「2026 HackTheon Sejong」 FAQ

1. Please describe in detail the eligibility for each category of the competition.
- Participants (teams) can be selected to join an Advanced team, Beginner A team, or Beginner B team based on their skill level.
- Advanced teams are open to all nationalities.
- Beginner teams are divided into Beginner A teams (Korean nationals only) and Beginner B teams (non Korean nationals) based on their nationality.
- However, if you have a previous "HackTheon Sejong" placement record (regardless of discipline), you are not eligible to participate in the beginner level.
- Also, in the Beginner Categories, multinational teams with South Korean nationals can choose to compete in either the Beginner A or Beginner B categories.

2. How many teams advance to the main round and how do you decide?
- The top 40 teams from the qualifiers advance to the finals. Twenty teams from the Advanced division and 10 teams each from the Beginner A and Beginner B divisions will advance.

3. How are prizes and runners-up determined?
- The Advanced category will award 7 teams 32 million won, including 1 Grand Prize (10 million won), 2 Best (5 million won), and 4 Honorable Mentions (3 million won).
- The beginner division is ranked by overall score, with no division into Beginner A and Beginner
B. Seven teams will be awarded 6 million won, including 1 grand prize team (2 million won), 2 best
teams (1 million won), and 4 best teams (500,000 won).

4. Can I apply if I'm on a break from college?

- Yes. You can enter. However, if you are a graduate or post-graduate student as of the date of entry, you are not eligible to participate.

5. I can't issue a Certificate of Attendance because I'm on leave, what should I do?

- If this is not possible, submit a letter of recommendation from your advisor included in the application form.

6. Can past participants of the "Hack Theon Sejong" competition participate again?

- Yes. You can participate. However, if you have a record of placing in "HackTheon Sejong" (regardless of discipline), you can only participate in the Advanced category.

7. Can the same person be on multiple teams, or can a team enter multiple divisions?

- No, and participants are limited to one entry per team.

8. I am currently a college student, but will be graduating from college in a few years. Can I still apply and participate in the qualifiers (or the main competition)?

- Yes, you can. You can apply and participate if you meet the requirements as of the date of application.

9. Do international students attending a domestic university have to participate as non-Korean nationals?

- Yes, you must apply to participate based on your nationality.

10. If I've been selected as a winner (team) and I can't make it to the awards ceremony, can I still receive my award?

- Failure to attend the awards ceremony will result in the award being canceled and may result in restrictions on participation in future competitions. Winners (teams) are strongly encouraged to attend the awards ceremony.

11. I've been selected as a finalist, but I can't make it to the event, can I enter online?

- This is not possible.

12. We made it to the finals, but suddenly some of our team members dropped out. Can we still participate?

- Yes, you can. However, you can only participate in the finals with the remaining members of your team, with no substitutions or changes, and at least one member of your team must be present at the finals.

13. If my team is determined to be the winner (team), but some of the team members are absent from the competition, will the absentees be considered for the honorable mention?

- No-shows will not be eligible for prizes, even if their team wins.

14. What types of problems will be featured in the preliminary and final rounds?

- The challenges will cover reversing, pwnable, web hacking, and other topics reflecting the latest trends in cybersecurity.

15. How do you communicate about the contest?

- You will be notified via the email address provided in your application (info@hacktheon.org).

16. How can I check my approval status after applying?

- Once approved, you will be able to log in to the registration page using the information provided during application.

- After the team leader submits the application, all team members must complete the required information via the email they receive. Approval and login access will only be granted once all members have completed this step. Please ensure that all team members have submitted their information.

- If you are still unable to log in within 2 hours after all information has been submitted (during business hours: 09:00–18:00 on weekdays), please contact the Secretariat at +82 70-5172-4125.

17. I have completed my registration, but I want to change my team name or team member composition. Is this possible and how do I do it?

- This is possible before the deadline for qualifying entries. Please contact the Operations Office at info@hacktheon.org, +82 70-5172-4125.

- However, this will not be possible after the qualification period closes.

- If you are contacting us via email, the time the email reaches the Secretariat must be before the deadline for qualifying entries.

18. I'm having trouble getting a ticket or visa. What should I do?

- You are responsible for arranging (and paying for) your own airline tickets and visas. However, we may send invitations or letters to participants in case of difficulties such as delays in obtaining visas.

19. Will housing be provided for the finalists?

- Yes, accommodations (hotels) will be provided.

- However, international participants will have 2 days(July 8 check-in, July 10 check-out) and domestic participants will have 1 day(July 9 check-in, July 10 check-out).

- We'll announce accommodations and check-in/check-out times prior to the competition.

20. Is there anything contestants should bring to the competition site?

- Yes. The main competition venue will provide only a basic setup per team table, so you will need to bring your own laptop and a wired-to-wireless adapter.

※ Only 1 laptop or computer and 1 external monitor per participant

- In addition, participants are responsible for their own convenience items such as cell phone chargers, additional multi-taps, switching hubs, etc.

※ All outlets in the competition venue are 220V only (participants must bring their own gender converter if using other plugs)

21. Will food be provided for the finalists?

- Yes, it will be provided. Detailed information will be announced once finalized.

- In addition, we will conduct a prior survey on participants' dietary restrictions (including religious and personal preferences) and prepare accordingly to ensure there are no inconveniences.

22. Will transportation be provided for Main Event participants?

- For international participants, we provide transportation from your domestic airport to your accommodations and the venue. However, we do not provide airfare.

- We do not provide transportation for domestic participants.

- We'll announce plans for transportation assistance from airports or major stations to the venue as they are determined.