



Sopheon Accolade®

Idea Generation Training Guide

Version: 16.0



About Sopheon Accolade®

Document Name: Idea Generation Training Guide

Document Version: 1

Software Version: Sopheon Accolade 16.0

Document Date: August 2023

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About the Accolade Education Program

This module is part of the Sopheon Accolade Education Program (AEP). The AEP modules are designed to help Accolade users perform the tasks in their company's business process using the Accolade application. The content in the modules is meant to be used side-by-side with the application, and is part of the overall documentation suite provided for Accolade.

The benefits of using Accolade as part of your company's innovation development process include the following:

- Reduced cycle time by displaying clear structure and visibility.
- Reduced rework through timely, properly sequenced completion of all key tasks and milestones.
- · Assured positive user experience through properly developed product requirements.
- · Improved communication by automating collaboration between multifunctional team members.
- Provided decision-making information. Poor projects are stopped or placed on hold so resources
 can be redirected to more promising and higher value projects and products.
- Provided clear project requirements. Expectations of a project team and project manager at each stage are clearly spelled out.
- Managed business risk. Break resource commitments into increments or stages.
- Established key baseline information and metrics.

The Accolade documentation suite contains the following additional components:

Document	Contents
Sopheon Accolade What's New in This	For each release, review this document for an
Release	overview of the new features and changes within the release.
Accolade Online Help	Accessible directly through Accolade, the online Help
	provides comprehensive how-to and reference
	information about all aspects of using Accolade.
Sopheon Accolade Administrator's Guide	Provides information for administrative professionals
	regarding Accolade setup. This information is also
	provided in the online Help.
Sopheon Accolade Installation Guide	Provides information about the installation of the
	application and its required databases.
Dashboards for Accolade Installation Guide	Provides installation information for installing the
	Dashboards for Accolade component.
Quick Reference Cards	A PDF that can be printed double-sided that provides
	quick tips and navigation information for using
	Accolade.

Document	Contents
Online Help for Accolade Add-ins	Accolade add-ins, including Accolade Office Extensions, Accolade SmartDocuments for Google, Accolade SmartDocuments for Office, Accolade Portfolio Optimizer, and Accolade's integration with Microsoft Project, each include their own Sopheon created Help file accessible directly from the application after the add-in is installed. Each Help file describes how to use the features of that particular add-in.

Prerequisites for Using this Module

The contents of this training module assumes you are assigned the Accolade user roles and have a basic understanding of the terms and concepts listed below and how they are used in your installation. In addition, the content in the related training modules listed below may be helpful before reviewing the contents of this module.

Accolade User Roles

- Administrator
- Process Design*
- Idea Manager
- Project Managers
- Project Team Member

Terms and Concepts

- General Accolade terminology and concepts
- Projects

Related Training Modules

- Custom Pages
- Understanding Projects
- Managing Projects

^{*}For configuration and setup.

Gather Innovative Ideas Overview

Use the Accolade idea gathering components to systematically capture new ideas for evaluation using a gated or non-gated process and possibly a project team. Using the same process to evaluate product and service ideas allows for an objective assessment and identification of ideas with the greatest potential for your business. Use Accolade to collect and manage ideas for new products, services, internal process improvements, cost saving initiatives, and more that have the greatest impact potential for your business.

