



Down-Select Criteria	
Category	Explanation
Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the core team/founder and mentors/advisors/...: will this team be able to execute? Does the current team have a clear understanding what holes in leadership they may have and how to address this?
Problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How well is the problem the team is trying to solve stated? Has the team done any work to qualify the problem?
Customer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the team seem to have a clear understanding as to who the customer is; especially early adopters?
Market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The team made a good effort of identifying a REALISTIC market size and segmentation (TAM-SAM-SOM); the market seems sufficient to support this type of venture.
Start-up Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The team has a realistic understanding of what the cost might be to start this venture. They have a reasonable plan for utilizing the prize money.
Unique	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the team made any efforts to validate a unique value proposition (customer discovery)?

Solution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can the team describe their solution so that an 8th-grader could understand it?
Go-to-market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the team seem to have a clear understanding on how their product/service will reach their customer/s?
Revenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the team seem to have a realistic understanding on where revenue will come from?
Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the team seem to have a realistic understanding on what the cost structure for this product/service is?
Key Metrics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the team seem to understand which metrics it should track towards success?
Investability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you had extra cash - would you invest in this team/company?
Additional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the additional information useful / supportive of the pitch? • Did the team tell a cohesive and compelling story of a problem that should be addressed with their solution and by that team? • Did the team exhibit above and beyond the tenacity, drive and passion to move the project/company forward? • Did the founder/s display passion for what they are working on?