



2024–2025 JUMP into STEM Challenge Requirements and Rules

Updated: 7/31/2024

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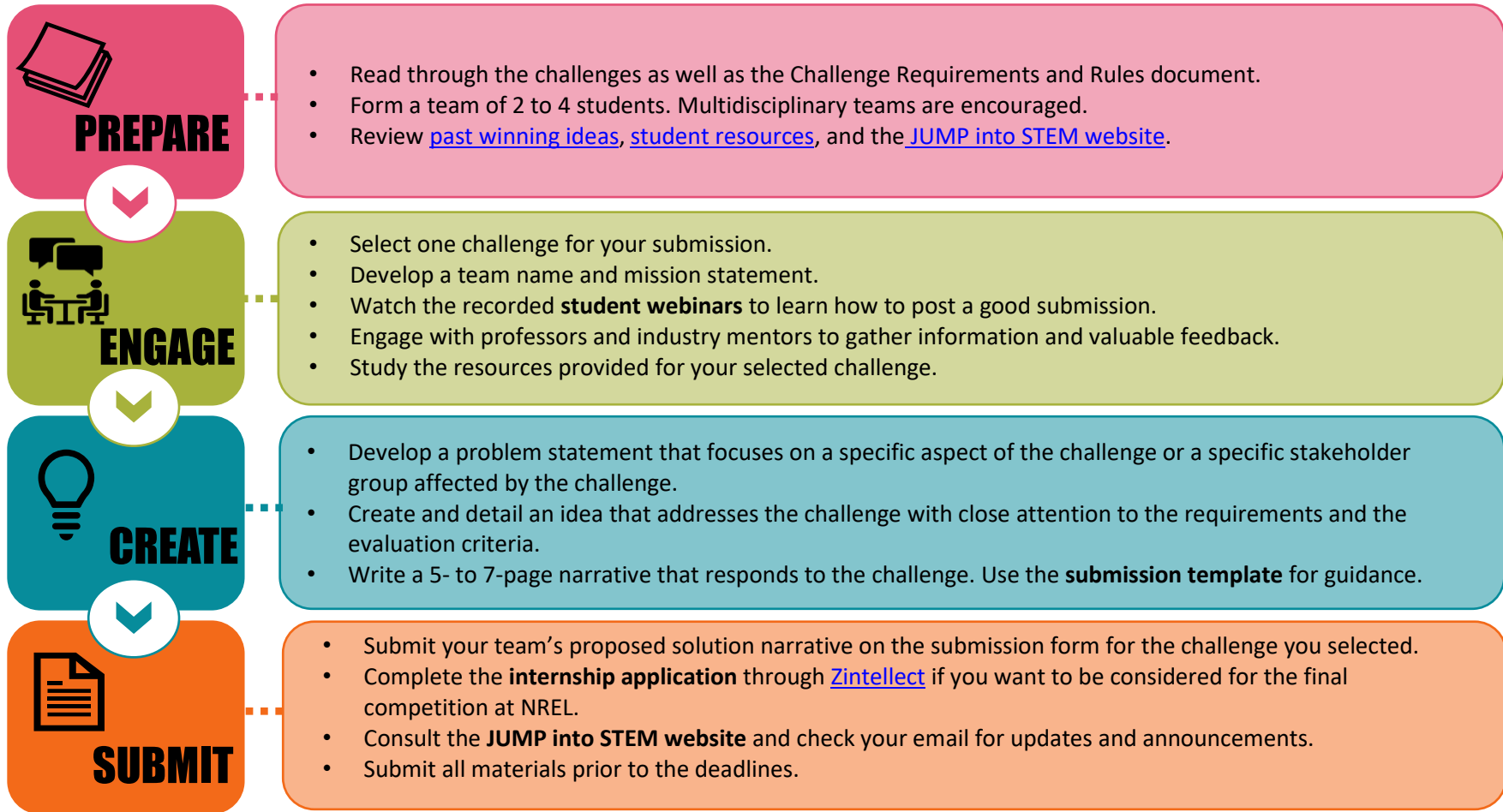
1 Overview of JUMP into STEM Competition

1.1 Summary of Important Dates

Please note the following milestones for the 2024–2025 JUMP into STEM Competition:

