

NGEA™ Frequently Asked Questions

What is the actual objective of the challenge?

The challenge provides access to modern mineral exploration data to “bridge the real-world skills gap” by working collaboratively on an unstructured problem (i.e. one without a pre-ordained “right” answer). Our intention is to build on both your university-acquired and collaborative group skills with relevant software applications used in mineral exploration. We want you to think differently, be creative and innovate without boundaries. Think of something no one has done before and if you are not sure find a mentor that can provide you with an industry perspective! Think how your innovations can add value to the mineral exploration industry and make future employers take notice.

What is the minimum/maximum number of team members?

The minimum is two; the maximum is your choice keeping in mind that you can have multiple teams if the numbers are large.

Who has rights to the content of the submissions?

All final PowerPoint submissions will be made public and will be made available on our website. You need to obtain all relevant permissions and keep confidential any proprietary technology, data, etc. However, we do request that you cite any use of proprietary technology, data, etc.

Do the findings have to be mineral exploration related? Or can they be environmental, etc.?

You are free to take an environmental approach provided there is an exploration context. We need to remind ourselves that explorers are now required to take on a broader role to exploration (ambassadors) with context to economic, social and environmental impacts. It speaks to “[front end loading.](#)”

Is there any financial support for teams to help with incidental costs for preparing a submission?

To support students participating in the challenge, the NGEATM will be offering registered teams a one-time stipend of \$250.00 CAD. The funding will be provided to the supporting professor or team lead (if no professor is involved) to be used to support the team's research and submission costs. A simplified funding request form will be released this upcoming May.

Can you register a team now, but add an additional member(s) later?

Yes, up to the submission date.

Can we use supplemental data? Are we allowed to use publicly available data beyond the provided dataset that we can find on government websites, etc.?

Yes, we encourage it. See the “Integration” section of the Assessment Rubric.

Can we utilize mentors and our extended network to retrieve more data within the allocated area boundaries?

This is a great way to utilise mentors and your extended network! We suggest that you provide them with the Guidelines for Mentors link on our website, so they understand the role of mentors. Also, please ensure that they understand that all final PowerPoint submissions will be publicly available after the 2021 PDAC in case they have certain restrictions or confidentiality agreements in place. You need to obtain permissions and keep confidential any proprietary technology, data, etc.; however, we do request that you cite any use of proprietary technology, data, etc.

Do we exclusively have to use Leapfrog and Oasis Montaj software?

You can use any software you choose to use; we do state this in the submission guidelines. In fact, this is a potential area for innovation. Through the Seequent sponsorship, software is available to teams that prefer Leapfrog Geo and Oasis montaj or have no other choices available to them.

If we were to enter the [Gawler Challenge](#), are we able to use part or all of our work for the Frank Arnott – Next Generation Explorers Award?

Yes, this is acceptable to both organisations given that both challenges will make any submissions publicly available to the exploration community. Please note that each challenge has a different submission format.