding prizes? Y/N
- Prize money amount and source:
(Prizes must not exceed a total of \$3,500 in prizes, and must not exceed \$1,500 for first place, \$1,250 for second place, and \$1,000 for third place. No other prize should exceed \$1,000).
- Have you identified an active member of the Kansas Masons to be a judge? Y/N