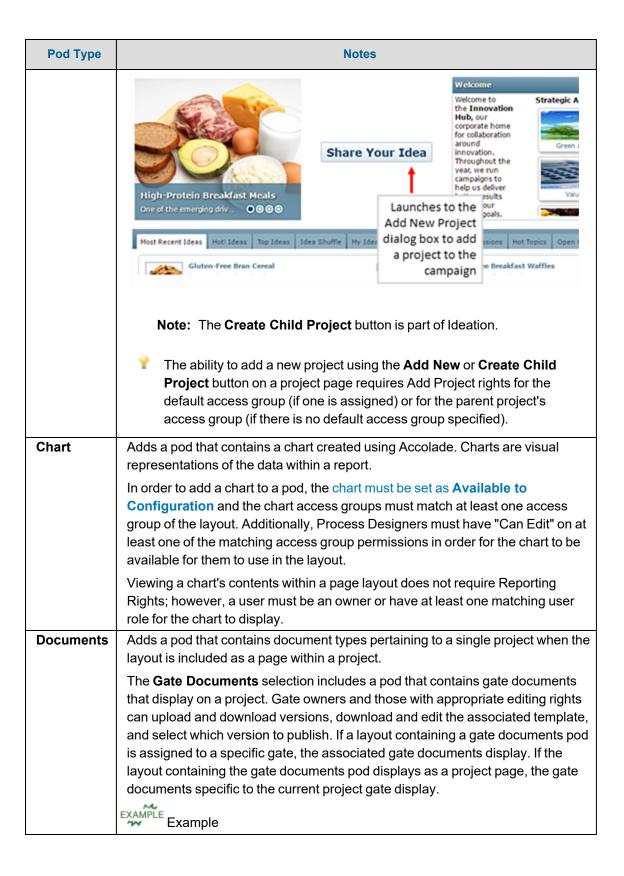
After an idea is submitted and evaluated, Idea Managers can move qualified ideas directly into product development by migrating the project to a product development process model. In addition, ideas can be integrated into longer-term planning strategies using Accolade Innovation Planning and Accolade Roadmapping to determine and manage their best time to market.

Available Pod Types

Page layouts can contain one or more pods to display information. Each pod can contain a single element, such as one metric, one global link, or one image. Review the following information about the types of pods available and their potential uses.

Pod Type	Notes
Advanced Platform	Adds a pod to save JavaScript and HTML files to execute functions and features in a layout at a global or project level.
	The editor options will not display until the pod is added to the layout and the layout is saved.
	To add or write a JavaScript file or HTML file select from the following options:
	 To add an existing file - Click to open the editor dialog and click to upload the desired HTML or JavaScript file. Click Open to add the file.
	 To edit an existing file or create a new file - Click to open the JavaScript editor, write or update the code for the file directly in the editor, and click Save or Save and Close.
	Click in the editor to launch the WebAPI help.
	Click to delete the JavaScript file or HTML file. Selecting a different pod type will remove JavaScript and HTML files. Download and save the files before making changes to the pod.
	Note: If Available to Mobile is checked on the layout settings, the Advanced Platform pod will not be available for selection in the pod type drop-down.

Pod Type	Notes	
Buttons	Adds a button to a layout, such as a button within a portfolio that can be clicked to directly create a new project or project links.	
	Enter the name of the button in the Button Text field when creating the pod.	
	Select from the following options:	
	Add New - Creates a button that, when added to a global or project page layout, can be clicked to create projects and/or project links directly from the	
	page. Click when defining the pod to select a process model and process links as necessary. Note that project links cannot be created for pods used on a global layout.	
	Example	
	Add New Feature	
	Multiple Add New pods can be used on a layout, each with different combinations of process models and link types.	
	Create Child Project - Creates a button that, when added to a project page layout, can be clicked to create a new project directly from the page.	
	Example	