- **August 6, 2024:** All three 2024–2025 JUMP into STEM challenges are posted to the [JUMP into STEM website](#). The Challenge Requirements and Rules document will also be posted, and students can begin posting their submissions.
- **November 8, 2024, 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET):** Challenges close and judging begins. No new submissions will be accepted after 5 p.m. ET. Internship applications must be finished and submitted through [Zintellect](#).
- **November 15, 2024:** Recommendation is due for internship application.
- **December 6, 2024:** Finalists will be notified and invited to attend the final competition at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in January.
- **December 9, 2024:** Finalists must confirm with event organizers if they will attend the final competition at NREL in January.
- **January 24, 2025, 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET):** Finalists must send their final competition presentations to jump@ornl.gov. JUMP into STEM organizers will confirm receipt of presentations.
- **January 30–31, 2025:** The final competition will be held in person at NREL, and finalist teams will have the opportunity to present their submissions. Winners will be awarded with 2025 summer internships at NREL, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). Internships are subject to site access requirements and availability of funding. For more information, see the [JUMP into STEM Building Technologies Internship Program \(DOE-JUMPintoSTEM-BTIP-2025\)](#) eligibility requirements and procedures.

1.2 Tasks Flow Chart



For communications and questions, email the organizers at jump@ornl.gov.

1.3 Submission Paper

The required file naming conventions and due dates are listed below. Replace your team’s information in the brackets in the file name.

Deliverable	File Format	File Name	Due Date
Idea Submission	PDF	JUMP_[SHORT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTION NAME]_SUBMISSION_[SUBMISSION DATE (YYYY-MM-DD format)].[EXTENSION] (e.g., JUMP_ORNL_SUBMISSION_2024-08-25.pdf)	November 8, 2024, 5:00 p.m. ET
Final Competition Presentation	PowerPoint or PDF	JUMP_[SHORT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTION NAME]_FINAL_[SUBMISSION DATE (YYYY-MM-DD format)].[EXTENSION] (e.g., JUMP_ORNL_FINAL_2024-08-25.pdf)	January 24, 2025

1.3.1 Instructions for Adding Team Submissions to the JUMP into STEM Website

Please submit the following information to the corresponding submission prompts on jumpintostem.org. The abstract and image for Challenge winners and Challenge finalists will be published on the JUMP into STEM website.

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Abstract (up to 250 words): Please include an abstract of your project. The abstract may be displayed on the jumpintostem.org website. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Optional image (file size limit: 1 MB; file type: .jpg): Your team has the option to submit an image that represents your project. This can be a photo or a figure from your paper. The image may be displayed on the jumpintostem.org website. |

1.3.2 Submission Paper Instructions

Your submission paper clearly communicates the salient points of the project. A successful submission should meet the following requirements:

Submission Paper Format Requirements

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper size: 8.5 × 11 inches |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Font: Single-spaced, 11-point font for body text and 10-point font for captions |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borders: 0.5-inch minimum except for tables, figures, and images |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum page length: 7 pages for main content (unlimited appendix content) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File format: Single PDF |

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• File size: Limit 8 MB |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• File name: JUMP_[SHORT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTION NAME]_SUBMISSION_[SUBMISSION DATE (YYYY-MM-DD)].[EXTENSION] (e.g., JUMP_ORNL_SUBMISSION_2024-08-25.pdf) |

Submission Paper Content Requirements

Please submit the following as a single-spaced PDF document that is a written narrative of the team’s proposed solution. PowerPoint decks or submissions in presentation format do not meet the submission paper requirement. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. The quality of writing will be considered, so review by peers is strongly encouraged.

Project Team Background (up to 2 pages, single-spaced)

- Project name, team name, and collegiate institution(s)
- Team mission statement
- A short biography for each team member. This should include information such as major, level (freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, graduate), and other relevant background information such as experience with building science, future career goals, and formative experiences that shaped each individual’s contribution to the challenge.
- **Diversity statement** (minimum 1 paragraph, 5–7 sentences): One of JUMP into STEM’s key objectives is to encourage diversity of thought and background in students entering the building science industry. A diversity gap exists in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields, meaning that certain groups are underrepresented or have been historically excluded from STEM fields. These groups include those based on race, ethnicity, and gender—and this gap needs to be addressed. Diversity of thought can be achieved through teams consisting of students from different majors and minors. If there are barriers that affect the racial, ethnic, or gender breakdown of your team, please elaborate. The diversity statement is your opportunity to describe your team’s diversity of background and thought both generally and as applicable to your chosen challenge.

