



Thank you for participating as a preliminary **technology** judge for the HBCU Battle of the Brains competition. Judges are vital as they help determine which teams will compete in the Finals of the academic national championship.

Preliminary judges help determine the quality of the technical solution & demonstration deliverables. The criteria for judging will consist of:

The below deliverables are worth 100 points total

You will score each submission 0-10 points and they will be weighted as follows:

- **Functionality (40%):** Does the final solution function as intended?
- **Feasibility (40%):** Is the final solution practical, viable, & attainable?
- **Innovation (20%):** Does the final solution introduce a novel idea, method, or approach to technology?

This role also provides your company with exclusive access to the technology submissions of the institutions participating.

THE COMMITMENT:

Technology/code submissions will be shared with judges on the morning of **Friday, March 13, 2026**. There are up to **30** schools participating in the HBCU Battle of the Brains. Ideally, we would have at least two judges evaluate each submission so that we can take an average score for each school. Evaluations would need to be completed and entered into our scoring form by **5:00 PM EST on Saturday, March 14, 2026**. **Please note that you must understand code in order to serve as a technical judge.**

In previous years on average, it took Tech Judges 45 minutes to 1.5 hours to fully evaluate a school, depending on the complexity of the submission. The more preliminary judges we are able to secure, the shorter the time commitment will be.

All preliminary judging can take place virtually. Our team will host a call with interested individuals to walk through the process.

Category	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10
Functionality	Unsatisfactory: The solution lacks basic functionality, with critical features not working as intended or missing altogether. It does not meet the minimum requirements for a functional solution.	Below Average: The solution has limited functionality, with significant issues affecting the core features. Some essential components may not work as expected or are poorly implemented.	Average: The solution demonstrates basic functionality, meeting minimum requirements, but with room for improvement. It covers essential features adequately but may lack sophistication or polish.	Above Average: The solution exhibits good functionality, with most features working well and meeting expectations. It shows a solid understanding of technical requirements, and improvements could enhance its overall performance.	Excellent: The solution excels in functionality, with all features working seamlessly and efficiently. It goes beyond expectations, demonstrating a high level of technical proficiency and innovation in the implementation of features.
Feasibility	Unsatisfactory: The solution lacks practicality, viability, and attainability. It demonstrates a fundamental misunderstanding of the real-world constraints and challenges, making it infeasible for implementation.	Below Average: The solution has limited practicality, viability, and attainability. There are significant issues that would hinder successful implementation, and the solution may not align well with real-world requirements.	Average: The solution demonstrates basic practicality, viability, and attainability. It meets minimum requirements but may have some gaps or uncertainties in terms of real-world applicability.	Above Average: The solution exhibits good practicality, viability, and attainability. It addresses real-world constraints well and shows a solid understanding of the challenges involved. Minor adjustments could further enhance feasibility.	Excellent: The solution excels in practicality, viability, and attainability. It not only meets but exceeds real-world requirements, demonstrating a thorough understanding of potential challenges and providing innovative solutions. The feasibility of implementation is well-considered and robust.

Innovation	Unsatisfactory: The solution lacks any trace of innovation, introducing no novel ideas, methods, or approaches to technology. It does not demonstrate a creative or forward-thinking approach.	Below Average: The solution has limited innovation, with few attempts at introducing novel ideas, methods, or approaches. The approach to technology is conventional and lacks creativity.	Average: The solution demonstrates a basic level of innovation, making some attempts to introduce novel ideas, methods, or approaches to technology. There is an effort to be creative, but it may lack depth or originality.	Above Average: The solution exhibits good innovation, introducing some novel ideas, methods, or approaches to technology. It shows creativity and a forward-thinking mindset, although there may be room for additional groundbreaking elements.	Excellent: The solution excels in innovation, introducing highly novel and creative ideas, methods, or approaches to technology. It goes beyond expectations, showcasing a high level of ingenuity and a pioneering spirit in technological innovation.
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