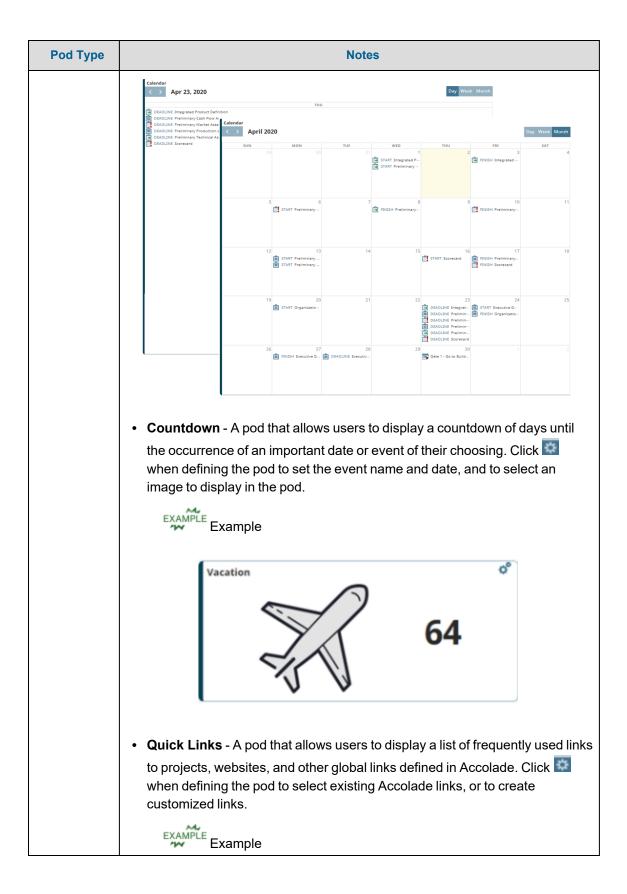


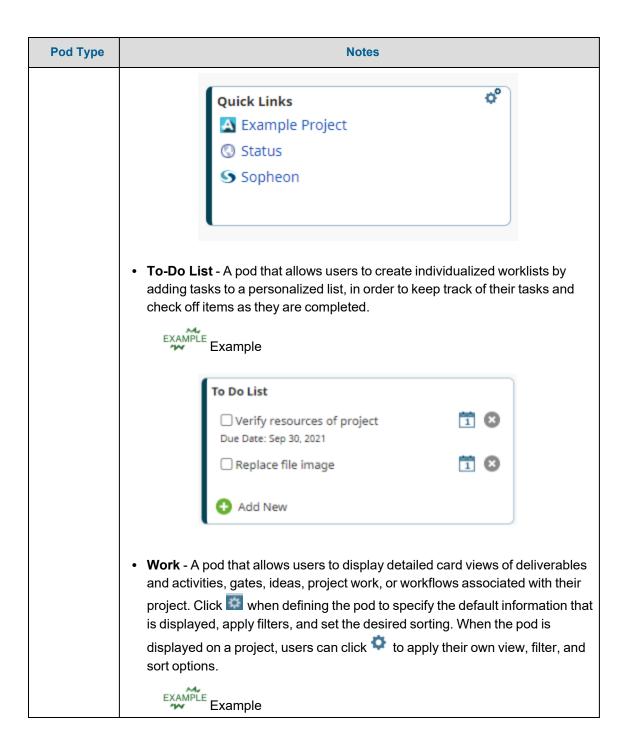
Pod Type	Notes	
	Gate Documents Gate Contract	
	Note: These pods are not available for selection if the Create global link option for the layout is selected.	
Gates	Adds a pod that contains gate information and capabilities for users on project teams.	
	Note: These pods are not available for selection if the Create global link option for the layout is selected.	
	Select from the following options:	
	Gate Readiness - Provides a graphic that indicates the health of a project stage, to help determine at a glance how ready the project for an upcoming gate meeting. The pod includes the how many days until the next gate meeting and a status of the assignments with the current stage. Deliverables and activities are grouped together and considered "assignments" in this pod, and any item set to Not Required in the project is not included in the calculations. Deliverables set to In Trouble and Not Started are represented by a red and grey pie slice respectively. EXAMPLE Example	
	Gate Readiness	
	Stage 1 - Scoping Assignment Status 11% Completed: 1	
	11% In Progress: 1 0% In Trouble: 0	
	3 Days until Next Gate 78% Not Started: 7	
	Gatekeepers - Provides a place for various gate-specific information to be displayed. Gate owners can manage and update gatekeeper assignments as necessary from this pod. Additionally, gatekeepers can vote on gate decisions if gate voting is enabled, and can add or update comments	

