



## 2024 ChemE Cube™ Competition Rules

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### Document Revision History

Version (Date)	Comment
1.0 (January 2024)	Initial release of 2024 competition rules

**2024 ChemE Cube Competition Powered by RAPID® | ExxonMobil Quick Start Guide**

## 2024 ChemE Cube Competition Rules

### 1. Get up-to-speed on Modular Chemical Process Intensification and Direct Air Capture concepts:

- Many RAPID and AIChE eLearning courses and webinars are free to AIChE student members and will be useful in this competition. [A full list](#) is available, but, in addition to the resources listed in the problem statement, it is highly recommended that all teams review the following resources:
  - a. 1-hour RAPID webinar "[Design, Application & Economics of Process Intensification](#)"
  - b. 1-hour AIChE webinar "[Carbon Capture, Transport and Sequestration](#)"
  - c. [2019 AIChE Student Design Competition Problem Statement](#) (Modular Distributed Ammonia Synthesis)
    - i. *Note: this file is a resource only to help demonstrate the benefits to modular processes, particularly the design consideration and references section. No elements of the competition problem are required for this competition.*

### 2. Review the following documents (all found at [www.aiche.org/chemecube2024](http://www.aiche.org/chemecube2024)):

- 2024 ChemE Cube Competition Rules (this document)
- 2024 ChemE Cube Problem Statement
- 2024 ChemE Cube Rubrics
- Virtual Qualifying Presentation
- The Ad & Poster
- The Pitch
- The Cube
- 2024 ChemE Cube Safety Program
- [AIChE Code of Ethics](#)
- [AIChE Code of Conduct](#)

### 3. **Check out the 2024 ChemE Cube Informational Webinar Recording for more context.**

A 2024 ChemE Cube Competition Informational Webinar takes place on January 25. RAPID staff will review competition details and experts from ExxonMobil will review Direct Air Capture technology. Link to webinar:

[http://aiche.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_O8SROQguRGSJmkkA\\_I\\_zHw](http://aiche.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_O8SROQguRGSJmkkA_I_zHw)

### 4. Sign up for the Virtual Qualifying Event

[Sign your team up](#) for a virtual qualifying presentation time slot no later than March 31. Link to schedule: <https://calendly.com/keitj/cheme-cube-2024-virtual-qualifying-presentation>

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Date	Checklist of Important Dates and Deadlines for the 2024 Competition
<b>January 2024</b>	2024 Competition Rules & Problem Statement Launched
<b>Sign up no later than March 31, 2024</b>	<p><u>Sign Up for Virtual Qualifying Presentation Time</u> Sign your team up for a virtual qualifying presentation time slot no later than March 31. (Hint: the sooner you sign up, the more likely you are to get your preferred time). Link to schedule: <a href="https://calendly.com/keitj/cheme-cube-2024-virtual-qualifying-presentation">https://calendly.com/keitj/cheme-cube-2024-virtual-qualifying-presentation</a></p>
<b>April 8-19, 2024</b>	<p><u>Virtual Qualifying Presentations</u> In order to qualify to compete at the 2024 ChemE Cube Competition, you will present your team's design to a panel of judges via Zoom. The top teams (~14) will be selected to compete at the 2024 ChemE Cube Competition in-person.</p>
<b>April 23, 2024</b>	Teams are notified no later than April 23, 2024 if they qualify and will compete in the 2024 ChemE Cube Competition in San Diego.
<b>April 30, 2024</b>	Qualifying teams confirm their intended participation at the on-site competition.
<b>August 19, 2024, 2pm-3pm ET</b>	<p><u>2024 Competition Prep Call</u> The teams who qualify to compete at the 2024 ChemE Cube Competition will be required to participate in a Competition Prep Call.</p>
<b>Monday, October 7, 2024, 5:00pm PT</b>	Deadline for Engineering Design Package (EDP), submit to <a href="mailto:ChemECube@aiche.org">ChemECube@aiche.org</a> .
<b>Monday, October 21, 2024, 5:00pm PT</b>	Deadline for The Ad, submit to <a href="mailto:ChemECube@aiche.org">ChemECube@aiche.org</a> .
<b>Sunday - Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 4<sup>th</sup> Annual ChemE Cube Competition, San Diego, CA</b>	<p>The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual ChemE Cube Competition will take place at the 2024 <a href="#">AIChE Annual Student Conference</a> in San Diego, CA.</p> <p>Bring all items to the on-site competition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Poster</li> <li>- The Pitch presentation materials (send to ChemE Cube team electronically and 5 hardcopies for judges)</li> <li>- ChemE Cube</li> <li>- Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for all team members</li> </ul>

