OFFICIAL COMPETITION GUIDELINES
THE INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE INNOVATION COMPETITION 2026 (IUIC2026)

1. INTRODUCTION

The International Undergraduate Innovation Competition 2026 (IUIC2026) is an international innovation competition organised by the **Student Development Centre (Pusat Pembangunan Pelajar, PBP), Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM),** in conjunction with the Hussein Innovation & Talent Symposium (HITS 2026). The competition will be held from **26 to 27 October 2026** at **Dewan Sultan Ibrahim (DSI), UTHM**.

IUIC2026 aims to cultivate a strong culture of research, innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship among undergraduate students while supporting UTHM's aspiration towards becoming a **Global Technopreneur University by 2030**. The competition provides an international platform for undergraduate students to showcase innovative ideas, research findings, technological developments and practical solutions that contribute towards sustainable development.

IUIC2026 encourages healthy academic competition, interdisciplinary collaboration and international networking among students from higher education institutions, technical institutions and strategic partners worldwide. Projects will be evaluated through professional poster presentations and judged by panels consisting of academic experts and industry representatives.

2. THEME

“Driving Talent and Innovation for Sustainable Future”

The theme reflects IUIC2026's commitment towards nurturing future innovators capable of developing sustainable technologies, creative solutions and impactful innovations that benefit society, industry and the environment.

3. IMPORTANT DATES

📌 Registration and Payment Deadline : 26 September 2026
📌 Acceptance Notification : 1 October 2026
📌 Online Judging (International Participants Only) : 17 - 24 October 2026
📌 Physical Judging & Official Competition Date : 26 - 27 October 2026
📌 Prize Giving & Closing Ceremony : 27 October 2026

4. COMPETITION CLUSTERS

- **CLUSTER 1: APPLIED ENGINEERING, TVET & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY**

  Core Focus: Integration of modern engineering, industrial automation and digital technologies.

  Scope includes:

Mechanical Engineering	Electrical Engineering	Civil Engineering
Chemical Engineering	Manufacturing Engineering	TVET Innovation
Artificial Intelligence	Internet of Things (IoT)	Robotics
Embedded Systems	Software Engineering	Mobile Application
Cybersecurity	Cloud Computing	Smart Manufacturing

- **CLUSTER 2: GREEN TECHNOLOGY, SUSTAINABLE SCIENCES & HEALTHCARE**

  Core Focus: Innovative sustainable solutions supporting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

  Scope includes:

Renewable Energy	Environmental Technology	Sustainable Agriculture
Smart Farming	Applied Sciences	Healthcare Innovation
Medical Devices	Assistive Technology	Biotechnology
Food Technology		

- **CLUSTER 3: SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES, BUSINESS & EDUTECH**

  Scope includes:

Business Innovation	Entrepreneurship	Financial Technology
Social Entrepreneurship	Educational Technology	Teaching & Learning
Innovation	TVET Education	Community Development
Psychology	Communication	Arts & Design
Tourism	Public Policy	

5. ELIGIBILITY

IUIC2026 is open **to undergraduate students** from recognised higher education institutions.

Eligible participants include:

- Public Universities
- Private Universities
- Malaysian Technical University Network (MTUN)
- Polytechnics

- Community Colleges
- Vocational Colleges
- Skills Training Institutions
- GIATMARA
- International Universities
- UTHM Strategic Partners

Each team may consist of a **maximum of THREE (3) undergraduate students** and **ONE (1) academic advisor or project supervisor**.

Only registered participant names will appear on certificates. Changes will not be permitted after registration closes.

6. REGISTRATION & PAYMENT

Registration Fee

Category	Fee
Local Participants	RM 150 per project
International Participants	USD 60 per project

The registration fee includes:

- ❖ Competition participation
- ❖ Certificate of Achievement
- ❖ Participant Kit (Physical Participants)
- ❖ International judging
- ❖ Medal
- ❖ Digital Programme Book

Payment can be made via **bank transfer** or by **scanning the QR Code below** (available for local participants) for a faster and more convenient payment process:

Bank Transfer Details
Account No.: 25146900009470
Account Name: MAJLIS PERWAKILAN PELAJAR (MPP) UNIVERSITI TUN HUSSEIN ONN MALAYSIA
Bank Name: RHB BANK
Branch: Taman Flora Utama Branch
Bank Address: 1 & 2 Ground Floor, Jalan Flora Utama 1, Taman Flora Utama, 83000 Batu Pahat, Johor Darul Ta'zim, Malaysia
Bank Telephone No.: +607-433 6777
SWIFT/BIC Code: RHBAMYKL
Reference: IUIC2026-StudentName (Example: IUIC2026-AHMAD)

Proof of payment must be uploaded via the Google Form registration link provided: https://bit.ly/IUIC2026

QR Code Payment (Local Participants)

Scan the QR Code below to make your payment:



Please upload the payment receipt after completing your transaction. Where applicable, kindly include the payment reference **IUIC2026-StudentName** in the transaction remarks.

Registration & payment deadline: **26 September 2026**
Notification of acceptance: **1 October 2026**

7. PARTICIPATION MODES

A. Physical Participation

- Available for:
  - ❖ Local Participants (Compulsory)
  - ❖ International Participants (Optional)
- Participants shall present their innovation physically at Dewan Sultan Ibrahim (DSI), UTHM.

B. Online Participation

- Available **ONLY** for International Participants.
- The organiser reserves the right to reject incomplete submissions.

