

Application Guidelines **for the “Tech Osaka Award 2027” Pitch Competition**

“Your Stage to Take on the World Starts Here.”

1. Showcase Your Business to Players from Japan and Around the World

Take the main stage in front of a diverse audience, including corporations and investors, and showcase your technology, services, business model, and vision for the future.

2. Build Connections That Lead to Investment and Collaboration

Use your pitch as a starting point to connect with corporations, VCs, CVCs, investors, and other key players. Explore opportunities that can accelerate your business growth—not only fundraising, but also partnerships, PoCs, and new sales channels.

3. Accelerate Your Challenge and Growth

Gain greater visibility through your public pitch and the opportunity to receive an award, while opening doors to further growth for your company.

4. Go Beyond the Pitch

Finalists will also have the opportunity to exhibit at a booth in addition to pitching on stage. Connect directly with attendees, explore potential partnerships and business opportunities, and turn your pitch into meaningful next steps.

Purpose and Overview	Tech Osaka Award 2027 is a pitch competition for startups from Japan and around the world, focusing on three key sectors where Osaka and the Kansai region have particular strengths: Bio & Life Sciences / Healthcare, Green Tech, and Digital. The competition aims to support the growth of startups that have been founded within the past 10 years, are at the seed to early stage, and are seeking to expand their businesses globally. The Final Round will bring together startups selected through this application process as well as startups that advance through preliminary rounds held overseas. By bringing together finalists from Japan and around the world, the competition aims to create an
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	opportunity for participants to inspire and challenge one another, gain new perspectives, and explore new possibilities for global business expansion. All finalists, regardless of how they qualify for the Final Round, will be evaluated according to the same judging criteria, and the award winners will be selected based on these criteria. <i>※ Details of the overseas preliminary rounds will be announced on the official website at a later date.</i>
Date	Final Round: Wednesday, January 27, 2027 (tentative) The Final Round will be held as a public pitch competition at the Tech Osaka Summit 2027 venue. <i>※ Tech Osaka Summit 2027 Dates:</i> <i>Tuesday, January 26 – Wednesday, January 27, 2027</i>
Venue	Knowledge Capital Congrès Convention Center Grand Front Osaka, North Building, B2F
Language	English <i>※ This applies to all pitch materials, presentations, and Q&A sessions with the judges.</i>
Eligibility Requirements	Applicants must meet all of the following requirements: • Operate a business in one of the following fields: Bio & Life Sciences / Healthcare, Green Tech, or Digital • Be at the seed to early stage • Have been founded within the past 10 years • Be aiming for global expansion • Have a unique technology, service, or business model • For startups based outside Japan, have a track record of, or intention to,

	expand their business or establish a presence in Japan or the Kansai region • Be able to deliver a pitch and participate in Q&A in English • Be able to attend and pitch in person at the Final Round on Wednesday, January 27, 2027 (JST) <i>※ Applications will be reviewed based on the information submitted, and selected startups will advance to the Final Round. As a general rule, withdrawal after being selected as a finalist will not be accepted. Please keep this in mind before applying.</i>
Awards & Benefits	• Grand Prize: JPY 2,000,000 • Excellence Award: JPY 500,000 In addition to the prize money, award winners will be eligible for various forms of support designed to accelerate their business growth, including: • Opportunity to participate in an Osaka Innovation Hub global expansion support program (tentative) • Various benefits provided by sponsors and partner companies (tentative) • Opportunity to exhibit at a booth at Tech Osaka Summit 2027 (available to all finalists) <i>※ Both startups selected through this application process and those advancing through the overseas preliminary rounds will be equally eligible for consideration for all awards.</i> <i>※ Further details will be announced at a later date.</i>
Application Period	Wednesday, September 9 – Wednesday, October 21, 2026 (JST)
How to Apply	Please complete and submit the application form available on the official website. https://forms.gle/jNoR7bQHnvkqvD3H6

	<i>※ In addition to completing the application form, applicants are required to submit a pitch deck. Please refer to the application form for details regarding the requirements for preparing and submitting your pitch deck.</i>
Application & Selection Process	1. First Round: Application Review • Review: Applications will be evaluated based on the information provided in the application form and the submitted pitch deck. • Applicants are expected to be notified of the results on Friday, November 6, 2026. 2. Second Round: Online Interview (in English) • Online interviews will be conducted between Monday, November 9 and Friday, November 20, 2026. Details regarding the interview schedule will be announced on the official website and other channels once confirmed. • Format: 3-minute pitch + 3-minute Q&A • Up to nine startups will be selected through this application process to advance to the Final Round. In addition to these selected startups, startups that advance through the overseas preliminary rounds will also compete in the Final Round. • Applicants are expected to be notified of the results on Monday, November 30, 2026. 3. Final Round • A public pitch competition will be held at the event venue on Wednesday, January 27, 2027. • Format: 4-minute pitch + 4-minute Q&A • All finalists will be evaluated according to the same judging criteria, and the award winners will be selected based on these criteria.
Judging	Applications will be evaluated based on the business information provided in the

Criteria	application form, using the following criteria: 1. Originality & Innovation 2. Market Potential & Growth Potential 3. Potential for Global Expansion <i>※ In the Second Round, Presentation Skills will also be evaluated in addition to the criteria above.</i>
Travel & Accommodation Expenses	Participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses. <i>※ For finalists based outside Japan, partial financial support for travel and other expenses required to participate in the Final Round may be provided, subject to certain conditions. Further details will be provided separately to eligible finalists.</i>
Intellectual Property Rights & Copyright	• Intellectual property rights and copyrights related to an application will remain with the applicant. However, information submitted as part of the application, as well as the applicant's name and company name, may be made publicly available on the official website or other channels at the discretion of the organizers. • Applicants are responsible for verifying any relevant rights and taking any necessary measures to protect their intellectual property before submitting an application. The organizers and event secretariat assume no responsibility for any disputes or issues related to intellectual property rights. • If an application is suspected or found to infringe upon the intellectual property rights of any third party, any award or other recognition granted to the applicant may be revoked.
Image and Likeness Rights	• Photographs, videos, recordings, and other materials captured during the event will be owned by the organizers and may be published or used on websites, in newspapers and magazines, on television, or through other media. By

	participating in the event, participants consent to being photographed, filmed, or recorded and to the publication and use of such materials.
Contact	Tech Osaka Award 2027 Pitch Competition Secretariat (Operated by Venture Café Tokyo) Email: techosaka-award@venturecafetokyo.org <i>※ Please allow up to one week for a response to your inquiry.</i> <i>※ The Secretariat is available from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM on weekdays, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays.</i> <i>※ Inquiries received outside business hours will be responded to in order from the next business day onward.</i>