## 2024 ChemE Cube Competition Rules

### 1) What is ChemE Cube?

ChemE Cube is an annual student competition, launched in 2021 and hosted by the [RAPID Manufacturing Institute](#), where undergraduate university teams design, build, and demonstrate a 1 cubic foot mini-plant that solves a real world problem in the chemical process industries. Teams compete on the basis of the cube's performance, merits of the technical approach, and the business case.

### 2) ChemE Cube Objectives

This program seeks to provide students in engineering and related disciplines with the opportunity to participate in an innovative, team-oriented, hands-on design project to manufacture a chemical process that fits in a 1×1×1-foot cube. Students will be expected to:

- a) Solve real-world problems by designing a process using creative chemical engineering solutions.
- b) Demonstrate the ability to safely build and operate a complete chemical process (i.e. reaction and/or separation) at a small scale using advanced manufacturing and intensified processing technology.
- c) Calculate and clearly communicate the ways in which industry could “number-up” the process to meet required product demand and pitch the product's business case to a panel of industry judges.

### 3) ChemE Cube Core Values

Teams should demonstrate a commitment to these core values:

- Teamwork
- Creativity & Innovation
- Sustainable Development
- Diversity & Inclusion

### 4) ChemE Cube Rules of Conduct

Teams should review AIChE's Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics and act consistent with the two during the competition, including team meetings at respective universities, in online communication, and at the onsite competition.

- a) [AIChE Code of Conduct](#)
- b) [AIChE Code of Ethics](#)

### 5) Number of Students per Team

There is no limit to the number of students who may participate on a ChemE Cube team. It is encouraged that teams seek members outside of the chemical engineering major to increase diversity in skill sets. The team must designate 5 students to participate, in-person, in The Cube portion of the competition for safety reasons.

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### 6) Qualifying for the ChemE Cube Competition

To qualify for the in-person portion of the ChemE Cube competition, teams will present a Virtual Qualifying Presentation to panel of judges representing RAPID staff, representatives from sponsor companies, volunteers, etc. The judges will have sufficient technical background to adequately and fairly judge team's designs. To ensure consistency across scores, RAPID staff will attend each team's virtual qualifying presentation.

- a) Each team who wishes to participate in ChemE Cube will present (via Zoom) a design presentation.
- b) To sign up to participate, each team will sign up for a 30-minute time slot <https://calendly.com/keitj/cheme-cube-2024-virtual-qualifying-presentation>
- c) Each team's presentation should last no more than 20 minutes, with 10 minutes reserved for Q&A from judges.
- d) Judges will score teams using the Virtual Qualifying Presentation found at <http://www.aiche.org/chemecube2024>.
- e) RAPID will use the overall scores to determine the top teams (~14) who will be invited to advance to the in-person competition in October 2024.
- f) Once notified, teams must confirm their intended participation by the defined deadline in order to advance to the next stage of the competition.

### 7) ChemE Cube Competition Format

The In-Person ChemE Cube competition will take place at the Annual Student Conference at the site of the AIChE Annual Meeting in October 2024.

