2026 TiBOOST Innovation Growth Program

Competition Guidelines

Connect with Taiwan's capital market and compete for NT$5 million in total prizes.

I. About the Program

The global economic landscape and technology ecosystem are undergoing rapid transformation, with artificial intelligence becoming a major driver of industrial upgrading, technological innovation, and economic growth.

To seize the opportunities created by AI, Taiwan is actively advancing its **Ten AI Initiatives Promotion Plan**, focusing on three key areas: smart applications, core technologies, and digital infrastructure. These initiatives also support the development of frontier technologies such as intelligent robotics, quantum technologies, and silicon photonics, strengthening Taiwan's competitiveness in the next generation of industries.

Centered on the Ten AI Initiatives Promotion Plan, the **TiBOOST Innovation Growth Program** combines an international forum with a startup competition. The program aims to connect high-potential startups with Taiwan's capital market and encourage Asian and international startups to explore fundraising and potential listing opportunities in Taiwan. It also seeks to strengthen Taiwan's role as a regional platform connecting innovative companies, investors, and global markets.

Through this initiative, Taiwan aims to further enhance the international visibility and competitiveness of its capital market while supporting the long-term growth of innovation-driven companies.

II. Eligibility

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

1. **Corporate Registration and Ownership**
   The applicant must be a legally incorporated startup company in Taiwan or another country or region.
   A company incorporated or registered in Mainland China is not eligible to apply.

   For a company incorporated in a third country or other overseas jurisdiction, its ownership structure and controlling relationships must comply with Article 3 of Taiwan's Regulations Governing Permission for Investment by People of the Mainland Area.

   Individuals, legal entities, organizations, or other institutions from Mainland China may not directly or indirectly hold more than 30% of the applicant company's shares or total contributed capital, nor may they otherwise exercise control over the applicant company.

   Applicants must provide corporate registration documents, ownership and shareholding information, and any other relevant supporting documents required by the organizer.
2. **Application Limit**
   Each company may submit only one application.
3. **Team Members**
   There is no limit on the number of team members included in an application. Every participating member must be at least 18 years old by the application deadline.

4. **Eligible Technology and Product Areas**
   The applicant's technology or product must fall within at least one of the priority areas supported under Taiwan's Ten AI Initiatives Promotion Plan:
   • **AI-enabled frontier technologies**, such as silicon photonics, quantum technologies, and intelligent robotics
   • **AI applications for industry**, such as smart manufacturing, fintech, and smart retail
   • **AI-powered smart applications**, such as smart healthcare, smart cities, and intelligent transportation
   • **Core AI technologies**, such as generative AI, AIoT, and edge AI
   • **AI infrastructure and platforms**, such as computing platforms, data governance, and AI cybersecurity
5. **Funding or Market Validation**
   The applicant must have completed at least one external funding round or demonstrated initial market validation, such as generating revenue or acquiring users.
6. **Taiwan Innovation Board Status**
   The applicant must not have previously been listed on the Taiwan Innovation Board.

III. Competition Timeline

Stage	Schedule
Application period	July 31 - September 29, 2026, by 12:00 noon, Taiwan Time (UTC+8)
Preliminary review	September 29 - October 22, 2026
Finalists announced	October 23, 2026
TiBOOST Innovation Growth Program Final and Awards Ceremony	November 10, 2026

**The organizer reserves the right to adjust the program schedule. The latest official announcement will prevail.*

IV. How to Apply

Applicants must complete the online application during the application period and submit the materials listed below. Applications and supporting materials may be submitted in either English or Chinese.

Required materials

- **Application Information:** Applicants must complete the online application form, including basic company information, financial information, operational data, and other required details
- **Business Plan:** A business plan in PDF format, not exceeding 25 pages.
- **Company Pitch Deck:** A company pitch deck not exceeding 20 pages.
- **Corporate Registration and Shareholding Compliance Documents:** Documents demonstrating that the applicant is not incorporated or registered in Mainland China and complies with the applicable shareholding restrictions. Applicants must provide corporate registration documents, ownership and shareholding information, and any other relevant supporting documents.

