

# GOLDEN TICKETS OFFICIAL RULES

## 1. THIS PROGRAM

LabCentral Ignite Golden Tickets are awarded by LabCentral, Inc. LabCentral, a 501(c)(3) corporation, offers fully permitted laboratory and office space to early-stage companies. Through submission, no joint venture, partnership, employment, or fiduciary, relationship exists between the applicant and LabCentral Inc. or any of its sponsors.

Ignite Golden Tickets do not cover lab supplies or other startup fees associated with starting residency at LabCentral such as security deposits, decontamination fees, insurance, etc.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY

**To be eligible to participate, the Applicant must:**

- Be an entity formed under the laws of the United States.
- Not have raised more than \$10 million United States dollars in equity financing or have a trailing twelve-month revenue of more than \$3 million United States dollars as of the time of Application and the closing date for the Contest.
- Submit a complete Application.
- Represent and warrant that the Applicant agrees to these Rules.
- Not be affiliated with or employed by LabCentral Inc. or any LabCentral Sponsors including as an employee, contractor, officer, director, or immediate family member.
- Have research focused on improving and solving problems for human health. Companies focused on solutions in animal health or agricultural biology are not eligible.
- Including the text of the description of research must be Applicant's original work; the Applicant must own all patent, copyright, and other rights in the research described or has a license to use such information or materials for its research; Applicant is not disclosing any confidential or trade secret information in the Application, including of Applicant or any third party; and Applicant has full power and all legal rights to submit the Application to the Contest in compliance with the Rules.
- Not be a former recipient of an Ignite Golden Ticket.
- Have a founder (CEO/in the primary executive decision-making role) who is not part of or has not benefitted from established venture capital networks, venture creation firm networks, or serial entrepreneur networks
- Be committed to building a company with an inclusive culture.

## 3. APPLICATIONS FOR THE IGNITE GOLDEN TICKET CONTEST

The Application for the Contest can be found [here](#) and must be completed in full and include an accurate description of the Applicant's non-confidential research. All costs incurred by Applicants in submitting an application and/or presenting at the Pitch Event, if selected, are the sole responsibility of Applicants.

Applications, pitch decks, and presentations may only contain non-confidential information about Applicant's research and business strategy. Applications may not contain material or information that violates or infringes a third party's rights including but not limited to any privacy, publicity, trade secret, confidential, or intellectual property rights including but not limited to patent, copyright, or trademark.

## 4. SELECTION / JUDGING CRITERIA AND JUDGES

The Judges for the Contest are the LabCentral Ignite Selection Committee, which may include representative(s) from LabCentral or LabCentral Sponsor companies who are qualified experts in their fields. Judges shall have the sole authority to make all decisions as to the Award Recipients.

### Applications will be judged using the following criteria:

- Representation of high-potential applicants consistent with our posted mission to create the next generation of powerhouse biotech companies
- Exemplify the standards for high-impact science, promising execution, and fit of research within our labs.
- Prompt response to potential requests beyond the application for additional information during the application review process. This information will be considered in evaluating the potential of the applicant. Response is required to continue being considered for the contest.
- Evidence of \$100K+ raised by date of application
- Willingness and capacity to operate within the LabCentral shared community and participate in the LabCentral Ignite Fellows program.
- Preference given to companies that can move in within 3 months of receipt of the Award or start to utilize the value of the Award within 3 months.
- Consideration will be given to how applicants' lived experiences and company-building journeys demonstrate:
  - Limited access to established venture capital networks, venture creation firms, or serial entrepreneurship circles
  - A clear need for additional resources and strategic support
  - The ability to articulate how receipt of the Award would unlock opportunities otherwise not within reach
  - A demonstrated approach to an inclusive culture

Judges utilizing the aforementioned criteria will select a subset of the Applicants as Finalists. Finalists will be invited to join an option Finalist Reception in advance of the Final Pitch event to meet with sponsors and other Program stakeholders. Finalists are required to present their concept at the Final Pitch event to be held in Cambridge, MA in the fall of 2025. All presentations must be non-confidential. 5 winners will be selected by the Judges following the Final Pitch presentations solely on the quality and clarity of the live pitch.

For interested Finalists, an introduction to one person in the LabCentral network of mentors, sponsors, and partners will be made for one pre-pitch preparation coaching session.

LabCentral, Inc. has the right to disqualify any Applicant from eligibility, terminate Award Recipient's use of the Award, and terminate Applicant's participation in the Contest at any time, in its sole and final discretion. If, for any reason, the Contest is not capable of running as planned to include the unavailability of the Award for any reason, LabCentral Ignite reserves the right to cancel, suspend or modify the Contest at any time.

## 5. AWARD

LabCentral will award up to five companies with a \$50,000 credit for use at LabCentral's 700 Main Street facility in Cambridge, MA.

This credit can only be applied towards the recipient's monthly invoices of lab benches, private suites, shared lab suites, dedicated desks, private offices, or per person fees.

Lab supplies, contract research organization support services, and office support services are not covered by the credit and are not part of the Award.

Awardees are solely responsible for purchasing their own supplies for laboratory research through the LabCentral procurement system, providing proof of insurance and other required documentation to LabCentral prior to entry, and are responsible for the compensation of their own employees. All charges and expenses related to delivery, acceptance, and use of the Award are the responsibility of the Award Recipients. Awardees are also responsible for any security deposits or decontamination fees owed to LabCentral as part of the standard residency.

Lab space at LabCentral is allocated based on availability. Holders of Golden Tickets will be listed ahead of other companies waiting to get a bench at LabCentral. Therefore, Golden Ticket recipients should be ready to start at LabCentral upon receipt of the award. The value of the Golden Ticket award expires 13 months from the date a company is offered lab space to start at the facility.

## **6. NOTIFICATION AND CONDITIONS OF AWARD**

LabCentral will notify the Award Recipient(s) following the presentations held in the fall of 2025 at the Final Pitch event and will make a further announcement on its website and through press and media outlets sometime thereafter.

### **QUESTIONS?**

Please email [partnerships@labcentral.org](mailto:partnerships@labcentral.org)

