



Contestant Rules & Eligibility Requirements

Launch San Juan Islands is a program of the San Juan County Development Council (EDC). It is designed to support the startup of businesses in San Juan County. Participants must comply with the following rules:

1. Participants must be residents of San Juan County, Washington and citizens of the United States. Winners will be required to show proof of residency (e.g., driver's license, utility bill, etc.).
2. Businesses must be based in San Juan County.
3. Business plans may be submitted by individuals or teams. Teams may have a maximum of three members.
4. Previous contestants may not participate.
5. The applicant and team members who are identified as owners, managers or primary business funders are required to attend at least one mentoring session, one workshop, and attend the Entrepreneur Trade Show, **and** the Presentation/Judging Round to advance to the final round of the contest.
6. The business must have been in operation for less than one year (as defined by the start date of a Washington state business license less than 12 months prior) with gross receipts under \$500,000, or it must be a new business venture.
7. Business must be 'for-profit' in any area of valid commercial endeavor legal under federal and/or state law.
8. Contest judges and mentors will withdraw if they have a conflict of interest (i.e. family, financial or business relationship).
9. Judges' decisions are final, including interpretation of the rules.
10. Winners must provide a plan and milestone goals for the use of the award money within two months of awarding of the funds. The first half of funds will be given within two weeks of receipt of the plan/milestone goals.
11. Winners will receive the first half of their prize money upon the EDC's receipt of the winners' plans for use of their awards.

12. Winners will receive the second half of their awards after successful completion of the plan and milestone goals agreed on with the EDC.
13. Projects must be completed within 2 years of the winners' awarding of the first half of funds. Funds not used within two years of award will be forfeit.
14. Prizes are not transferrable to business partners, new persons or any other entity/ies.
15. The EDC reserves the right to amend or cancel prize awards if the winners do not successfully complete agreed-on projects or milestones.
16. Prize winners must commit to mentoring a contestant the year following their award.
17. The EDC reserves the right to terminate the participation in the contest by any contestant at any time.
18. In the event that the contest does not generate enough participants, the EDC reserves the right to cancel the program, amend cash prize amounts or registration deadlines or requirements, or any other aspect of the program.

I acknowledge receipt of the EDC's Launch business plan competition rules and regulations:

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____