

Logistics and Rules

What is the Rocky Mountain Investment Challenge

The Rocky Mountain Investment Challenge was started in 2018 at the Colorado State University by Drs. Hilla Skiba and Frank Smith. In this Challenge, teams of undergraduate students prepare and present a stock pitch to a panel of judges chosen from the investment industry. The students can choose any publicly traded firm and conduct a thorough valuation on the company. This analysis includes investment thesis, industry analysis, financial analysis that includes relative and absolute valuation of the security and a buy/sell/hold recommendation, in line with best practices in the investment industry. **Firms associated with the CFA research challenge as well as company(s) your university pitched last year, may not be presented.**

The competition is open to all undergraduate college students in the country. Students participating in the Challenge will apply their classroom learning in the investment area to real world firms. The Challenge will help students gain valuable experience, build their resumes, and provide networking opportunities.

Rules

1. Up to two teams of three to five undergraduate students from each school are eligible to participate in the Rocky Mountain Investment Challenge. Applications are available via the website RockyMountainInvestmentChallenge.com
2. As soon as teams receive the notification that their entry to the competitions has been accepted, the teams may begin searching for attractive stocks and if desired, have their own internal competition to decide which two teams will represent their school at the competition.
3. At the Challenge, the teams will present their stock pitch to a panel of judges. Judges will consist of distinguished investment professionals. The judges score the presentations, deliberate, and choose the winners.
4. Teams will be judged on their presentation. Handouts are allowed but should be limited to 2 pages.
5. The first, second, and third place teams will receive cash prizes of \$10,000, \$5,000, and \$2,500 respectively. The prize money will go directly to the students of the winning teams.
6. Students are expected to comply with the honor system throughout the event.

Presentation

1. Teams must allow all team members to participate in the presentation and in answering the judges' questions.
2. A total of 20 minutes is allotted per team pitch; 10 minutes for the presentation, 10 minutes for Q&A from the judges. The following 10 minutes will be for judges to confer/next team to setup. Time limits will be strictly enforced by an official timekeeper.
3. Student teams may view other team presentations once they are done with their own, room permitting.
4. Judges will use an evaluation sheet for scoring. The presentation will be judged based on the quality of the analysis, presentation delivery, and the quality of the Q&A session.

Honor System

1. For research leading up to the competition, all data sources are fair game, including the Internet and any proprietary quantitative or fundamental models developed in advance. All sources must be cited. The work, however, **MUST** be the student teams and may not include any outside help or professionals.
2. Teams are expected to fully respect one another's privacy; team members should neither seek nor provide information to anyone outside their own team. Teams will be allowed to avail themselves of the guidance of a faculty advisor on their pitch but will be restricted to using no more than 10 hours of such person's time. Teams may not contact investment professionals on the buy-side or sell-side (alumni or otherwise) to ask about their investment opinion on the researched stocks.
3. Violation of these rules constitutes grounds for disqualification.

Logistics

1. Competition will be held on Friday, April 17 2026
2. Registration Fee of \$100 will be due at registration. Team member names and emails due two weeks prior.
3. Registration will close April 3rd
4. Check-In on the 17th will begin at 8:30a.m.
5. The competition will begin at 9:30am. and will last until about 3pm. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.
6. Teams are responsible for their own transportation to and from Boulder, Colorado for competition.
7. The slide decks are due EOD Wednesday April 15th.
8. Professional dress attire is required.
9. We are working on discounted hotel room blocks in Boulder. Please look for communications.
10. Limited parking is included. Please carpool and parking information will be sent at least two days before the event.
11. Reach out to matthew.fleming@colorado.edu

Links to support videos previously shared.

[Fundamental Analysis Rocky Mountain Investment Challenge](#)

This video is meant to tell future contestants about how to prepare for our Colorado State University Rocky Mountain Investment Challenge.

<https://www.drfranksfinanceworld.com/copy-of-technical-analysis-world>