- a) The ChemE Cube Competition has four main elements: **The Ad**, **The Pitch**, **The Poster**, and **The Cube**.
  - i) **The Ad**: Teams will prepare a 1-minute 'ad' or video prior to the competition that highlights the team's product and value proposition (like a commercial would). This video will be judged prior to the competition and the team that scores the highest on this element of the competition gets to choose the order in which they run their cube, a unique advantage on-site.
  - ii) **The Pitch**: Students will have twenty minutes to pitch their process to a panel of industry members. This pitch is expected to include elements that a start-up company formed to commercialize your cube technology would present to a group of angel investors, such as an IP and Patent plan, understanding of the market, competitive advantage, financing required to bring the technology to market, and value proposition to the customer. Ten minutes will be allotted to the presentation and ten minutes for Q&A.
  - iii) **The Cube**: During the competition, each team of 5 students will run their 1x1x1ft. cube in a head-to-head arena against another team. Cubes will be judged and scored by measurable criteria made available in the annual problem statement. Criteria might

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include things like cube weight, cost, energy consumption, throughput, waste generation, and product purity.

### 8) ChemE Cube Competition Awards

The ChemE Cube Competition associated awards are:

- a) First place award: \$1,000 USD, a trophy and individual medals
- b) Runner-up award: \$500 USD, a trophy and individual medals
- c) Honorary awards:
  - i) Outside-the-Cube Award – An award to honor a team that had the most innovative and original cube design or cube components (chosen by Poster judges)
  - ii) Entrepreneur Award – An award to recognize the team that receives the most mock investment dollars during The Pitch.
  - iii) RAPID Award – An award to recognize the best implementation of Modular Chemical Process Intensification (MCPI) concepts (chosen by RAPID staff)

### 9) Scoring

- a) See detailed scoring rubrics for the specific problem statement (available at [www.aiche.org/chemecube2024](http://www.aiche.org/chemecube2024))
- b) See Table 1 for general scoring criteria and point values for the Virtual Qualifying Presentation
- c) See Table 2 for general scoring criteria, mechanisms, and point values for each portion of the ChemE Cube competition.

Table 1: Overview of Scoring and Judging Criteria for Virtual Qualifying Presentation

Scoring Category	General Criteria	Point Value
Cube Design & Safety Considerations	See ChemE Cube Virtual Qualifying Rubric at <a href="http://www.aiche.org/chemecube2024">www.aiche.org/chemecube2024</a>	120
Value Proposition		60
<b>Total</b>		<b>180</b>

Table 2: Overview of Scoring and Judging Criteria for ChemE Cube Competition

Scoring Category	General Criteria	Point Value
Cube Demonstration	See ChemE Cube Duel Rubric at <a href="http://www.aiche.org/chemecube2024">www.aiche.org/chemecube2024</a>	600

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The Ad	See ChemE Cube Ad Rubric at <a href="http://www.aiche.org/chemecube2024">www.aiche.org/chemecube2024</a>	100
The Poster	See ChemE Cube Poster Rubric at <a href="http://www.aiche.org/chemecube2024">www.aiche.org/chemecube2024</a>	100
The Pitch	See ChemE Cube Pitch Rubric at <a href="http://www.aiche.org/chemecube2024">www.aiche.org/chemecube2024</a>	200
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,000</b>

### 10) Safety Inspection Rules

- a) Prior to the competition, as stated in the *Checklist of Important Dates and Deadlines*, the teams must submit an Engineering Documentation Package (EDP) to ChemE Cube officials by the date listed to be considered for the competition moving forward.
- b) During the pre-run inspection, an audit team will inspect each ChemE Cube to ensure that all of the safety requirements have been met and that the cube will operate without risk to the operators, competition staff and spectators.
- c) If the audit team deems the cube safe to operate, then the cube will be given permission to compete.
- d) This permission can be revoked during the competition if teams fail to adhere to the rules and procedures outlined in the Competition Safety Rules.

