



PROXY Maze '26

Innovation Challenge 2026

14 Week Hackathon

ABOUT US

Torch Labs is a leading software company specialising in proxy solutions and network infrastructure tools. Our products empower developers to build scalable, secure and high performance applications.

This hackathon is our way of investing in the developer community giving talented teams the platform and resources to innovate using our technology stack.

200+

Expected Teams

14

Week Duration

10

Finalists

WHAT IS THE INNOVATION CHALLENGE?

A 14-week competitive event designed to drive developer adoption of Torch Labs products. Through a multi-stage funnel, 200+ initial registrations are filtered down to the top 10 teams who pitch their innovations at an in-person final.

Build & Innovate

Create projects that leverage Torch Proxies products in creative and impactful ways.

Compete & Grow

Progress through multiple rounds and sharpen your technical and product skills.

Network & Connect

Meet fellow student developers, mentors and industry professionals.

Win Big

Top teams compete for prizes and recognition at the in-person grand finale.

14-WEEK JOURNEY – PHASE 1

Weeks 1-4

Registration
period

Teams of 2-4 students from the same university register and prepare for the challenge ahead.

Week 5

Challenge 1
(Technical filter)

24-hour technical challenge. Demonstrates your ability to work with Torch Proxies products. Top 50 teams advance.

Weeks 6-8

Proposal
submission

Qualifying teams submit detailed project proposals outlining their concept, approach, and intended use of Torch Proxies.

Week 9

Proposal
review

Expert panel reviews all proposals. Top 25 teams advance to the build phase.

14-WEEK JOURNEY – PHASE 2

Weeks 10-11

Pre-implementation
& video

Build prototypes and submit a video walkthrough demonstrating your project's functionality and Torch Proxies integration.

Week 12

Video submission
review

Panel reviews video submissions. Top 10 teams advance to the grand finale.

Weeks 13-14

Final
implementation

Finalists complete their full project implementation and prepare their live pitch presentation.

End of Week 14

Grand finale
live pitch

Top 10 teams pitch in-person to a panel of judges. Winners announced on the day!

RULES & REQUIREMENTS

University affiliation

All team members must be currently enrolled at the same university. Affiliation will be verified for all Top 50 teams – any team found to include members from different universities will be disqualified in full.

Code of conduct

All participants must adhere to the event code of conduct at all times, both online and at the in-person finale.

Team size

Each team must have 2-4 members. Solo entries are not permitted.

Torch Labs products

All projects must actively utilise at least one Torch Labs / Torch Proxies product as a core component of the solution.

Original work

Submissions must be original work created during the hackathon period. Pre-existing codebases are not eligible.

JUDGING CRITERIA

25%

Innovation & creativity

How unique and novel is the solution? Does it use Torch Proxies in an inventive way?

25%

Technical implementation

Code quality, architecture, and depth of integration with Torch Labs products.

20%

Impact & usefulness

Does the project solve a realworld problem? Is there a clear and credible use case?

15%

Presentation & demo

Clarity and quality of the live pitch and product demonstration.

15%

Scalability & design

Can the solution scale? Is the user experience thoughtfully considered?

WHAT YOU CAN WIN



1st place

RS. 100, 000

Trophy + Torch Labs Pro Credits +
Swag Pack (T-shirt) + Mentorship
program access



2nd place

RS. 75, 000

Trophy + Torch Labs Pro Credits +
Swag Pack (T-shirt)



3rd place

RS. 50, 000

Torch Labs Pro Credits + Swag
Pack (T-shirt)

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1

Form your team

Gather 2-4 students from the same university with complementary skills. Register as a team on the hackathon portal.

2

Get familiar

Explore Torch Proxies products and documentation. Attend optional onboarding webinars to get a head start.

3

Complete Challenge 1

Tackle the 24-hour technical filter in Week 5. Demonstrate your ability to build with Torch Proxies products.

4

Submit & build

Submit your proposal, build your prototype, record your video demo, and make it to the finals!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can participate?

The competition is open to university students only. All members of a team must be currently enrolled at the same university. University affiliation will be verified for all Top 50 teams – any team found to include members from different universities will be disqualified in full.

Is there a registration fee?

[Placeholder – e.g., Free / \$XX per team]

Do I need prior experience with Torch Proxies?

No prior experience is required. We provide onboarding resources, documentation, and optional webinars to help your team get started.

Can I participate remotely?

All rounds except the final pitch are conducted online. The grand finale is an in-person event and attendance is mandatory for finalist teams.

READY TO INNOVATE?

Register your team today and start building the future with Torch Labs.

hackathon@torchlabs.xyz

Discord: [placeholder invite]

torchproxies.com/hackathon