

**XPRIZE**  
**QUANTUM**  
**APPLICATIONS**

**Google**  
**Quantum AI**

Presenting Partner: **gesda** 

# **Phase I Wild Card**

# **Process Document**

Released on June 5, 2025

Version 2.0

Please ensure you have read the PHASE I RULES AND REGULATIONS (“Rules”), which govern the XPRIZE Quantum Applications competition. To access the Rules, you must create a POP profile and navigate to the [Resources section](#). The Rules apply specifically to Phase I of the competition and complement and expand upon the Competition Guidelines posted [here](#).

All participating Teams must adhere to these Rules to remain eligible to progress through competition milestones and qualify for selection as winners of the competition. Failure to comply with these Rules may result in consequences as detailed in the Competitor Agreement, which can be found in the Resources section.

This Phase I Wild Card Process Document version supersedes version 1.0. See Appendix B: Phase I Wild Card Process Document Revisions Change Log, for a record of notable changes to the Rules.

**Note:** Terms that appear in bold throughout this document are defined in the Glossary of Terms section in Appendix A.

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## 1. Introduction and Scope

The Phase I Wild Card Registration provides a structured entry point for teams that were not able to register during the original competition windows. This allows new participants to join the XPRIZE Quantum Applications competition, provided they meet all entry requirements by **July 9, 2025**.

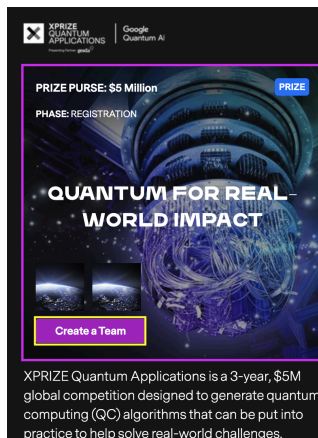
Participation via the Phase I Wild Card requires full compliance with competition requirements, including submission of an Interim Report and a full execution of the Competitor Agreement.

While an additional Wild Card Registration period may occur ahead of the Phase II Submission, admittance will be significantly more selective. Teams are encouraged to apply now to take advantage of this current entry point.

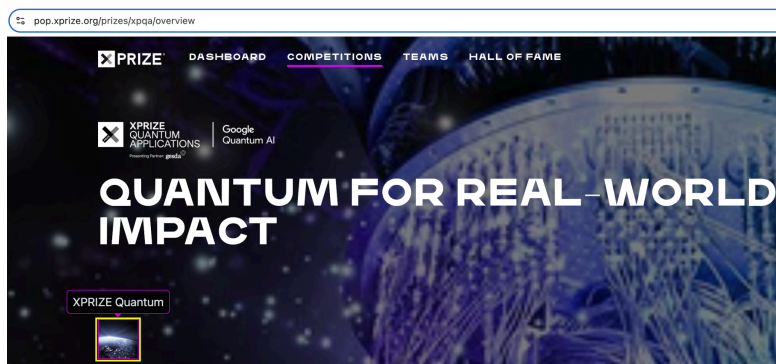
## 2. Wild Card Navigation Guide

To join via the Wild Card Registration Period, follow these steps:

1. Navigate to the Prize Operations Platform ([POP](#))
2. Create a Team Profile



3. Click into Your Team Dashboard



4. Go to the Activities Section - Locate the Wild Card Phase I activities.

OVERVIEW

ACTIVITIES

MANAGE TEAM

TEAM PROFILE

ACTIVITIES

WILDCARD PHASE 1

Activity	Open Date	Close Date	Status	Outcome
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5. Complete the Following Activities in Order:

1. Registration Form
2. Registration Fee Payment\*
3. Competitor Agreement Signing\*\*
4. Interim Report Submission

*\*Registration fee waivers are available for teams with demonstrated financial need. Please complete this [form](#). Teams that paid during the initial registration window do not need to pay again, please email [qc-apps@xprize.org](mailto:qc-apps@xprize.org) for a waiver.*

*\*\*If your team name, members, and entity remain unchanged from your initial registration, you do not need to complete a new Competitor Agreement. Please email [qc-apps@xprize.org](mailto:qc-apps@xprize.org) if you would like to reuse your previous agreement.*

**The Competitor Agreement must be completed by July 9, 2025. No exceptions will be made.**

Failure to complete the Competitor Agreement by this date will require teams to wait and apply for the more competitive Phase II Wild Card Round.

### 3. Judging of Phase I Wild Card Submissions

Once submitted, your Phase I Wild Card entry will be reviewed by the Judging Panel Chair through a single-**blind review process**. At their discretion, the Chair may involve additional judges. Competitor Agreements must be submitted before teams can be officially admitted. Unless there are changes, previously submitted agreements may be reused.

Submissions will be evaluated based on:

- Demonstrated expertise of the team
- Alignment with competition goals
- Quality of the Interim Report
- Relevance and impact of past work

*\*Note: The **Narrative Section** of the Interim Report is **optional**, but **strongly encouraged**. Including it can significantly improve your chances of being accepted.*

The Judging Panel Chair's decision is final. No feedback will be provided on Wild Card evaluations.

