

Seek the Advice of a Specialist

As you develop your solution, you are required to communicate with at least one specialist in a field relevant to your solution. This individual may be a business executive, activist, politician, professor, or anyone with expertise in your field. It may be someone with whom you have no prior contact. We advise you to be ambitious and reach out to high-profile figures or organizations, assuming you have done your research beforehand!

We hope that you will be able to set up a brief phone call or meeting though a well-documented email exchange will suffice.

Guidance and Requirements

You will submit the following information through the competition website:

Interview Preparation

- Why did you choose to reach out to this individual/organization?
 - What information did you hope to get out of the meeting?
 - Please list 5-10 questions you prepared before the meeting.
- Questions might be focused on specific aspects of your team's idea, the expert's experience with the subject, or background information.

Interview Documentation

- What were the key takeaways from your discussion?
- Did the specialist/s you consulted bring up any ideas, problems, or existing solutions you had not considered?

Reflection

- How did your project idea or implementation change after the meeting?
- As a result of this meeting, did you look for any new sources of information or reach out to other organizations?

Tips and Etiquette

- Make sure you have done your research before you reach out to any individual or organization. You want to make the most of the specialist's valuable time!
- Send emails and setup communications during business hours
- Take good notes during your interview time
- Remember to say thank you