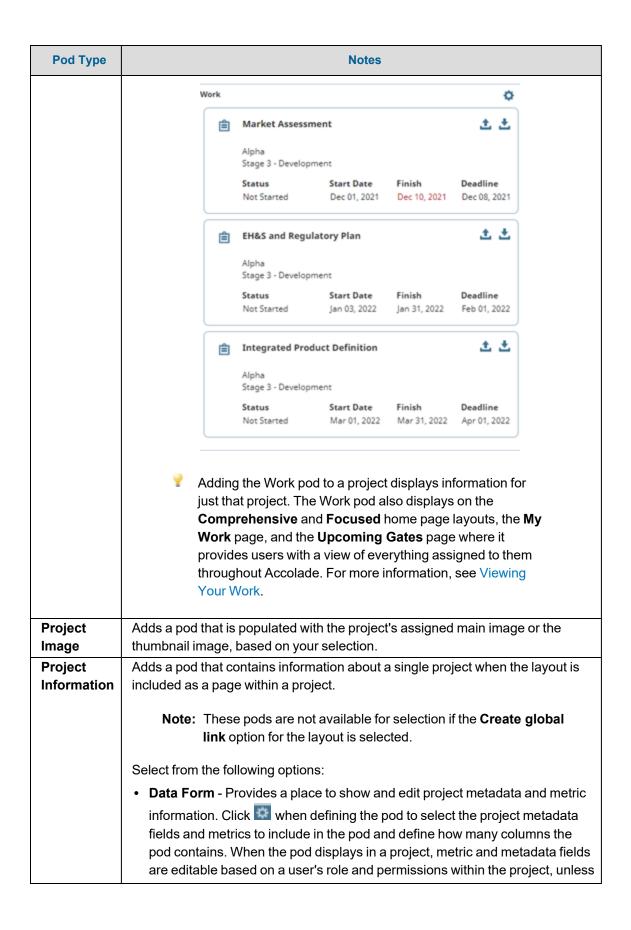
Pod Type	Notes	
	regarding gate decisions. Gatekeeper votes and comments display as read only for others on the team. If gatekeeper skipping is allowed for the gate, gate owners can skip any gatekeeper vote decision. EXAMPLE Example	
	Gatekeepers Gate Decision Pending Decision Brenda Majors	
	• Meeting Dates - Adds a pod that displays meeting information for a project. Gate names display with the meeting date below it. Users with rights to change gate dates such as Process Manager, Idea Managers, or Project Managers can edit meeting dates directly in the pod. All users on a project can see meeting information centrally located in this pod. Additionally, the gate name takes users to the corresponding gate page when clicked. Click when defining the pod to set the number of columns the meeting information displays. The pod information wraps from left to right across the pod to populate the columns set. Meeting date calculation settings and restrictions still apply. EXAMPLE Example	
	Project Gate Dates Gate 1 - Go to Build Business Case Jan 31, 2021 Gate 2 - Go to Development Feb 26, 2021 Gate 3 - Go to Testing and Validation May 14, 2021 Gate 4 - Go to Launch Jun 25, 2021 Gate 5 - Project Close Oct 08, 2021	
Global Links	Adds a pod that displays the content of a global link, such as an intranet page, a Dashboards for Accolade report, or a planning view from Innovation Planning. Based on your server setup, only defined http, https, and relative file global links are available to add to a pod.	

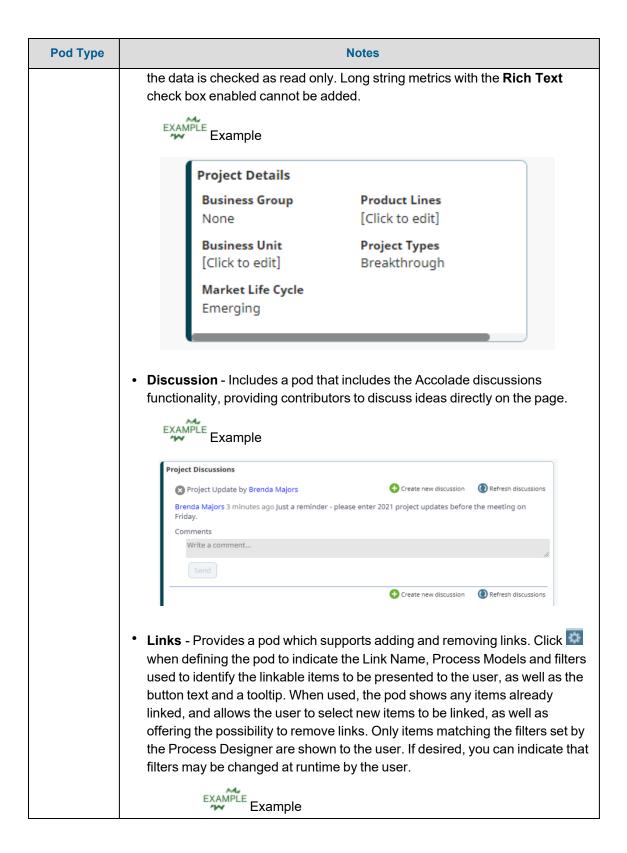
Pod Type	Notes
	Important! Accolade respects web browser and web page security features for embedded global links. The linked web page may include certain security settings that prevent the web page from loading within the Accolade application window.
	If you select an Innovation Planning view defined as a global link to display in a pod, and the layout is intended for use within a project page, select the Filter to project option to display the view filtered to the project ID saved as part of the global link configuration.
	Note: The filter functionality does not apply to composite planning views.
HTML Report	Adds a pod that displays the content of a specified HTML report. Available HTML reports display in the Content field.
	In order to add an HTML report to a pod, the report access groups must match at least one access group of the layout. Additionally, Process Designers must have "Can Edit" on at least one of the matching access group permissions in order for the report to be available for them to use in the layout.
	Viewing a report's contents within a page layout does not require Reporting Rights, however, a user must be an owner or have at least one matching user role for the report to display.
Metric	Adds a pod that can contain a single metric and displays the currently assigned metric value.
	Metrics within pods display as read-only.
	Example
	Net Present Value
	\$10,000
	To include the metric's name, add the name as the title of the pod.
	Important! Long string metrics with the Rich Text check box enabled cannot be added to pods.
Planning View	Adds a pod that displays a planning view from Innovation Planning in read-only format to any user who does not have the Planner role.
A ICAA	Click when creating the pod to define the planning navigation options that
	are displayed within the pod.