Project Challenge Submission (up to 5 pages, single-spaced)

- Select and address one of the three challenges published for the current competition.
- Investigate the **background** of the challenge and consider related **stakeholders**. Stakeholders include those who are affected by the problem, part of the supply chain, or manufacturing the technology product(s), as well as those who may have decision-making power and are able to provide solutions (technical or nontechnical solutions, such as policies). For example, you could include stakeholders who have previously experienced environmental pollution or a high energy burden.
- Write a 1- to 2-paragraph **problem statement**, focusing on a specific aspect of the problem and the stakeholder groups affected by or involved in the problem. The stakeholder groups can be from a specific location, socioeconomic status, age, or demographic (e.g., people living in subsidized housing).

- Develop and describe a novel **solution** that addresses or solves the specific problem from your problem statement. The **solution must be technical** and also incorporate one or more of the following components as appropriate: economic impact, policy, commercialization, codes, standards, or other.
- Address the requirements for your selected challenge as written in its description. Include graphs, figures, and photos. Discuss the feasibility of your solution and how it will affect your stakeholders.

Technology to Market (included in the 5-page maximum limit)

- For **market characterization**, the descriptions of the market throughout the technology-to-market plan and market adoption barrier analysis should establish the team’s overall understanding of the market.
- Develop a **technology-to-market plan**. A technology-to-market plan describes how the team envisions bringing its idea from concept to installation on real buildings or integrated into the design of real buildings and includes a cost/benefit analysis.
 - The cost/benefit analysis does not need to be exhaustive and should include a comparison of the solution with current or existing technologies or practices. Benefits such as building energy reductions, improved occupant health or productivity, and lowered energy cost burden should be evaluated.
 - The plan should also discuss which key stakeholder(s) should be involved to commercialize the technology and then sell and install the technologies with your target market(s).
- Perform a **market adoption barrier** analysis. The team should identify at least one key market adoption barrier for implementation and specifically address how the proposed solution will overcome that barrier. Barriers should align with key stakeholder(s) identified by the student team.

Include references. (References will not count toward the 5-page maximum.)

Appendix (optional, no page limit)

- Teams may wish to add an appendix. This is optional and might not be reviewed by the judges.
- The appendix has no page limit.

Use of Artificial Intelligence in Competition Deliverables

The following are requirements regarding the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in competition deliverables:

- Teams must indicate if generative AI was used in any part of their deliverables, including the tool and prompts that were used.
- Teams are not allowed to use verbatim text from a generative AI chatbot as part of their competition deliverables. Chatbots may reuse text from other sources, causing inadvertent plagiarism.
- All human authors of a deliverable are responsible for all of its content. ChatGPT and similar tools cannot be held accountable.

- Citations recommended by any generative AI chatbot must be verified with the original literature because chatbots are known to generate citations that are inaccurate or do not exist.
- AI-generated images or multimedia used in competition deliverables will not be accepted.
- The organizers may decline to move a deliverable forward in the competition if AI is used inappropriately according to the requirements outlined here.

Avoid plagiarism. If a team includes the work of others without citation, the submission will be disqualified. Plagiarism includes copying and pasting the work of others and paraphrasing published works without citation. Photos and images also require citation. Please consider appropriate style guidelines to avoid plagiarism, such as APA, *Chicago Manual of Style*, MLA, and others.

1.4 Internship Application Instructions for Students Who Want to Present at the Final Competition

Selected finalists will give presentations at the JUMP into STEM final competition. A panel of judges will select winners, who will be awarded with summer 2025 internships at either NREL, ORNL, or PNNL. All participating team members must submit an internship application at the same time as their paper submission to be considered.

Internship Application Requirements

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a profile on Zintellect.com. Use an email that you will check often.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must be currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree-seeking program at a regionally accredited US college or university at time of application. The student must be attending the US college or university and be physically located in the US. Students graduating in the fall of 2024 or later are eligible for the internship.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must have a cumulative minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale as of the application date, which is November 8, 2024.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must be at least 18 years old.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must have medical insurance effective for the entire term of appointment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must have one academic or professional recommendation. Submit the name and verified correct contact information of one reference into the Zintellect system. Reference evaluations are due by November 15, 2024. References must submit their evaluation through the link they receive from the Zintellect system. Be sure that your reference knows to be on the lookout for an email requesting their evaluation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must provide proof of relevant citizenship or immigration status. If a selected applicant is not a US citizen, the applicant must obtain and show proof of a valid visa status allowing JUMP into STEM to pay a stipend. Once an offer has been made, the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) Immigration Office may guide the process of obtaining appropriate immigration documents. Participants who are foreign nationals must also receive approval and clearance from the US Department of Energy; this process is initiated by the hosting national laboratory and could take more than 10 weeks.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must submit all required application essays and answer all required questions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must submit academic transcripts.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The internship will be in the summer of 2025 only. Once awarded, students are responsible for securing their approval to participate and receive a stipend in the summer of 2025. Interns will be required to submit a technical report or poster at the end of the appointment period.

