

HACKMYSURU 1.0 - OFFICIAL HANDBOOK

BRIDGING CLASSROOM THEORY & REAL-WORLD SOFTWARE DELIVERY

A two-phase engineering competition guiding students from civic innovation to enterprise-grade builds.

18-20 & 26-27 SEPT 2026

MYSURU, KARNATAKA

RS 1,00,000+ PRIZES

TOP 50 ADVANCE TO PH2

SECTION 01

WHAT IS HACKMYSURU 1.0?

HackMysuru 1.0 is Mysuru's premier student hackathon designed to bridge the gap between classroom theory and real-world technology delivery. Organized by Rankbook Learning and Software Solutions in collaboration with industry partners, the event challenges students across Engineering, BCA, B.Sc, MCA, and M.Tech programs to build practical, functional digital products that solve genuine societal challenges.

OUR PHILOSOPHY: UNDERSTANDING OVER POLISH

We don't score based on flashy pitch decks or slides with no substance. We care about whether you truly understand the problem, why you made specific architectural trade-offs, and whether your code actually runs.

SECTION 02

HOW THE TWO PHASES WORK

HackMysuru 1.0 is structured into two complementary stages: a wide-reach, 72-hour online engineering challenge to build and defend an MVP, followed by an elite 24-hour on-site hackathon in Mysuru for the Top 50 qualifying teams.

PHASE 1 (ONLINE)

18-20 SEPT 2026

Open Build Challenge

72-Hour Continuous Challenge | Remote (College/Home)

- **One Common Civic Problem:**
All registered teams tackle a unified Mysuru civic governance challenge released at launch.
- **Exact 72-Hour Build Timer:**
Starts 18 Sept 00:00 IST and ends 20 Sept 23:59 IST. Continuous git commit velocity required.
- **Four Mandatory Deliverables:**
Public GitHub repo, live working MVP link, 10-min pitch/code video, and 1-page Decision Log.
- **Progression Gates:**
Gate 1 screening & Gate 2 technical evaluation.
Top 50 qualifying teams advance to Phase 2.
- **Participation Scale:**
Open to all registered student teams (2 to 4 members per team; Rs 999 fee covers both phases).

PHASE 2 (ON-SITE)

26-27 SEPT 2026

Grand 24-Hour Hackathon

24-Hour Physical Overnight Sprint | Campus in Mysuru

- **Top 50 Finalist Teams:**
Elite qualifiers from Phase 1. ZERO extra entry fee (fully covered by initial registration).
- **4 Industrial Problem Statements:**
Secret enterprise & deep-tech problem statements revealed at 10:00 AM on-site opening.
- **3 Milestone Checkpoints:**
In-person reviews with senior industry mentors at 1:00 PM, 7:00 PM, and 9:00 AM next morning.
- **Top 10 Stage Pitches:**
Top 10 teams pitch on the main auditorium stage to corporate jury. 7m demo + 3m defense.
- **Prizes & Corporate Hiring:**
Rs 1,00,000+ cash prize pool, trophies, and fast-track interviews with tech partners.

HOW ADVANCEMENT WORKS | QUALIFICATION TIMELINE

On 24 September 2026, all Phase 1 submissions are reviewed by the screening and judging committee. The Top 50 teams will see their qualification status unlocked on their Team Dashboard and receive an official on-site onboarding kit. Individual teammates do not need separate accounts.

TOP 50 TEAMS ADVANCE

SECTION 03

YOUR JOURNEY STEP-BY-STEP (ROADMAP)

01

Team Registration Closes: 17 September 2026 (23:59 IST)

Sign up online with 2 to 4 student members. Pay Rs 999 fee (covers entire team for both phases) and finalize team roster.

02

Phase 1 Starts: 18 September 2026 (00:00 IST)

The official problem statement is unlocked on your team dashboard. You have an exact 72-hour continuous build window.

03

Phase 1 Submission Freeze: 20 September 2026 (23:59 IST)

Push source code, decision log, demo video link, and README to your GitHub repo. Repositories lock at 23:59 IST sharp.

04

Gate 1 & Gate 2 Evaluation: 21-23 September 2026

Screening reviewers inspect commit authenticity and repo structure. Judges score the decision log, code, and working MVP.

05

Top 50 Qualification Announcement: 24 September 2026

Top 50 qualifying teams are announced and receive their travel, venue, and onboarding kits for the on-site Grand Hackathon.

06

Grand Hackathon & Awards: 26-27 September 2026

24 hours on-site in Mysuru. Plan, build, and pitch live in front of the jury, showcase your code, and win from Rs 1L+ prizes.