Optional supporting materials

Applicants may submit additional supporting materials where relevant, such as photographs, media coverage, evidence of achievements or impact, certifications, awards, and other materials that may assist the judges in evaluating the applicant company.

Online Application: **Apply Online**

V. Selection Process

Stage 1: Application Review

A judging panel composed of venture capital investors, industry experts, academic and research representatives, and capital-market professionals will review the application materials submitted by eligible applicants.

Approximately 10 to 12 companies with innovative technologies, strong market potential, and international growth prospects are expected to be selected as finalists.

The organizer reserves the right to adjust the number of finalists based on the number and quality of applications and the results of the judging process.

Stage 2: Live Final

Finalists will deliver a public pitch during the **TiBOOST Innovation Growth Program Final and Awards Ceremony**.

Following the presentations and judges' questions, the judging panel will select the top three winning companies based on the judging criteria below.

Final-Round Format

• 7-minute pitch

• 3 minutes of questions from the judges

• 5-minute consolidated response session

VI. Judging Criteria

Criterion	Weight	What the Judges Will Consider
Market Opportunity	**25%**	Target market size and segmentation (TAM/SAM/SOM), market opportunity, market growth potential, and international expansion potential
Solution	**20%**	Market pain points, product or service offering, level of innovation, core competitiveness, and comparison with competing solutions
Business Model	**20%**	Revenue model, go-to-market strategy, and existing traction, such as product validation, customer base, revenue, strategic partners, and completed fundraising
Team Capabilities	**15%**	Founders' entrepreneurial experience, team collaboration and complementary capabilities, execution strength, and decision-making ability
Capital-Market Readiness	**20%**	Growth strategy, financial transparency, fundraising plans, corporate governance, and potential to pursue a future listing on the Taiwan Innovation Board

VII. Awards and Startup Support

Cash prizes

Three winners will be selected from the finalist cohort. Prize payments will be processed after each winner completes the required award-claim procedures and submits the documents requested by the organizer.

Placement	Prize (NTD)
1st Place	**NT$2,500,000**
2nd Place	**NT$1,500,000**
3rd Place	**NT$1,000,000**

**All prize amounts are stated before tax. Applicable taxes and withholding requirements will be handled in accordance with the laws and regulations of Taiwan.*

Additional support

- Access to startup hub facilities
- Media and promotional exposure

VIII. Responsibilities of Applicants

- All information and documents submitted must be accurate, complete, lawful, and not misleading.
- Submitted materials must not infringe any third party's intellectual property rights, trademarks, patents, trade secrets, or other legal rights.
- If an application involves falsification, plagiarism, infringement, or any other unlawful conduct, the organizer may disqualify the applicant or revoke its award and recover any prize money already paid.
- Winning companies are required to cooperate with the organizer in reasonable follow-up activities, including **showcase activities**, media interviews, event promotion, and other related promotional activities.
- For the purposes of event promotion, showcasing program outcomes, and related publicity, the organizer may reasonably use publicly shareable information provided by participating companies.

IX. Important Notes

- There is no application fee.
- Application materials will not be returned. Applicants should retain their own copies.
- The organizer will treat non-public application materials as confidential, except where disclosure is required by law or authorized by the applicant.
- The organizer reserves the right to revise the program, selection process, awards, schedule, and related rules. The latest official announcement will prevail.
- By submitting an application, the applicant confirms that it has read, understood, and agreed to these competition guidelines.
- All finalist teams must attend and participate in the Final Round in person in Taipei, Taiwan. Finalist teams may apply for travel and accommodation support as follows:

- Companies incorporated outside Taiwan: Regardless of whether the person delivering the Final Round pitch is a Taiwanese or foreign national, the company may apply for reimbursement of eligible travel and accommodation expenses by submitting supporting documents such as round-trip flight tickets and accommodation booking records. The travel itinerary must include November 10, 2026, the date of the Final Round. The maximum subsidy is US$1,500 per finalist team.
- Companies incorporated in Taiwan: Finalist teams may apply for reimbursement of round-trip Taiwan High Speed Rail (THSR) fares.