2 Challenge Evaluation Criteria

Ideas should represent advanced critical thinking toward a technical, innovative, diverse, and applicable solution with demonstrated presentation expertise and knowledge. Selection of the challenge winning team and the challenge finalist teams will be determined by looking at total scores PLUS a discussion review during the judge panel’s merit review meeting. Judges may consider the overall team’s level of study when determining the quality of submissions. The highest score does not necessarily mean that the team is a challenge winner, although scores heavily contribute to the selection of the winner. Judges will complete one form (shown below) for each idea submitted:

Solution (weight: 40%)	Possible Score
Solution Please rate the solution and its ability to address the problem statement. The solution must be a technical solution. It should address the stakeholder needs. It may include one or more of the following components, as appropriate: economic, policy, commercialization, codes, standards, or other.	0–10
Feasibility Please rate the solution’s overall feasibility. For example, solutions that are not technically possible or that lack a technical feasibility discussion will receive lower scores.	0–10
Novelty Please rate the originality and creativity of the solution and how significant the contribution will be to the building industry.	0–10
Impact Please rate the overall scalability of the team’s solution. For example, can the solution be extended to communities, similar stakeholder groups, or a nationwide solution?	0–10
Subtotal	Up to 40
Technology-to-Market (weight: 30%)	Possible Score
Market Characterization Please rate the team’s description and understanding of the market.	0–10
Technology-to-Market Plan Please rate the team’s proposed plan to bring the solution from a paper concept to installation or integration with real buildings or building designs, as well as the team’s cost/benefit analysis. The cost/benefit analysis may include benefits such as energy reductions, improvements to occupant health and productivity, and lowered energy cost burden.	0–10
Overcoming Adoption Barriers Please rate the team’s identification of and plan for overcoming at least one key market adoption barrier for the proposed solution. This section	0–10

includes how the solution will create value, both economic and other, to drive industry adoption.	
Subtotal	Up to 30
Team Diversity and Understanding Stakeholders (weight: 20%)	Possible Score
Diversity Statement and Project Team Background Please rate how well the team addresses the diversity gap in the building science industry in its diversity statement. This section includes how the team brings perspectives from a variety of backgrounds, including students from groups that are underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). This section also includes students from many different disciplines ensuring diversity of thought. See the diversity statement in the challenge requirements. This section also includes how well the team connects their mission statement and biographies to their problem statement.	0–10
Understanding Stakeholders Please rate how well the team communicates their understanding of the stakeholder group or community and how they are affected by the problem. This rating also includes how well the team defined the problem that needs to be solved by considering the needs of the stakeholder group or community.	0–10
Subtotal	Up to 20
Submission (weight: 10%)	Possible Score
Submission Requirements Please rate how well the student team followed all submission requirements. See the submission requirements at the bottom of each challenge description.	0–10
Subtotal	Up to 10
Total	Up to 100

3 Final Competition Instructions

Judges will review team submissions and select finalists, who will be notified of their advancement by December 6, 2024. To be selected as a finalist, team members must be eligible for the JUMP into STEM internship and should have **applied** for the internship on the [Zintellect application](#) by the submission due date, **November 8, 2024, at 5 p.m. ET**. Internship eligibility is described on the [Zintellect application](#). **Individuals and partial teams are eligible to participate in the final competition.** Only team members with a completed Zintellect application will be selected as finalists and be invited to present at the final competition. Finalist designation means that the participant has accepted an offer to present.

Finalist teams will then have until **December 9, 2024**, to notify JUMP into STEM organizers whether they will attend the final competition on January 30–31, 2025, at NREL. The final

competition will include a round of presentations from each finalist team to a panel of judges. At the conclusion of the event, winners of the summer 2025, 10-week, paid internships at NREL, ORNL, or PNNL will be announced. (Internships are subject to site access requirements and availability of funding.) The internship offers are for summer 2025. Once awarded, students are responsible for securing their approval to work. (Work approval affects students who are foreign nationals.) For more information, see the [JUMP into STEM Building Technologies Internship Program \(DOE-JUMPintoSTEM-BTIP-2025\)](#).

The time for approval and clearance from the US Department of Energy (US Federal Government) can vary or, in some instances, be longer than the internship period or the cutoff time for booking travel for JUMP into STEM final competition participation, thus making competition or internship participation infeasible.