SECTION 04

PHASE 1: 72-HOUR OPEN BUILD & CIVIC CHALLENGE

THE GROUND SITUATION: CIVIC GOVERNANCE & CLEAN MYSURU

Mysuru City Corporation handles hundreds of tonnes of civic maintenance work daily - potholes, blocked drains, garbage overflow, broken streetlights, illegal dumping near lakes and green belts. Responsibility is split across MCC, town panchayats, and gram panchayats with no shared visible public record of what was reported or resolved.

Your challenge is to build a working software product that genuinely solves this journey for citizens and civic staff.

LOCK: THE FULL PROBLEM STATEMENT RELEASES ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2026 (00:00 IST)

To guarantee fair play and prevent pre-built solutions, specific sub-problems, evaluation constraints, and dataset access will be unlocked simultaneously on your dashboard when Phase 1 opens. Every team tackles this one challenge.

PHASE 1 DELIVERABLES CHECKLIST (DUE SEPT 20, 2026 @ 23:59 IST | 72-HOUR BUILD)

1. PUBLIC GITHUB REPO

Clean source code with continuous commit history across 72 hours. No last-minute zipped binary uploads.

2. LIVE WORKING MVP

Working web app or hosted demo URL that reviewers can test live. Fallback to local setup instructions.

3. 10-MINUTE VIDEO

Continuous screen recording covering two mandatory parts: 3-min pitch/demo + 7-min code walkthrough.

4. 1-PAGE DECISION LOG

1-page PDF in submission/decision-log.pdf answering 3 architecture trade-off (25% questions weight).

CRITICAL PHASE 1 SUBMISSION RULES:

- Repositories must be made PUBLIC before 20 September 23:59 IST.
- Commit history will be inspected by automated screening bots. Submissions with zero commit history will be disqualified.
- Code created specifically for this challenge statement prior to 18 September 00:00 IST is strictly prohibited.
- **You retain 100% full intellectual property ownership of your source code and product.**

SECTION 05

PHASE 1 SUBMISSION PROCESS & REPOSITORY BLUEPRINT

Everything lives in one place: your team's public GitHub repository. There are no external Google forms or separate drives. If a deliverable is not in your repository before the 20 September 23:59 IST deadline, it does not exist for judging.

```
# Required GitHub Repository Structure (Exact Names Required)

<team-name>/
|-- README.md           # Project overview, tech stack, and setup guide
|-- resource.md         # MANDATORY: Central landing file for all submission links
|-- src/               # All readable source code (no zipped binary drops)
|-- submission/        # Dedicated folder for evaluation artifacts
|   |-- presentation.pdf # Max 10 slides summarizing the product & impact
|   |-- decision-log.pdf # 1-page architecture trade-offs (Mandatory - 25%)
+-- LICENSE             # Optional open-source license (MIT, Apache 2.0)
```

README.MD REQUIRED SECTION ORDER:

1. Problem Understanding & Selected Sub-Problem

2. Target Users & Real-World Mysuru Civic Context

3. Solution Overview & Architecture Diagram

4. Tech Stack & AI Tools Disclosed (ChatGPT, Copilot, Cursor, etc.)

5. Step-by-Step Setup & Local Run Instructions

6. Known Limitations, Edge Cases & Future Scaling Roadmaps

SECTION 06

THE 10-MINUTE VIDEO RULE (GOOGLE DRIVE UPLOAD ONLY)

Record one continuous video (max 10 mins). Upload exclusively to Google Drive and paste link in resource.md. Do not commit video files to GitHub, and do not use YouTube or Loom. Reviewers evaluate both product & code.

PART 1: PRODUCT PITCH (2-3 MINS)

Demonstrate Working MVP Live

- What specific civic problem did you pick?
- Who benefits (citizens, municipal workers)?
- Show the working software running live.
- No slide reading - real software speaks loudest.
- Focus on core problem resolution flow.

PART 2: CODE & ARCHITECTURE (5-7 MINS)

Explain Your Build Out Loud

- Open your IDE and walk through the codebase.
- Explain database schema, models, & APIs.
- Highlight key design trade-offs made.
- Disclose AI tool usage & show code mastery.
- Proves you understand the code you created.

MANDATORY SINGLE VIDEO SUBMISSION PROTOCOL (GOOGLE DRIVE ONLY):

To eliminate Git file-size errors and ensure fair, standardized evaluation across all teams:

1. Upload your continuous 10-minute video exclusively to Google Drive (no video files in git).
2. Set access permission to 'Anyone with the link can view' (test link in an incognito window).
3. Paste the Google Drive link into resource.md at the root of your GitHub repository.

