

Pre-Event Outreach, Overview, and Participant Solicitation

Event: AI Hackathon

- **Theme:** AI-Powered Innovation/Solutions
- **Date:**
- **Location:**
- **Participants:**
- **Structure:** Cross-functional teams, keynote speaker, facilitated workshops, prototyping, and final presentation

Goals and Outcomes

1. **Innovation:** Spark creative AI-driven solutions to address real challenges.
2. **Skill-Building:** Empower participants to expand their understanding of AI and collaborative problem-solving.
3. **Impact:** Identify high-potential ideas for further development and potential implementation.

What Kind of Solutions Are We Asking For?

Participants will develop AI-driven solutions to address challenge statements focused on improving student success, operational efficiency, and workforce readiness. These solutions can take multiple forms, including:

- **AI-Enhanced Processes:** Improving workflows through automation or AI-powered decision support.
- **Predictive Insights:** AI models identifying at-risk students or skill gaps.
- **Generative AI Applications:** Chatbots, content generation, or personalized learning assistants.
- **Data-Driven Decision Tools:** Dashboards transforming complex datasets into actionable insights.
- **Automated Workflows:** AI-powered task automation to improve efficiency.

Key Deliverables

1. **Solution (Low-Fidelity Prototype)**
 - a. A concept or prototype addressing the challenge (e.g., app, AI model, wireframe, or proof-of-concept), including a high-level vision or roadmap for how it would work.
2. **Business & Marketing Plan**
 - a. A concise explanation of why the project is viable and worthwhile. Should include market opportunity, potential ROI, high-level costs, target market, value proposition, and go-to-market approach.
3. **Intellectual Property Strategy**
 - a. A brief overview of ownership and licensing plans (e.g., open source, proprietary, patent).

4. Pitch Deck

- a. A compelling narrative summarizing all of the above, including:
 - i. Team page - names, roles, etc.
 - ii. Framing of the challenge
 - iii. Description and visuals of the proposed solution
 - iv. Business case and potential user reach
 - v. Next steps?

Participant Selection

To ensure diverse representation and expertise, participants will be sourced through a combination of open applications, targeted outreach, and nominations. This process will prioritize participants who bring unique perspectives, skills, and enthusiasm for collaborative problem-solving, with the goal of forming cross-functional teams that reflect the entire student journey, fostering well-rounded solutions.

AI Tools and Resources

To support solution development, participants will have access to user-friendly AI platforms, including:

- No-Code AI Tools: Google AutoML, Microsoft Azure AI Studio, Lobe
- Generative AI: OpenAI ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Claude
- Data Analysis Tools: Tableau, Google Looker Studio, Excel AI
- Collaboration Platforms: Miro, FigJam, Notion AI

A “Hackathon Resource Hub” will provide access to tools, tutorials, and guides for all skill levels.

AI Knowledge & Level-Setting

To ensure participants feel confident using AI tools, the event will include:

1. Pre-Event Resources: Short videos, articles, and webinars explaining AI fundamentals, ethical considerations, and use cases.
2. AI Level-Setting Workshop: A hands-on session at the start of the event to demonstrate AI capabilities and inspire solutioning.
3. On-Site Coaching: AI-savvy mentors available throughout the event for real-time support.
4. Solution Diversity: Emphasize that solutions can range from AI-powered prototypes to process improvements enabled by AI.