In some cases, site access to the national lab may be granted in time to attend the JUMP into STEM final competition but not within a timeframe feasible to purchase airfare for the participant. In such cases, the contestant may arrange travel at their own risk. In these cases, ORNL staff will notify contestants of options as soon as possible.

UT-Battelle and the US Department of Energy will not be held responsible for travel arrangements made by contestants at their own risk.

Each team will have 15 minutes for their presentation. A 5-minute Q&A session with the judges will follow team presentations. Team concepts and presentations will be evaluated using slightly different criteria than the challenge evaluation criteria. The criteria for the final competition can be found in the Final Competition Evaluation Criteria section of this document.

Finalists must send their final competition presentations to jump@ornl.gov by Friday, January 24, 2025, 5 p.m. ET. JUMP into STEM organizers will confirm receipt of presentations.

Final Competition Presentation Requirements

o	File format: PowerPoint (.ppt or .pptx) or PDF
o	File size: Less than 100 MB
o	File name: JUMP_[SHORT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTION NAME]_FINAL_[SUBMISSION DATE (YYYY-MM-DD)].[EXTENSION] (e.g., JUMP_ORNL_FINAL_2024-08-25.pdf)
o	Maximum presentation length: 15 minutes
o	Must be prepared to answer detailed questions about team’s idea and solution
o	Must cover all technical requirements for selected challenge in presentation
o	Submit presentation file to organizers no later than January 24, 2025, 5 p.m. ET

4 Final Competition Evaluation Criteria

The final competition evaluation criteria are slightly different than the challenge evaluation criteria. Please review the criteria detailed in this section. Selection of the JUMP into STEM final competition winning team(s) (and internship winners) will be determined by looking at total scores PLUS a discussion review during the judge panel’s merit review meeting. Judges may consider the overall team’s level of study when determining the quality of submissions. The highest score does not necessarily mean that the team will win, although scores heavily contribute to the selection of the winner(s).

Solution (weight: 30%)	Possible Score
<p>Solution Please rate the solution and its ability to address the problem statement. The solution must be a technical solution. It should address the stakeholder needs. It may include one or more of the following components as appropriate: economic, policy, commercialization, codes, standards, or other.</p>	0–10
<p>Feasibility Please rate the solution’s overall feasibility. For example, solutions that are not technically possible or that lack a technical feasibility discussion will receive lower scores.</p>	0–10
<p>Novelty Please rate the originality and creativity of the solution and how significant the contribution will be to the building industry.</p>	0–10
<p>Impact Please rate the overall scalability of the team’s solution. For example, can the solution be extended to communities, similar stakeholder groups, or a nationwide solution?</p>	0–10
Weighted Subtotal	Up to 30
Technology to Market (weight: 25%)	Possible Score
<p>Market Characterization Please rate the team’s description and understanding of the market.</p>	0–10
<p>Technology-to-Market Plan Please rate the team’s proposed plan to bring the solution from a paper concept to installation or integration with real buildings or building designs, as well as the team’s cost/benefit analysis. The cost/benefit analysis may include benefits such as energy reductions, improvements to occupant health and productivity, and lowered energy cost burden.</p>	0–10

<p>Overcoming Adoption Barriers Please rate the team’s identification of and plan for overcoming at least one adoption barrier for the proposed solution. This section includes how the solution will create value, both economic and other, to drive industry adoption.</p>	0–10
Weighted Subtotal	Up to 25
Team Diversity and Understanding Stakeholders (weight: 20%)	Possible Score
<p>Multidisciplinary Team approach Please rate how the team used information from many different disciplines and backgrounds to come up with a viable solution. This section includes the team’s diversity of thought.</p>	0–10
<p>Understanding Stakeholders Please rate how well the team communicated their understanding of the stakeholder group or community and how they are affected by the problem. This rating also includes how well the team defined the problem that needs to be solved by considering the needs of the stakeholder group or community.</p>	0–10
Subtotal	Up to 20
Presentation (weight: 25%)	Possible Score
<p>Effective Delivery of Ideas Please rate how well the team members conveyed their ideas during their presentation. Include how well the team engaged with and persuaded the audience.</p>	0–10
<p>Presentation Preparation Please rate how prepared the team was for their presentation, including evaluation of their presentation materials and their professionalism.</p>	0–10
<p>Question and Answers Please rate how well the team responded to questions from the judges.</p>	0–10
Weighted Subtotal	Up to 25
Weighted Total	Up to 100