8. PRESENTATION FORMAT

A. Physical Presentation

- Each team will be allocated: One (1) presentation space, one (1) table, two (2) chairs and one (1) power socket (subject to availability)
- Presentation Time: 10 minutes
- Question & Answer: 5 minutes
- Participants are encouraged to bring prototypes, models or working products.

- Innovation materials may be presented using either:
  - ❖ A bunting (recommended standard size: 2ft x 6 ft); or
  - ❖ Presentation slides using a personal laptop or computer
- Please note that poster panels and bunting tripod stands will NOT be provided.
- No official poster or bunting template will be provided by the Organising Committee.
- Participants are encouraged to design their presentation materials creatively while ensuring that the content is professional, visually appealing, easy to understand and effectively communicates the project's objectives, methodology, outcomes and impact.

B. Online Presentation

- Participants shall upload:
  - ❖ Presentation Video (YouTube Link, maximum 5 minutes)
  - ❖ Digital Poster (PDF format)
- The submitted video should clearly explain:
  - ❖ Problem Statement
  - ❖ Objectives
  - ❖ Methodology
  - ❖ Innovation
  - ❖ Results
  - ❖ Impact
  - ❖ Future Work
- No official poster template will be provided by the Organising Committee.
- Participants are encouraged to design their presentation materials creatively while ensuring that the content is professional, visually appealing, easy to understand and effectively communicates the project's objectives, methodology, outcomes and impact.

9. JUDGING CRITERIA

A. Physical Participation

Criteria:

- ❖ Justification and Project Background
- ❖ Importance and Practical Application of the Project
- ❖ Design Quality and Prototype
- ❖ Intellectual Property Protection (Patent/Copyright)
- ❖ Social and Industry Impact
- ❖ Commercialisation Potential
- ❖ Originality and Innovation of the Project
- ❖ Level of Project Creativity
- ❖ Effectiveness of Presentation and Communication
- ❖ Quality of Project Demonstration

B. Online Participation

Criteria:

- ❖ Justification and Project Background
- ❖ Importance and Practical Application of the Project
- ❖ Design Quality and Prototype
- ❖ Intellectual Property Protection (Patent/Copyright)
- ❖ Social and Industry Impact
- ❖ Commercialisation Potential
- ❖ Originality and Innovation of the Project

- ❖ Level of Project Creativity
- ❖ Effectiveness of Presentation and Communication
- ❖ Quality of Digital Poster

Both judging rubrics maintain equivalent assessment standards and identical medal thresholds. The judges' decisions shall be final.

10. MEDALS, AWARDS & ELIGIBILITY

A. Competition Medals

Projects achieving the required score may receive:

- Gold Medal
- Silver Medal
- Bronze Medal

Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals are awarded based on merit regardless of the participation mode.

B. Major Awards

(Open to Physical Participants Only)

- Best of the Best Award
- Most Innovative Idea Award
- Best Presenter Award
- Best Project Award – Cluster 1
- Best Project Award – Cluster 2
- Best Project Award – Cluster 3

C. Special Awards

(Open to Physical and Online Participants)

- Selected Special Awards may be sponsored by:
  - ❖ Makerspace@UTHM
  - ❖ Advanced Technology Research Centre (ATRC)
  - ❖ IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society (IEEE SMC), Malaysia Chapter
  - ❖ IEEE Signal Processing Society (IEEE SPS), Malaysia Chapter
  - ❖ University of Bengkulu, Indonesia
  - ❖ Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology (REAT) Research Group, UTeM
  - ❖ Innocube
  - ❖ 3D Lab Research Solutions
  - ❖ International Institute of Biodiversity Technology & Sustainability (ATLAS)
  - ❖ Other collaborating strategic partners

D. Award Eligibility

Award	Local Physical	International Physical	International Online
Best of the Best	✓	✓	✗
Best Presenter	✓	✓	✗
Most Innovative Idea	✓	✓	✗
Best Project Awards	✓	✓	✗
Gold Medal	✓	✓	✓
Silver Medal	✓	✓	✓
Bronze Medal	✓	✓	✓
Selected Special Awards	✓	✓	✓*

*Selected organiser-designated awards only.

11. CERTIFICATES & MEDAL DELIVERY

Each project will receive only **ONE (1)** medal based on the final score obtained.
Certificates of Achievement will be issued to all registered student participants and one registered advisor/supervisor.

For international participants participating online:

- Medals
- Hardcopy certificates
- Special Award certificates (where applicable)

will be sent to the registered postal address after the competition.

12. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- Participants shall retain full ownership of their intellectual property.
- By participating in IUIC2026, participants grant the organiser permission to use project titles, abstracts, photographs and presentation images solely for promotional, educational and reporting purposes.
- Confidential technical information shall not be published without the participant's consent.

13. CODE OF CONDUCT

Participants shall:

- observe academic integrity;
- refrain from plagiarism or copyright infringement;
- respect judges, organisers and fellow participants;
- avoid offensive, discriminatory or unlawful content; and
- comply with all instructions issued by the Organising Committee.

14. RIGHTS OF THE ORGANISER

The Organising Committee reserves the right to:

- amend the competition guidelines where necessary;
- appoint qualified judges;
- determine the award recipients;
- reject incomplete or ineligible submissions; and
- postpone, modify or cancel the competition should unforeseen circumstances arise.

All decisions made by the Organising Committee and the judging panel shall be final.

15. CONTACT INFORMATION

Competition Secretariat
International Undergraduate Innovation Competition 2026 (IUIC2026)
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