

PROGRESS OPENEDGE × AI INNOVATION CHALLENGE (2026)

OFFICIAL RULES / TERMS & CONDITIONS

NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. PURCHASE DOES NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED.

1. ELIGIBILITY

The **Progress® OpenEdge® × AI Innovation Challenge** (the “Promotion”) is sponsored and promoted by **Progress Software Corporation** (“Progress”). The Promotion is open to individuals who: (a) are at least eighteen (18) years of age or the age of legal majority in their jurisdiction of primary residence at the time of entry (whichever is older); and (b) have access to the Internet during the Promotion Period.

The Promotion is intended to be **global and fully remote**, but is **void wherever prohibited or restricted by law**. Each entrant is responsible for ensuring participation is lawful in their jurisdiction and for complying with all applicable laws, regulations, and any applicable school/employer policies.

Employees, officers, and directors of Progress, its subsidiaries, affiliates, parent company, and agents, and the immediate family members (spouse, parents, siblings, and children) and household members of each such employee are not eligible. Participants must NOT be under any contractual or other legal obligation that would conflict with the Promotion or these Official Rules.

Progress may disqualify any entrant whose participation would cause Progress to violate applicable laws, including export control and sanctions restrictions.

2. PROMOTION PERIOD

The Promotion will begin on **Thursday, February 26, 2026 at [KICKOFF TIME] GMT** and end on **Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at [SUBMISSION DEADLINE TIME] GMT** (the “Promotion Period”). Entries submitted outside the Promotion Period will not be eligible.

Judging, Demo Sessions & Winner Announcement: Demo sessions and the announcement of winners will take place on or about **Thursday, March 26, 2026** (the “Awards Date”), subject to verification and as determined by Progress in its sole discretion.

3. HOW TO ENTER

To enter the Promotion, you must, during the Promotion Period:

1. **Register** via the official registration form on the Promotion landing page; and
2. **Submit** an eligible project entry via the official submission method specified on the landing page (the “Entry”), including the Required Deliverables listed in Section 4.

Unless otherwise stated on the landing page, there is a limit of **one (1) Entry per person**. If team participation is permitted (as described on the landing page), an Entry must identify a single “team lead” who will act as the primary contact and, if applicable, recipient of prize payment on behalf of the team.

All Entry information must be complete, accurate, and submitted by the deadline stated in Section 2. By participating, you demonstrate your full and unconditional agreement to these Official Rules and to Progress’s decisions, which are final and binding in all matters related to the Promotion.

Marketing communications (optional — for Legal review): By registering for the Promotion, you acknowledge your consent to receive marketing emails and other communications from Progress and its affiliates. You may unsubscribe from marketing communications at any time via the link included in the communication.

4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS; REQUIRED DELIVERABLES

A. Challenge requirements. Each Entry must be an end-to-end AI application that:

- Uses the **OpenEdge platform** as the operational and/or data backbone;
- Implements modern AI techniques (which may include Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG), agents, machine learning models, and automation);
- Solves a credible business challenge (e.g., service automation, decision support, developer productivity); and
- Mimics production readiness considerations (e.g., security, scalability, observability, CI/CD, monitoring).

B. Required Deliverables. Each Entry must include:

- A working prototype;
- An architectural diagram;
- Technical documentation;
- A business impact statement;
- A public repository link (e.g., GitHub) **or** a repository link with access granted to Progress for review;
- A recorded demo of approximately five (5) minutes; and
- (Optional) a deployment guide and/or Docker setup.

C. Content and conduct. Entries must not contain: (i) unlawful, defamatory, obscene, hateful, harassing, or discriminatory content; (ii) malware, exploits, or code intended to disrupt systems; or (iii) content that violates any third-party rights (including privacy and intellectual property rights).

D. Data and third-party services. Entrants are responsible for ensuring they have rights to all data used (including training or retrieval corpora), and for complying with the terms of any third-party services, APIs, models, or platforms used in creating the Entry. Entrants should avoid including sensitive personal data in repositories, documentation, or demos.

Progress reserves the right to disqualify any Entry that violates these requirements or these Official Rules, as determined by Progress in its sole discretion.

5. JUDGING CRITERIA; WINNER SELECTION

Eligible Entries will be judged by a panel selected by Progress (“Judges”) based on the following criteria (collectively, the “Judging Criteria”):

- **Business Value** (real, credible impact; measurable outcomes preferred)
- **Technical Depth** (architectural soundness, scalability, quality)
- **Quality AI Integration** (safe, appropriate, effective use of AI/RAG/agents)
- **Production Readiness** (CI/CD, security, monitoring, resilience, operational considerations)
- **Innovation** (novelty, creativity, differentiated approach)
- **User Experience** (clarity, usability, demo readiness)

The Entry (or Entries) receiving the highest overall scores based on the Judging Criteria will be deemed the potential winner(s), subject to verification and compliance with these Official Rules. In the event of a tie, the Judges will apply a tie-breaker based on **Business Value**, then **Technical Depth**, then **Production Readiness** (in that order), or as otherwise determined by Progress in its sole discretion.

6. ODDS OF WINNING

Odds of winning depend on the number and quality of eligible Entries received.

7. PRIZE(S)

Grand Prize: One (1) cash prize totaling **£2,000 GBP** (the “Prize”) will be awarded to the winner or winning team, as determined under Section 5. Approximate retail value (“ARV”): **£2,000 GBP**.