**Teams will receive official notification of their Wild Card submission outcome via email no later than July 18, 2025.**

## 4. Phase I Wild Card Timeline

Teams entering through the Phase I Wild Card Registration period must complete the following steps to become Official Competitors and remain eligible to submit a Phase I Submission.

Phase I Wild Card Entry Timeline

Competition Milestone	Deadline	Requirements	Awards & Benefits	# Teams
Wild Card Submission	11:59 PM Pacific Time on July 9, 2025	Complete submission on POP (See Section 2)	Entry into the Competition	Open to All

## 5. Phase I Wild Card Entry

This Wild Card period is designed to ensure the competition remains inclusive of high-quality, innovative ideas and to address any identified gaps in the submission pool.

### 5.1. Criteria for Phase I Wild Card Entries

Wild Card entries will be evaluated based on the following:

1. Team Quality: Assessment of the team's expertise, track record, and capacity to deliver an impactful contribution.
2. Published Work: Evidence of high-quality publications in the quantum computing field, such as peer-reviewed publications or preprints (e.g., arXiv submissions).
3. Interim Report: The completeness of the Interim Report will be a key evaluation factor. As a checkpoint toward the full Phase I Submission, providing a clear and thorough overview is essential. Including the optional narrative is strongly encouraged, as it helps Judges better understand your current progress and evaluate the potential for a strong Phase I submission in August 2025.

### 5.2. Process for Consideration and Review

Any team (new team or current team that did not complete registration) interested in being considered for a Phase I Wild Card entry must complete the following steps:

1. POP Profile Creation: Interested Teams Leads must create a complete profile on the [Prize Operations Platform](#) (POP).
2. Review the XPRIZE Quantum Applications Competition Guidelines found here <https://www.xprize.org/prizes/qc-apps/guidelines>.

3. Teams must review the Competitor Agreement prior to submitting the Phase I Wild Card entry to ensure alignment with its terms, including fulfilling the requirement to form a legal entity for any team that is composed of more than one natural person. Any questions or concerns regarding the Competitor Agreement should be raised with the XPRIZE team before proceeding to Step 4 (Submit an Expression of Interest). The Competitor Agreement can be found in the RESOURCES tab at <https://pop.xprize.org/prizes/xpqa/resources>.

Detailed Interim Report Instructions can be found under the XPRIZE Quantum Applications RESOURCES table at <https://pop.xprize.org/prizes/xpqa/resources>.

If all requirements are fulfilled, XPRIZE will share the Wild Card submission with the Judging Panel Chair for review. The Judging Panel Chair may either approve the Wild Card submission directly or, at their discretion, involve the Judging Panel to review the submission. Judges will assess the Wild Card submission against the above criteria and will either approve or reject the Wild Card submission based on their evaluation. The Judging panel will provide no feedback on a Wild Card submission, and the decision of the Judging Panel is final, see [Competition Guidelines](#). Teams will be notified of the outcome of their Wild Card submission review by XPRIZE via email.

## Appendix A: Glossary of Terms

**Wild Card Entry:** A designated entry pathway for teams not registered during the main window. Wild Card entries must be approved by the Judging Panel Chair.

**Judging Panel Chair:** The lead judge responsible for reviewing and approving Wild Card entries through a blind review process.



## **Appendix B: Phase I Wild Card Process Document Revisions Change Log**

### **Record of notable changes to the Phase I Wild Card Process Document Version 1.0 compared to this Version 2.0:**

Page 1:

- Added "This Phase I Wild Card Process Document version supersedes version 1.0. See Appendix B: Phase I Wild Card Process Document Revisions Change Log, for a record of notable changes to the Rules."

Page 2:

- Changed "Appendix B: Rules Revisions Change Log" to "Appendix B: Phase I Wild Card Process Document Revisions Change Log"

Page 5:

- Changed "blind" to "single-blind"
- Removed "Team identities are not disclosed to ensure impartiality."

Page 6, "Criteria for Phase I Wild Card Entries":

- Under "2 Published Work:" removed "XPRIZE will evaluate and share non-identifying information with the Judging Panel."
- Under "3. Interim Report:" Added "The completeness of the Interim Report will be a key evaluation factor. As a checkpoint toward the full Phase I Submission, providing a clear and thorough overview is essential. Including the optional narrative is strongly encouraged, as it helps Judges better understand your current progress and evaluate the potential for a strong Phase I submission in August 2025."
- Under "3. Interim Report:" removed "When preparing your Interim Report Working Title of Project, Project Overview, and Narrative Document, do not include any information that could identify your team's identity to preserve anonymity during the blind review process. For example, do not use phrases such as "as shown by the work of our team member [team member name]" or specific references like "we have previously shown [reference #]". Instead use something like "as previously shown [reference #]". It is the team's responsibility to adhere to this requirement. <https://pop.xprize.org/prizes/xpqa/resources> after creating a [Prize Operations Platform](#) (POP) profile. XPRIZE will remove all indicators that compromise a blind review."