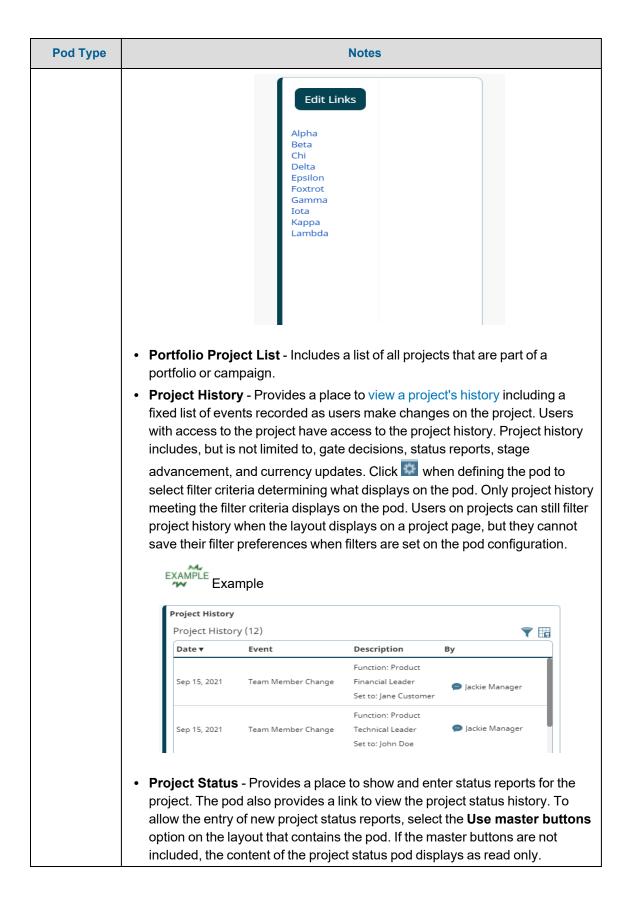
Pod Type	Notes
	Only planning views made public will display in the content drop-down for the pod. If the layout is intended for use within a project page, check the Filter to project option to display the view filtered to the project ID. The filter functionality does not apply to composite planning views.
Plugin	Adds a pod that displays a configured plugin.
	Click 🔯 when defining the pod to set the properties, attributes, and default
	settings of the plugin.
Portfolio Optimizatio	Adds a pod that contains information typically used when creating layouts for portfolio optimization purposes.
n	The Projects Grid selection includes information for all projects in the loaded portfolio that a user has access to, and that are included in a class with the Include in Portfolio Optimizer option selected.
	Click 🔯 when creating the pod to define the default set of data columns that
	display in the pod.
Productivit y	Adds a pod that contains productivity-related elements to assist with managing projects and timelines.
	Important! For pods that are used in the personalized home page layouts, Administrators and Process Designers with the Template Access role can make changes to home page layouts on a global level by clicking when defining the pod, for example, to add company landing page hyperlinks to the Quick Links pod for all users, or to add additional information at a company level. Changes at an individual level should be made by the user from within their personal view.
	Select from the following options:
	Calendar - A pod that displays a calendar, allowing users to visually display important dates such as start and end dates for deliverables and activities, deadline dates for workflows, and project gate dates. Double-clicking on an event takes the user directly to the event details or applicable project page. EXAMPLE Example