### 11) ChemE Cube Ad

#### a) Overview

- i) All teams will create a 1-minute project promotion video that will be due approximately two weeks prior to the onsite competition. This video should introduce your team, your approach, your solution, and the potential impact it will have. This is not the time to get into very specific technical information but to provide a high-level overview of your technical approach and highlight innovative elements or examples of creativity or resourcefulness.
- ii) Approximately one week prior to the ChemE Cube Competition, judges will watch and score the videos as a way to get familiar with the teams. The Ad is your opportunity to make an excellent first impression.
- iii) The teams that score the highest on The Ad portion of the competition have the opportunity to choose their preferred time slot in the competition order for the on-site cube demonstration. For instance, the team that scores the highest may choose to go last, leaving the team that scored second highest the ability to choose any remaining open slot, and so forth. This process will continue until all teams have chosen a spot in the order.
- iv) In addition to being scored by the judges, the videos will also be played for the audience at the competition.

#### b) Technical Requirements

- i) Length: 1 minute

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- ii) Video File Format: .MP4, .MOV, .M4V
- iii) Resolution: Full HD 1920 x 1080 (1080p) or higher
- iv) Aspect Ratio: 16:9 landscape
- c) Content Requirements**
  - i) Include the intro provided by RAPID (does not count toward your total 1 minute).
  - ii) Credits at the end should recognize everyone who contributed to the video, especially if they were outside of your team.
  - iii) No copyrighted material allowed without permission. Make sure to use only materials that are appropriately licensed for reuse, such as freely usable or Creative Commons licensed creative works, royalty-free music, or music licensed for your team use. Be sure to give proper attribution to the creator where necessary. Any unlicensed use of copyrighted material will disqualify the team from this portion of the competition.
    - (1) Tip: A good resource for royalty-free music is <https://incompetech.com/>
  - iv) You should receive consent from anyone appearing in your video. If there are minors under the age of 18 appearing in your video, you are required to get parental consent.
- d) Elements of Video Judging Rubric**
  - i) See rubric released with the problem statement for specific scoring requirements. Generally, videos will be judged according to the following criteria:
    - (1) Clearly and concisely communicating unique or innovative elements used in the cube.
    - (2) Clearly and concisely communicating the impact potential of the technology.
    - (3) Quality of visuals.
    - (4) Overall engagement level.

## 12) ChemE Cube Poster

- a) Overview**
  - i) A poster must be displayed with the ChemE Cube on the day of the competition. Most of your team's technical description of your cube belongs on the Poster, including all references. *Important distinction: the Ad should be an overall summary of your product; the Pitch is the business case for your product; the Poster is where the technical descriptions go.* See template provided by RAPID on [www.aiche.org/chemecube2024](http://www.aiche.org/chemecube2024) for a place to start. All teams should use the poster template. This poster should clearly describe:
    - (a) Unique and innovative features of the cube
    - (b) Cube design description, drawings, and testing results
    - (c) PI and MCPI elements of the cube
    - (d) A breakdown of the total capital equipment costs (including manufacturing costs)
    - (e) The safety features/inherently safer design concepts applied to the cube
    - (f) Reference material and data
- b) Team Members**
  - i) The poster session and judging will take place during an allotted 20 minute time slot as part of the competition. Team members must be present during judging to answer questions from the judges.



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### c) Elements of Poster Judging Rubric

- i) See rubric released with the problem statement for specific scoring requirements. Generally, posters will be judged according to the following criteria:
- ii) Quality of the poster organization/aesthetic and presentation of the poster content by team members
- iii) Design creativity and unique features of the cube
- iv) Demonstration of knowledge of cube design, safety, results, and business case by all team members, and ability by team members to answer questions posed by the judges

## 13) The Pitch Session

### a) Overview

- i) Students will have twenty minutes to pitch their process to a panel of industry members. This pitch is expected to include elements that a start-up company formed to commercialize your cube technology would present to a group of angel investors, such as an IP and patent plan, understanding of the market, competitive advantage, financing required to bring the technology to market, and value proposition to the customer. Ten minutes will be allotted to the presentation and ten minutes for Q&A. See the rubric for exact criteria. *Important distinction: while you should highlight the unique and valuable aspects of your cube design, this is not a heavy technical presentation but a business pitch. The goal of The Pitch is to get someone to invest in your technology. You will act as if you are looking for seed funding as a newly formed startup and bringing a brand-new product to market.*

