Tech to Protect Challenge: Rules Change as of March 19, 2020

The original rules are located at: https://www.challenge.gov/assets/document-library/3.2_TechtoProtectChallenge_Program-Rules.FINAL.4.1.19.pdf

Change 1: Page 6, Table (activity, Participants, Awards, Date)

Original Text

Up to $1,850,000 in cash prizes awarded by NIST will be distributed among the National Winners of the challenge. National Winners will be showcased on the challenge website. Up to 30 awards are anticipated for technical excellence in the Demonstration Contest, three in each of the ten unique contests totaling up to $650,000. Up to 12 awards are anticipated in the Seed and Progress Contests totaling up to $1,200,000.

Updated Text

Up to $1,700,000 in cash prizes awarded by NIST will be distributed among the National Winners of the challenge. National Winners will be showcased on the challenge website. Up to 30 awards are anticipated for technical excellence in the Demonstration Contest totaling up to $500,000. Up to 12 awards are anticipated in the Seed and Progress Contests totaling up to $1,200,000.

Change 2: Page 67, paragraph 2

Original Text

The demonstration round will be evaluated based on the participant's demonstration. The ten unique contests will be evaluated independently to select up to three participants to be awarded prizes for each contest. Up to $650,000 will be awarded, with up to $65,000 per contest. The awards are anticipated to include $30,000 for 1st, $20,000 for 2nd, and $15,000 for 3rd. The awards may vary from contest to contest; in the event of a tie, first and second awards will be combined and split ($25,000 each); or in the event there is a lack of eligible participants, NIST reserves the right to decline to make awards or make fewer awards than anticipated. These awards are made to recognize the technical skill and accomplishments of the participants.

Updated Text

The demonstration round will be evaluated based on the participant's demonstration. Each participant will be evaluated independently and assessed an adjectival rating ('excellent', 'superior', 'very good', 'good', or 'unacceptable'). Up to $500,000 will be awarded, with up to thirty awards made. The awards are anticipated to include $40,000 for 'excellent' ratings, $20,000 for 'superior' ratings, $15,000 for 'very good' ratings, $10,000 for 'good' ratings, and $0 for 'unacceptable' ratings. Although each participant is evaluated independently – participant scores (except for 'unacceptable') will be ranked and then adjusted by the judges to fit the anticipated distribution of prizes as follows: 13% 'excellent', 17% 'superior', 20% 'very good', and 50% 'good'. In the event there is a lack of eligible participants, NIST reserves the right to decline to make awards or make more or fewer awards than anticipated based on the recommendations of the judges. These awards are made to recognize the technical skill and accomplishments of the participants.

Change 3: Page 68, paragraphs 1-3 regarding criteria 1-3 as portions of the scoring for the Seed Contest

Original Text

CRITERIA #1: DEVELOPMENT AND SCALABILITY (MAX 20/100)

CRITERIA #2: GROWTH STRATEGY (MAX 20/100)

CRITERIA #3: TEAM POTENTIAL FOR SUCCESS (MAX 20/100)

Updated Text

CRITERIA #1: DEVELOPMENT AND SCALABILITY (MAX 33/100)

CRITERIA #2: GROWTH STRATEGY (MAX 33/100)

CRITERIA #3: TEAM POTENTIAL FOR SUCCESS (MAX 34/100)