If the winning Entry is submitted by a team, Progress will award the Prize to the designated team lead (or as otherwise directed by Progress), and the team is solely responsible for any internal allocation or sharing of the Prize among team members.

Additional recognition (non-cash): Progress may also, in its discretion, provide non-cash recognition such as certificates, speaking opportunities, campaign features, or 1:1 sessions with engineering leaders. Such recognition (if any) is not guaranteed, may be subject to separate scheduling/availability, and has no cash equivalent.

No substitution or transfer of the Prize is permitted except by Progress, which reserves the right to substitute a prize of equal or greater value in its sole discretion, if necessary due to unavailability or other factors.

8. WINNER NOTIFICATION; VERIFICATION; REQUIREMENTS

Progress expects to notify and/or announce the potential winner(s) on or about **March 26, 2026** (including during demo sessions and/or via email). Potential winners may be required to sign and return, within **ten (10) days** of notification (or such other period specified by Progress): (i) an affidavit/declaration of eligibility; and (ii) a liability/publicity release (where lawful).

If a prize notification is returned as non-deliverable, if a potential winner cannot be contacted, fails to respond within the required time, is found ineligible, or is not in compliance with these Official Rules, disqualification may result and an alternate winner may be selected.

9. TAXES

All taxes (including income and withholding taxes, if any) and any other expenses related to accepting and/or using the Prize not listed in these Official Rules are the sole responsibility of the winner(s). Progress may require winners to provide applicable tax or payment documentation prior to prize issuance.

10. PRIVACY AND PUBLICITY

Except as set forth herein, all information submitted in connection with the Promotion will be treated according to **Progress's Privacy Policy** and **Terms of Use** available on the Progress website.

Except where prohibited, participation in the Promotion constitutes each entrant's consent to Progress's use of the entrant's name, likeness, statements, Entry title, and jurisdiction of residence for promotional purposes in any media without further payment or consideration, and/or to contact the entrant as a potential winner.

11. ENTRANT WARRANTIES AND REPRESENTATIONS

By submitting an Entry, you warrant and represent that:

- (i) your Entry information is complete and accurate;
- (ii) your Entry (including all code, content, data, and materials) does not infringe the intellectual property, privacy, publicity, or other rights of any third party;
- (iii) your Entry does not violate any law or regulation;
- (iv) you have the rights to participate and submit the Entry without restriction;
- (v) you meet the age and eligibility requirements in Section 1; and
- (vi) your participation does not violate any policies of, or contractual obligations to, your school and/or employer.

12. GENERAL CONDITIONS; RELEASE

If any fraud, technical failures, or any other factor beyond Progress's reasonable control impairs the integrity or proper functioning of the Promotion, Progress reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to cancel, terminate, modify, or suspend the Promotion and/or determine the winner(s) from among all eligible Entries received as of the date of termination using the procedures and criteria outlined above.

Progress reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any participant who violates these Official Rules, tampers with the entry process, or interferes with the Promotion in any manner, and to void all associated Entries.

By submitting an Entry, you acknowledge and agree that the relationship between you and Progress is not confidential, fiduciary, or other special relationship.

By participating, you agree to release and hold harmless Progress, its officers, directors, shareholders, agents, and employees (collectively, "Released Parties") from any damage, loss, or injury to you or any third party resulting from participation in the Promotion or the acceptance, receipt, possession, use, or misuse of any prize, except for any loss, damage, or injury due to the negligence or willful misconduct of Progress or which otherwise cannot be excluded by law.

13. FURTHER LIMITATIONS; DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES

If for any reason your Entry is confirmed to have been erroneously deleted, lost, destroyed, or corrupted, your sole remedy is submission of another Entry (time permitting within the Promotion Period).

To the maximum extent permitted by law, in no event shall Progress be liable for any direct, indirect, punitive, special, incidental, or consequential damages arising out of or resulting from this Promotion or any related materials, whether in an action in contract or tort, however caused and regardless of the theory of liability, even if advised of the possibility of such damages. Progress makes no representations, warranties, or conditions whatsoever, in fact or in law, including but not limited to implied warranties of merchantability, title, and fitness for a particular purpose, and hereby disclaims all such warranties relating to this Promotion or any related materials.

14. DISPUTES; GOVERNING LAW

Except where prohibited, all issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation, and enforceability of these Official Rules, or the rights and obligations of you and Progress in connection with the Promotion, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the **Commonwealth of Massachusetts**, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules.

Participants agree that any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Promotion or any prize awarded shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action. Any and all claims, judgments, and awards shall be limited to actual reasonable out-of-pocket costs incurred, including costs associated with entering this Promotion, but in no event attorneys' fees. Under no circumstances will you be permitted to obtain awards for, and you waive all rights to claim, indirect, punitive, incidental, and consequential damages and any other damages, other than actual reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, and any and all rights to have damages multiplied or otherwise increased.

15. SPONSOR AND PROMOTER

Sponsor and Promoter: **Progress Software Corporation**, headquartered at **15 Wayside Road; 4th Floor, Suite 400, Burlington, MA 01803 USA**. Telephone: **+1 781-280-4000**.

16. OFFICIAL RULES

These Official Rules comprise the Promotion's official rules and official Promotion communications or publications by Progress shall govern and apply to all participation and activity arising out of and relating to the Promotion. These Official Rules may not be modified or superseded except in a writing by Progress. In the event of any inconsistency between these Official Rules and any other communication by Progress, these Official Rules shall govern.

Questions: For additional questions, contact michael.ryan@progress.com.