### b) Structure

- i) During the 10-minute pitch, teams will present the following, but are not limited to:
  - (1) What's The Context?
    - (a) Background of the Problem or Opportunity
    - (b) Proof of Market
  - (2) What's The Solution?
    - (a) Novel Design Overview
    - (b) Potential Impact for Market
    - (c) How the product will scale using PI and MCPI principles
  - (3) How are you protecting your design?
    - (a) What is your IP plan?
    - (b) What portion of your design can you patent?
  - (4) What are your financials?
    - (a) Capital Costs
    - (b) Operating Costs
    - (c) Profits
  - (5) The Competition
    - (a) Competitive Landscape
    - (b) Key Differentiators
  - (6) Why Should You Invest?
    - (a) Value Proposition
    - (b) Sustainability
    - (c) Intellectual Property Considerations

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- c) During the 10-minute Q&A, judges will pose questions about any and all aspects of the cube from the perspective of a potential investor – from design, to costs, to output. While it is anticipated that one team member may have specialized in one area over others, it is expected that each team member will be able to answer the judges' questions.
- d) Tip: review example pitch decks from successful businesses (Uber, AirBnb): <https://www.phocuswire.com/Pitch-decks-travel-game-changers-Airbnb-Uber>
- e) **Pitch Session Judging**
  - i) The Pitch will be judged on the following criteria:
    - (1) Understanding of the Market and Context
    - (2) Innovative Elements and Product Differentiation
    - (3) Intellectual property and patent plan
    - (4) Practicality and Plans to Reach Scale Using MCPI Principles
    - (5) Profitability and Sustainability
    - (6) Quality of Visuals
    - (7) Communication Skills

### 14) Cube Demonstration Session Rules

#### a) Input & Output Requirements

- i) Product purity and throughput requirement will be specified by the annual problem statement.
- ii) Access to surge-protected electrical power will be provided and monitored to record power consumption. Teams will be required to use **exactly** 12V of DC power. All power must be sourced from the provided power supply. Power generation (e.g., solar panels) and energy storage (e.g., batteries) are not allowed on the cube.
- iii) Cube flowrate will be determined via a flowmeter at the inlet and outlet. See problem statement for minimum and maximum flowrate requirements.
- iv) The concentrations, temperature, and pressure will be monitored via a meter.
- v) Internal surfaces and equipment (e.g., membranes, absorbents) can be wetted; however, storage of the primary reactants or products in reservoirs on the cube is not permitted.

#### b) Head-to-Head Competition, "The Duel"

- i) The head-to-head competition, referred to as The Duel, is a parallel demonstration of two team's cubes. There will be no physical interaction between teams or their cubes during The Duel.
- ii) An area where The Duel occurs will be designated and clearly labeled as "The Arena."
- iii) Anyone in The Arena must be authorized to enter by the competition staff and wear appropriate PPE.
- iv) During the duel, the team must not interact with their cube in anyway after startup procedures are complete.

#### c) "The Pit" Area

- i) A pit area where the teams will work on and/or troubleshoot their cubes will be designated and clearly labeled.
- ii) Anyone in this is required to wear proper PPE.

