**Frequently Asked Questions**

**General**

Do I need to know how to code to participate?

Although prior knowledge of programming languages and related technologies can help, no previous knowledge is required. Many of people learn the tools they need during the Hackathon! Coding is just one of many components that make a project successful. Teams can and should use the various skill sets that their team members can provide, whether technical or non-technical.

Does it cost anything?

No! The J.B. Hunt Hackathon is free of charge. So sign up!

Where can I park?

You can park at Harmon Parking Garage. Please note there is a charge associated with parking.

Do you need to be a computer science major to participate?

Absolutely not! The J.B. Hunt Hackathon is open to all majors.

**Hackathon Teams**

Do I need to have a team?

No, you do not need to have a team! If you come as an individual, we will pair you with others!

How many members can a team have?

The maximum team size is 6, also with a maximum of 2 graduate students per team.

Does every team member need to sign up?

Yes! Please have all team members sign up so that we know how much food and how many prizes to provide.

What if a team member forgot to sign up or we get a team member last minute?

If the event has not started, please have the member sign up ASAP! If they forgot to sign up and it is after the start of the event, please have them speak to a JBH volunteer.

What if I can't find a team?

If you can't find a team, talk to one of the JBH volunteers and we can help pair you with a group!

Can I have team members that are not college undergraduates?

Yes! Teams may have a mix of education levels including high school, college undergraduate, or graduate students. Please note that there is a max of 2 graduate students per team.

Can my team be composed of a mix of different schools and education levels?

Absolutely! Please note that there is a max of 2 graduate students per team.

**Before the Hackathon**

How can I prepare?

There are various ways to prepare for the J.B Hunt Hackathon. Practice is the best way to get good at anything, so working on personal projects is a great way to prepare. You can also take a look at our resource page where you can find useful tools.

When do sign ups open?

Sign ups will be open when the website is ready.

When do sign ups close?

We will stop taking sign ups when the event starts! If you miss the sign up window, you are still welcome to attend the event. Just make sure to speak with a JBH volunteer.

**During the Hackathon**

How long is the Hackathon?

The Hackathon lasts for a total of 24 hours. This time includes the time teams are working on their projects to any presentations at the beginning and end of the Hackathon.

Will food be provided?

Yes! food will be provided free of charge by J.B Hunt. Food will be served three times during the Hackathon. If there are any concerns about allergies and/or personal dietary lifestyle, please let us know when signing up.

Do I need to bring anything?

Please bring a laptop or "portable" desktop computer. We cannot guarantee that machines at U of A will be available for participants to use. You may also bring external hardware if you wish. (Ex: Mechanical Keyboards, Monitors, Mice) Games are also welcome! We have had Super Smash, Oculus Rift games, and board games in the past.

Can I leave during the event and come back?

Yes, but it is not recommended. You may leave during the event to sleep, eat, etc. It is HIGHLY discouraged and could lead to disqualification if you leave to work on your hackathon projects.

Will there be any breaks?

There will be no official breaks. That's not to say that you have to be working 24/7, teams have the freedom to decide their own pace. It is up to teams and team members to decide when to work and when to take a break. There will be snacks and drinks always available the entire time as well as games and a cool off room with movies.

Can I use code that I've written before the Hackathon?

NO! All work presented at the end of the event should be done at the hackathon. Please do not build on previous projects as this does not create a fair competition environment.

Can I use code from outside sources?

Please use your best judgement. You are welcome to use frameworks, APIs, etc. to help you. If you want clarification during the event please ask a JBH volunteer. When in doubt, don't copy it.....Also please document any sources. We do not condone plagiarism.

**After the Hackathon**

How are the projects scored?

Please see our rubric page!

Who will be the judges?

The judging panel will comprise of current J.B Hunt employees. It usually consists of high level managers, directors, Vice Presidents, and developers.

Are there any prizes?

Yes! There will be a large array of prizes. Teams that placed higher in the ranking will get to go first and pick whichever prize they prefer. This process will continue until all prizes are gone.

Do I have to stay for everyone's presentations?

Prizes are awarded at the end of presentations. If you need to leave, you can. However, you will not be able to accept prizes for team members that are not present for both the presentation and prize distribution.

What if one or more members of my team leave before the Hackathon ends?

We strongly urge teams to present even if some members are no longer at the competition. That said, teams are not able to accept prizes for participants that did not present and remain for prize distribution.