



Do you have a breakthrough idea?

Does it have the potential to be a profitable venture?

If you can answer “yes” to those two questions, we invite you to enter the IDEA Competition! We can help you make your business dreams a reality! We’re a little like the TV show “American Idol,” except that we aren’t looking for singers. Instead, we’re looking for innovators with breakthrough ideas that show the promise of becoming highly profitable business ventures.

Here’s what you get when you participate:

- Access to valuable tools and resources
- The opportunity to refine your investor pitch
- Attention in the media
- A chance to pitch your idea to qualified potential investors and leaders in the business community
- The chance to win substantial prizes, including individual awards of up to \$10,000 each, for up to five winners

Enter your idea today — go online to:
www.ideacompetition.org

“The type of innovative thinking that drives business creation often comes down to the vision of a single individual. This strategy (IDEA) focuses on uncovering some of the most promising ideas, and providing them with the support needed to be successful in the marketplace.”

Wade Fauth, Grants Director, Blandin Foundation

“The whole purpose of IDEA is to keep Northwest Minnesota supplied with innovative entrepreneurs...the kind of entrepreneurs that earned our reputation as one of the country’s premier manufacturing centers.”

Marty Sieve, Northwest Minnesota Foundation,
Vice President for Programs

IDEA
www.ideacompetition.org



www.ideacompetition.org

More about IDEA...

IDEA (which stands for Ingenuity Drives Entrepreneur Acceleration) is a project of Ingenuity Frontier, a collaboration of partners joined by a common purpose — to grow the economy of Northwest Minnesota by outfitting the next generation of homegrown innovators for success in the global marketplace.

IDEA believes in the ingenuity of the people who call Northwest Minnesota home. In fact, the region is home to several world-class manufacturers, including Arctic Cat, Central Boiler, Digi-Key, Marvin Windows and Doors, Polaris and Team Industries. Without exception, each of these companies was launched by an innovator who had a dream and was able to access the resources to make that dream a reality.

Some might call IDEA a competition, but it is much more. IDEA is here to assist the most promising local entrepreneurs in the commercialization of innovative products, processes and deliveries by connecting them to the best resources available, along with access to the capital it takes to launch a successful venture.

There are a lot of good ideas out there, but only a handful of business people who are able to take a breakthrough idea and turn it into a profitable business. Whether you've never started a company or you're already in business and generating revenue, the future of Northwest Minnesota depends on your passion to create ideas that can become profitable ventures and produce value in the marketplace for your customers and your investors.



IDEA Partners

- Bemidji State University
- Center for Research and Innovation/
Custom College
- Headwaters Regional Development
Commission
- Minnesota Department of Employment
and Economic Development
- Northland Community and Technical
College
- Northwest Minnesota Foundation
- Northwest Regional Small Business
Development Center
- University of Minnesota, Crookston

**Enter your idea today — go online to:
www.ideacompetition.org**

Turn your ideas into a profitable business venture.

www.ideacompetition.org