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- iii) Students will be allowed to enter The Pit and work on their cube only when allowed by competition staff.
  - iv) Students will also display their poster and designate personnel to attend their poster and field questions from spectators and/or judges.
    - (1) These students must be a part of the team, but is not required to be one of the 5 in The Duel.
    - (2) Judges may ask any individual attending the poster about any aspect of the cube, economic analysis, or the like.
  - v) Safety inspections will be conducted in The Pit before the beginning of the competition.
  - vi) Each cube's size will be measured in The Pit before the competition takes place.
  - vii) Students will be allowed to prepare and safely operate their cubes in The Pit area prior to the runs.
- d) Head-to-Head Competition Logistics**
- i) A competition emcee will announce each team before the start of their attempt
  - ii) Each cube will have two separate runs as dictated by the problem statement during which they will process the challenge input and generate product. Student teams will be given a set amount of time between runs to make any necessary modifications to their cube.
  - iii) Both attempts will be considered in scoring.
  - iv) In the event that one team fails to show up in the arena, or their cube fails during startup, the opposing team will perform a solo run. A failure during startup is considered a use of one of the team's two runs.
- e) Starting Area Procedure**
- i) Two teams of no more than 5 student representatives each will bring their cubes, including any necessary consumables, to The Arena.
  - ii) Upon entering The Arena and prior to each Duel, each team will weigh their cube (update means that each team's cube will be weighed twice throughout the course of the competition).
  - iii) When the judge signals the start of the duel, the teams may begin startup procedures for their cube.
  - iv) Competition staff will record each team's power consumption, product flow rate, product purity, and any other performance criteria specified in the problem statement.
  - v) Once a pre-determined amount of product has been produced or time has passed (as specified in the problem statement), the teams will be signaled to begin shutdown procedures. This will signal the end of a run.
- f) Duel Order Logistics**
- i) Each Duel takes place over 15 minutes and includes time for setup, start-up, run time, and shut-down. Exact timing of each element is defined in the Annual Problem Statement.
  - ii) Team competition order is determined from The Ad's scoring and coordinated with teams before arrival.

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- iii) Five (5) minutes before the start of the duel, the first two teams will be called to the arena.
- iv) Once the teams have arrived, the signal to begin loading of reactants will be given.
- v) A countdown is initiated for the teams to begin startup of their cubes.
- vi) Prior the start of the run, teams will be given start-up time in The Arena to purge or prime their cubes.
- vii) All teams are to have one run in the first round and a second run in the second round. If there is an odd number of teams, the last team for the first round will go head-to-head against the first team's second round run.

### g) Reaction Mechanism

- i) This competition's objective is for students to demonstrate the ability to perform and control a chemical or physical transformation (e.g., reaction or separation) in a continuous process.

### h) System Design

- i) Cubes entered into the competition must have a significant and demonstrable student design and fabrication component, particularly with respect to the cube's controller hardware, custom manufactured components, and any controls programs.
- ii) **All cube components must be securely attached within the cube's frame** before the start of the competition.
- iii) The use of exposed wiring, such as alligator clips are prohibited. Electrical connections must either be soldered or connected via banana plug or a similar connector. All wiring should be properly insulated.
- iv) Any catalysts, adsorbents, or the like must be preloaded before the competition.
- v) Any chemicals (e.g., reagents and catalysts) must be declared in the EDP and used in accordance with the Competition Safety Rules.
- vi) Cubes must be the result of intellectual contributions by the students. **Any cubes designed partially or entirely by a design firm or faculty advisors are prohibited.**
  - (1) Faculty and graduate students can only act as sounding boards to student queries. The faculty cannot be idea generators for the project. Use of the Socratic method is encouraged for faculty advisors.
- vii) **Off-the-shelf components are permitted**, but the use of them will be considered in the judgement of innovation and resourcefulness.
- viii) **Autonomous operation.** The cube must be autonomous and not require user interaction during the run (not including startup and shutdown periods). Students are only permitted to set system parameters in The Pit before moving to The Arena.
- ix) **Ease of use.** The cube must startup in no more than five (5) simple tasks. Examples of simple tasks include priming a pump, pushing a button, loading a solid in a simple container, etc. Written instructions on startup must be free of jargon and included in your EDP.
- x) Teams will be asked to provide a copy of their complete controller software programs (e.g. code used to run pumps and controls) in their EDP.
- xi) Cubes must include appropriate machine guards, shields and secondary containment in accordance with Competition Safety Rules.

