

# STLPARTNERSHIP

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## **St. Louis Export Challenge NOW OPEN**

*Annual contest awards startups with best global market entry strategies*

ST. LOUIS—The St. Louis Economic Development Partnership and World Trade Center St. Louis (WTC) kicked off their annual St. Louis Export Challenge today. Startups, along with small and mid-sized companies are encouraged to apply online at [archgrants.org/export-challenge](http://archgrants.org/export-challenge) for a chance to win cash prizes for the best global market entry strategies. Applications must be submitted by **Aug 9**. Winners will be announced Sept. 22 at WTC's Growing Global.

In 2015, St. Louis was named to the prestigious Brookings Institution – Global Cities Initiative. As part of this Initiative, WTC unveiled the [St. Louis Metro Export Plan](#) and JPMorgan Chase's investment in St. Louis' second Export Challenge with \$60,000 in prize money in 2017.

First place will receive \$25,000, second place will receive \$15,000 and third place will receive \$10,000. Additionally two Bright Futures prizes will be awarded at \$5,000 each. Finalists will receive one-on-one export mentor support, foreign market research services and a full scholarship for the online [Chancellor's Certificate in International Trade](#) program with the University of Missouri—St. Louis

“International trade and investment provides a pathway for local businesses to create jobs, attract capital and grow our economy,” said Craig Horstmann, Region Manager, Commercial Bank, JPMorgan Chase. “JPMorgan Chase is proud to fund the St. Louis Export Challenge and to support innovative programming that will help our region's future economic success.”

Eligibility:

- For-profit business
- Currently generating revenue, but less than \$10 million annually
- Currently located in Greater St. Louis
- All individuals on the management team must be 18 years or older and be legal residents of the United States.

To read complete eligibility requirements, please visit [archgrants.org/export-challenge](http://archgrants.org/export-challenge).

“For decades, the World Trade Center St. Louis has played a critical role in growing the region's international businesses presence,” WTC St. Louis Executive Director Tim Nowak said. “We're thrilled to once again sponsor this challenge and help innovative startups and small-to-mid sized companies advance their future global market strategies.”

**To learn more about the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, visit [STLPartnership.com](http://STLPartnership.com).**

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