

What it is	The Rhode Island Business Plan Competition is an annual competition sponsored by businesses, professional services firms, investors, banks, nonprofits, foundations, colleges, universities, and government agencies.
Legal status	The Competition is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, which was incorporated in Rhode Island in 2005.
Goal	The Competition seeks to promote entrepreneurship and the development of start-up and early stage companies in Rhode Island.
Who can participate	Participation is available as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Entrepreneur Track</u> — Open to anyone, 18 or older, who is not a full-time student, who is either an entrepreneur or aspires to become one ● <u>Student Track</u> — Open to full-time undergraduate or graduate students, 18 or older, enrolled in an accredited college or university ● <u>MedTech/Life Sciences Award</u> — Chosen from all applicants
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Rhode Island Business Plan Competition was established in 2000 with the first prizes awarded in Spring 2001. ● No competitions were held 2003-2005 due to lack of funding. ● The Competition was re-established in the fall of 2005 by the Brown Forum for Enterprise and the Business Development Company, and held annually since. ● The 2017 Competition was supported by 62 sponsors.
Prizes	2001 One prize of \$50,000 cash 2002 One prize of \$50,000 cash 2006 Two winners shared \$115,000 in cash and in-kind services 2007 Two winners shared \$125,000 in cash and in-kind services 2008 Three winners and four finalists shared \$170,000 in prizes 2009 Two winners and four finalists shared \$130,000 in prizes 2010 Three winners and six finalists shared \$195,000 in prizes 2011 Three winners and five finalists shared \$256,000 in prizes 2012 Three winners and four finalists shared \$202,000 in prizes 2013 Three winners and three finalists shared \$202,000 in prizes 2014 Three winners and four finalists shared \$203,500 in prizes 2015 Three winners and four finalists shared \$200,000 in prizes 2016 Three winners and four finalists shared \$226,300 in prizes 2017 Three winners and four finalists shared \$271,000 in prizes
Leadership	<u>Co-Chairs:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peggy Farrell, <i>Partner</i>, Hinckley Allen ● Anthony Mangiarelli, <i>Partner</i>, KLR <u>Development Director:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Richard G. Carriere, <i>Senior Vice President for Investments</i>, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Executive Director	Peter Lowy, Tel: 617-734-9980; email: info@ri-bizplan.com
Rules, policies, FAQs	Available on the Competition website at www.ri-bizplan.com