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### i) Size of the Cube

- i) All components of the cube must fit into a cube of outer dimensions no larger than 1 ft × 1 ft × 1 ft.

### j) Capital Cost of the Cube

- i) The cost of the all cube components and the chemicals must not exceed \$1,500 USD.
- ii) The labor hours and fabrication equipment usage fees donated by university machine shops and other personnel will not be included in the capital cost of the cube, but will be considered in the judgement of resourcefulness. Therefore, all machine shop, 3D printers, and other major equipment must be listed along with an estimate of donated labor hours and estimated equipment usage fees. In the absence of published fabrication equipment usage fees, the rates can be estimated by dividing the purchase price of the equipment by its useful life.
- iii) The method used to estimate the cost of donated equipment must be shown. It is expected that donated equipment will be valued at fair market value.
- iv) For the purposes of this capital cost estimation, assume first-of-a-kind (FOAK) costs not considering any economies of mass production for “numbering up” the cube. Mass production cost may be considered in “The Pitch.”

### k) Changes to Cube from Previous Years

- i) The competition problem statement will change on an annual or biennial basis.
- ii) The cube’s frame can be reused from year to year as long as the manufacturing method, cost, materials of construction, and any other relevant information is included in the EDP and capital cost of the new cube.
- iii) Reuse of any internals from a previous cube must be tested at any new process conditions and shown to be chemically compatible with any new chemicals.

## 15) Team Member Status and Conduct

- a) All team members must be active AIChE members and a minimum of five (5) students must be registered for the Annual Student Conference.
- b) There is no restriction on requesting assistance on cube safety – teams may request safety assistance from their faculty advisor, other faculty members, other universities, and professional practitioners in industry and elsewhere.
- c) All questions posed by rules and safety judges at the safety inspection and poster session must be answered by the undergraduate student team members. The ability to explain cube design, operation, safety and/or rules compliance is the responsibility of the undergraduate students.
- d) The students working on the project must sign a statement saying they have read, understand, and abided by the rules. This statement must be included in the EDP.

## 16) Winning Team and Awards

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- a) The overall winning team is the team that scores the highest total score taken as the sum of the three elements of the competition (see Scoring section above). There is a maximum of 1,000 points.
- b) In case of a tie, the judges will vote to break the tie with each judge receiving one vote.

### 17) Onsite Safety Judges and Rules Coordinators

If there is any uncertainty on an issue of safety or other judging criteria, please contact [chemecube@aiche.org](mailto:chemecube@aiche.org). The decisions of the onsite rules and safety judges are final. In case of any discrepancy between these rules and the safety rules, the safety rules prevail.

### 18) Eligibility

Teams will consist of undergraduate students enrolled at host university along with a faculty advisor. There are no restrictions on the degree programs for student team members, and multidisciplinary teams are encouraged. There is no limit to the total amount of students permitted in a team.

### 19) Forfeiting

Should a team forfeit the competition after confirming participation for any reason, no team from that represented university may participate in the following year's competition.

### 20) Funding

While the ChemE Cube staff are always looking for opportunities to acquire external funding to help teams offset direct costs, RAPID does not guarantee any funding support to teams. Teams should be prepared to finance all costs (build materials, shipping the cube to the competition, team travel costs, registration to the Annual Student Conference, etc.) associated with ChemE Cube whether through support of their university, seeking funding through local businesses, etc. Teams may display sponsors logos or names as part of their cube design.

### 21) Intellectual Property Rights

By participating in the ChemE Cube competition, student teams are encouraged to develop and commercialize modular processes. However, student teams should be aware that there are risks in sharing unprotected ideas.

Neither RAPID nor the competition's sponsors claim any ownership to intellectual property developed by student teams participating in the ChemE Cube competition and shall not be held responsible for any misuse of IP.

Student teams are encouraged to review their university's intellectual property policies and are responsible for managing risks associated with sharing unprotected intellectual information.