SECTION 07

THE DECISION LOG (HEAVIEST WEIGHT: 25% OF TOTAL SCORE)

This is not a formality and carries 25% of your total evaluation score. In your own words (maximum 1 page PDF inside submission/decision-log.pdf in your repository), answer these three core architecture questions:

QUESTION 1: APPROACH & REJECTED ALTERNATIVES

What approach did you take, and what is one alternative you considered and rejected?

QUESTION 2: TECHNICAL TRADE-OFF JUSTIFICATION

Why did you reject that alternative? (What technical trade-off made your chosen approach better?)

QUESTION 3: REAL-WORLD SCALING AWARENESS

What would break if your system had to handle the entire city of Mysuru instead of just your demo dataset?

A team that can only describe what they built, but cannot explain why they chose it over alternatives, will score poorly. This is the single clearest signal of genuine engineering understanding versus generated output.

SECTION 08

EVALUATION & SCORING RUBRICS

Judging at HackMysuru 1.0 is objective, transparent, and code-first. Here is the exact scoring breakdown used.

GATE 1 - SCREENING (PASS / FAIL)

Reviewers inspect resource.md, confirm Drive video opens, verify live MVP runs, and audit 72-hour commit history.

GATE 2 - TECHNICAL SCORING (100 PTS)

Evaluated by industry reviewers across the 6 weighted criteria below. 50% comes from explaining your build.

PHASE 1 QUALIFYING RUBRIC (ONLINE) - TOP 50 ADVANCE TO PHASE 2

EVALUATION CRITERIA	WEIGHT
Decision Log (Quality of reasoning, trade-offs, and scaling awareness)	25%
Code & Architecture Walkthrough (Understanding your own build out loud)	25%
Working Product / MVP (Does it actually function as claimed in demo video)	20%
Problem Understanding & Originality (Tackling real civic pain points in Mysuru)	15%
Evidence of Iterative Work (Verifiable 72-hour commit history on GitHub)	10%
Presentation Clarity (Concise slide deck and structured communication)	5%
TOTAL PHASE 1 EVALUATION SCORE	100%

HOW SCORES ARE USED FOR ADVANCEMENT:

- Gate 1 screening is performed within 24 hours of submission freeze (21 September).
- Gate 2 technical reviews are independently conducted by two senior engineers from tech industry partners.
- Normalized scores determine the Top 50 teams who qualify for Phase 2 Grand Hackathon in Mysuru.
- **Results unlocked on Team Dashboard on 24 September 2026.**

SECTION 09

PHASE 2: GRAND 24-HOUR ON-SITE HACKATHON (DEEP DIVE)

For the Top 50 qualified teams, HackMysuru moves from the screen into the physical arena. Held on-site at a premier campus venue in Mysuru on 26-27 September 2026, Phase 2 is an adrenaline-packed, 24-hour physical sprint to build and pitch.

24 HOURS NON-STOP

10:00 AM 26 Sept -
Auditorium Finale 27 Sept

ON-SITE IN MYSURU

Campus workstations,
leased WiFi, power bays

RS 0 ADDITIONAL FEE

Fully covered by Rs 999
initial team fee

RS 1L+ PRIZES

Cash prizes, trophies,
corporate hiring fast-track

4 LIVE INDUSTRIAL PROBLEM STATEMENTS (REVEALED 26 SEPT @ 10:00 AM ON-SITE)

Unlike Phase 1 (single civic prompt), Phase 2 releases 4 distinct enterprise problem statements across AI & Intelligent Automation, Smart Infrastructure & Mobility, FinTech & Public Trust, and Enterprise Deep-Tech. Each team selects one.

THE THREE MANDATORY IN-PERSON MILESTONE CHECKPOINTS:

CHECKPOINT 01

DAY 1 | 1:00 PM

Solution Proposal & Architecture Review

Mentors visit your bay to evaluate your problem breakdown, persona journey, architecture diagram, DB schema plan, and chosen tech stack.

CHECKPOINT 02

DAY 1 | 7:00 PM

Mid-Sprint Progress & Working Flow

Demonstrate a working prototype showing live data flow, UI/UX screens, active database/API connections, and core functionality. Unblock bugs

CHECKPOINT 03

DAY 2 | 9:00 AM

Final Build & Submission Freeze

Complete source code pushed to GitHub, live deployment URL tested, and final 8-slide presentation submitted. Scores tallied; Top 10 shortlisted for

OVERNIGHT SPRINT & FLOATING MENTORS (7:30 PM - 6:00 AM)

The hackathon floor enters deep focus mode. Senior software architects and domain mentors circulate among tables to unblock API throttling, database indexing, deployment issues, and pitch preparation throughout the night.

