

The Venture Further Awards 2026

Terms and Conditions

1. Introduction:

Please read these Terms and Conditions carefully before submitting your application. By submitting an entry to the Venture Further Awards 2026, you agree to comply with all rules outlined below. The Masood Entrepreneurship Centre reserves the right to amend these Terms and Conditions at any time.

2. Eligibility:

Applicants must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Current University of Manchester student (UG, Master's, PGT, PGR, PhD), excluding exchange students whose primary institution is elsewhere.
- Graduate of the University of Manchester within the last two years (1st January 2024).

Solo and team-based applications are both eligible. The latter can contain up to four co-founders, but at least 50% of the founding team must meet the University eligibility criteria as listed above.

- Applicants must ensure that no outstanding debt for tuition fees exists at the time of entry.
- All entries must be for a new venture, which must not have been formally registered any earlier than 1st December 2024. Applicants operating a venture as a franchise or an acquisition / management buy-out, will not be accepted.
- Previous prize winners (first or second place) of Venture Further and the Eli & Britt Harari Enterprise Award are not eligible to re-enter.
- International students are eligible to participate in this competition but must ensure that they do not breach any visa restrictions on engaging in business activity.

Employees of the Masood Entrepreneurship Centre or those professionally connected to the competition are not eligible to apply.

3. Competition Guidelines:

- The Masood Entrepreneurship Centre reserves the right to modify the amounts and distribution of prize funding, including withholding awards if application quality is deemed insufficient as well as making changes to prize names.
- Applicants must only enter **one track**. The Masood Entrepreneurship Centre has the discretion to reallocate applicants to another track if deemed appropriate.

- Only one submission per entrant is permitted. Multiple submissions will require applicants to prioritise one entry; if uncontactable, the competition team will assess the strongest application at their discretion.
- The judge's decision during the competition – including shortlisting and pitching – are final and not subject to review.
- Applicants may request reasonable adjustments at any stage of the competition. Wherever possible, requests will be accommodated and current students may be referred to the [Disability Advisory and Support Service](#).

4. Award Agreement and Payment Terms:

- All awardees are required to sign an Award Agreement confirming their commitment to provide case studies, share data on their venture's development, and actively engage with the support and activities offered by The Masood Entrepreneurship Centre and the University of Manchester.
- Awards will be issued under the following conditions:
 - a. Payments may be issued in up to three instalments over a 12-month period, as agreed with the Director of the Masood Entrepreneurship Centre.
 - b. Awardees may be requested to attend advisory panel meetings over a 12-month period to review venture progress and objectives.

5. Promotions and Publicity:

- Public summaries outlining your venture which are submitted within applications may be used for competition-related publicity. All correspondence will be directed to the lead entrant using the email provided in the application.
- By submitting an application, all entrants consent to being photographed and filmed by The Masood Entrepreneurship Centre for marketing and promotional purposes related to the competition and awards ceremony.
- Applicants agree to use The Masood Entrepreneurship Centre social media links when publicising the competition: @MasoodEntrepreneurshipCentre (LinkedIn), @UoMMMEC#VFA2026.

6. Intellectual Property (IP), Confidentiality and Data:

- All Intellectual Property will be managed according to the University of Manchester's Intellectual Property Policy set out in the attached document - <http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=24420>.

- Applicants must consult the University of Manchester's Innovation Factory prior to submitting an application if University-linked Intellectual Property is involved. The outcomes of the meeting should be summarised in the Intellectual Property section of the application.
- Only University staff and appointed judges of the competition will have access to application materials. University staff are bound by the University of Manchester's confidentiality agreement and obligations. External judges will be asked to sign Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs).
- Shortlisted applicants (i.e. finalists) will pitch their venture to a panel of judges and an audience. Award winners will also deliver a short 'showcase' pitch at the Award Ceremony. The audience at both pitches will include internal and external guests, therefore please ensure not to include or share any enabling IP or trade secrets during this pitch.
- Applicants understand that by applying, any personal data that is part of an entry will be held securely and used only for the purposes of participating in, judging and administering Venture Further Awards 2026.

7. Contact:

Introductory sessions and drop-in sessions will take place to provide support, guidance and clarification about the competition and criteria. [Please click here to check The Masood Entrepreneurship Centre website for scheduled dates.](#)

For any questions about these Terms and Conditions, or about the competition in general, please email VentureFurther@manchester.ac.uk.