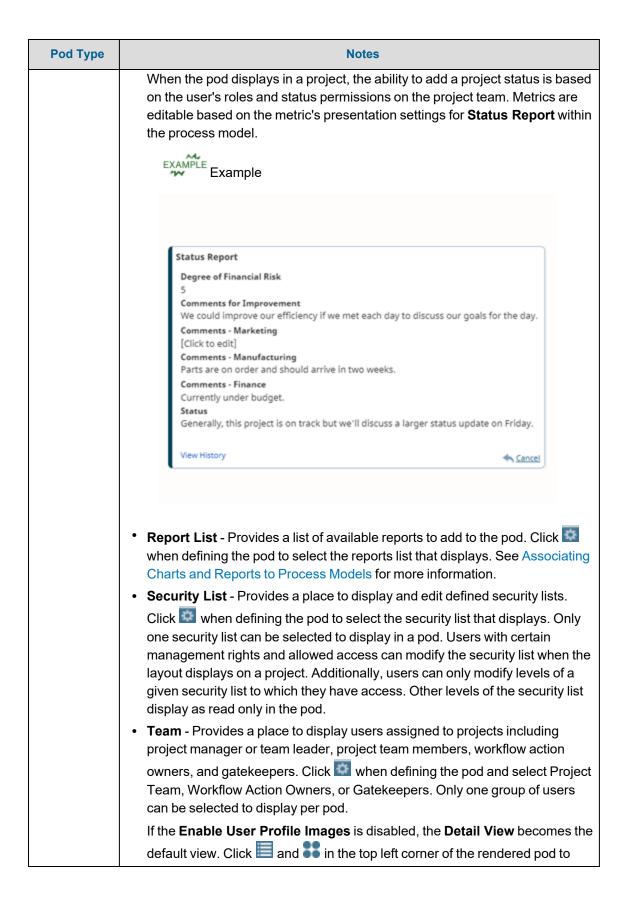


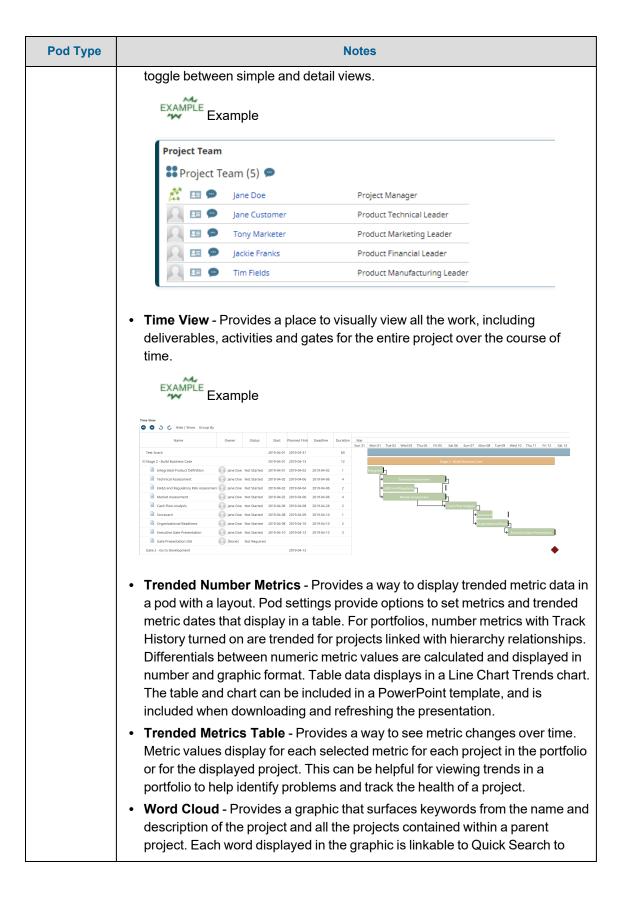


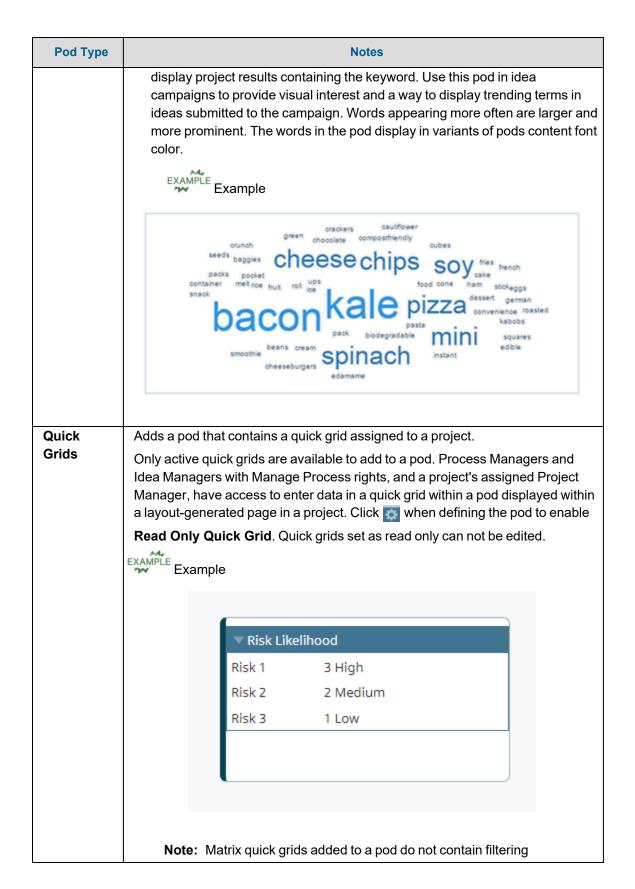












Pod Type	Notes
	options at this time.
Report	Adds a pod that contains an Accolade online report.
	In order to add a report to a pod, the report must be set as Available to Configuration and the report access groups must match at least one access group of the layout. Additionally, Process Designers must have "Can Edit" on at least one of the matching access group permissions in order for the report to be available for them to use in the layout.
	Viewing a report's contents within a page layout does not require Reporting Rights; however, a user must be an owner or have at least one matching user role for the report to display.
	Configure additional settings available for report pods including a download option and page size.
Report	Adds a pod that contains the content settings for a comparison view layout.
Groups	Click 🔯 when defining the pod to select the reports and charts available to a
	comparison view page layout.
	Note: The report groups pod is created as a part of creating a comparison view page layout, and is not independently available at this time.
Task Board	Adds a pod that displays a project's current stage's task board. This task board categorizes all deliverables and activities into columns with respect to their current statuses, namely "Not Started", "In Progress" or "Completed", allowing you to follow the progress of each deliverable and activity more efficiently, and easily move them between statuses. With this task board, team members get a visual representation of their work in a more collaborative view, and are able to identify bottlenecks quicker.
Template Image	Adds a pod that displays an image saved to the Template Library (with a template type of Image).