Included 24/7 on floor: Hot coffee, tea, midnight refreshments, leased-line WiFi, quiet rest lounges & campus security.

TOP 10 GRAND STAGE AUDITORIUM PITCHES (DAY 2, 10:00 AM ONWARDS):

PART A: 7-MINUTE PRODUCT PITCH

- Present your working product live on stage.
- Walk the jury through real end-to-end workflows.
- Highlight architectural choices made in 24 hours.
- No slide reading or mocks - real working code only.

PART B: 3-MINUTE JURY TECHNICAL Q&A

- Tough interrogation from enterprise CTOs & jury.
- Defend database scaling, caching, & concurrency.
- Address edge cases, security, & failure modes.
- Demonstrates genuine deep understanding.

WHAT WE PROVIDE ON-SITE:

- Dedicated team workstation with power hub
- Dual-band leased-line high-speed WiFi
- 3 full hot meals (Day 1 Lunch & Dinner, Day 2 Breakfast)
- 24/7 tea, coffee, energy snacks & midnight meals
- Dedicated quiet rest lounges (male & female)
- Rankbook corporate placement lounge access
- Participation certificates & mentor networking
- 24/7 on-campus security & medical first-aid

WHAT TEAMS MUST BRING:

- Laptops with development tools pre-installed
- Laptop chargers and power adapters
- Multi-plug spike buster extension board (recommended)
- Original College Student ID & Govt ID (All members)
- Secondary mobile hotspot / backup connection
- Personal toiletries & comfortable overnight clothing
- Light jacket/hoodie for air-conditioned halls
- Hardware/sensors (if building IoT embedded solutions)

SECTION 10

RULES STUDENTS ACTUALLY ASK ABOUT

TEAM SIZE & COMPOSITION

Teams must consist of 2 to 4 eligible students. Cross-college and cross-year teams are 100% welcome. Individual members do not need separate accounts; the Team Leader

AI TOOLS 100% PERMITTED

ChatGPT, GitHub Copilot, v0, Claude, Cursor, and open-source models are allowed. You must disclose their use in README.md and be able to explain how the code works during the

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

You own 100% of what you build. Neither Rankbook nor partners claim any ownership, equity, or licensing rights over your code, product, or ideas.

NO PRE-BUILT SOLUTIONS

Writing code specifically for the released challenge prior to 18 September (00:00 IST) is strictly prohibited. Public libraries, npm packages, and standard templates are

SECTION 11

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q: Can we register now and change teammates later?

Yes! You can register your team now with 2+ members. The Team Leader can add, update, or swap teammates anytime in the Team Dashboard before registration closes on 17 September (23:59 IST).

Q: Is there any additional fee if we qualify for Phase 2?

No. The Rs 999 registration fee is a one-time team fee covering all phases, including the on-site Grand Hackathon, meals, mentorship, rest lounges, and finalist certificates.

Q: Where will Phase 2 take place and are food & stay provided?

Phase 2 takes place on-site at a premier campus in Mysuru on 26-27 September 2026. All 3 hot meals, midnight snacks, coffee/tea, and dedicated quiet rest lounges are provided at no extra

Q: Can we change team members between Phase 1 and Phase 2?

No. The roster registered on your team dashboard locks on 17 September 2026 (23:59 IST). The same verified student squad represents your team at the Phase 2 Grand Hackathon.

Q: How are the 4 problem statements chosen in Phase 2?

The 4 industrial problem statements are unlocked during the opening ceremony at 10:00 AM on 26 September. Each qualifying team chooses whichever one best fits their engineering skills.

Q: What if our internet or demo link breaks near Phase 1 deadline?

Contact Tech Support immediately (tech@rankbook.in / +91 86600 72932). A short grace window is considered only for verified technical issues on our end.

ORGANIZER & TECH SUPPORT CONTACTS

Have questions or need technical support during Phase 1 or Phase 2? Reach out to our dedicated team:

- **General Queries & Registration:** care@rankbook.in | +91 99169 29545
- **Technical Issues & Submissions:** tech@rankbook.in | +91 86600 72932
- **Official Portal & Dashboard:** <https://hackmysuru.rankbook.in>
- **Organizing Body:** Rankbook Learning and Software Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Mysuru, Karnataka

REGISTRATION CLOSING 17 SEPTEMBER 2026 (23:59 IST) | SECURE YOUR TEAM SPOT NOW

Visit <https://hackmysuru.rankbook.in/register> to create your team account and reserve your slot.