	To add a new image select Add New from the Content list. Items added here are also added to the Template Library.

Creating Page Layouts

Administrators and Process Designers with the Template Access user role can design custom layouts to surface project information, such as a project dashboard page that displays when opening a project. Page layouts can contain one or more pods to display information such as project metrics, content accessed from a global link, charts or reports data, quick grids, and more. Layouts can be added as a global link within Accolade or associated with a process model for display within a project.

To create a page layout:

1. From the **System** menu, select **Page Design > Layouts**.

To narrow the layout list, search by the layout name, system name, or category.

- 2. Do one of the following:
 - To create a new page layout Click Add New in the upper right corner of the page.
 - To edit an existing page layout Click the name of the layout to open it for editing.
 - To create a layout based on an existing layout Click in the Copy column to create a copy that can be used as a base to build a new layout.
 - The system includes active layouts titled **Project Home** and **Project Gates** that can serve as a project's home and details page, and project gates pages. Copy the layouts to customize them further instead of modifying the original system layouts, ensuring you do not lose the original layouts' pods and format.
- 3. Enter the following information to identify the layout:

Required fields display with **red** text and an asterisk * if the field is empty.

Field	Description
Name	Enter a name, up to 64 characters long, which identifies the layout.
System Name	Enter a unique, shorter name that identifies the layout in queries, reporting views, field codes, and other places in Accolade.
	The name must be unique among layouts and can contain only letters (English alphabet), numbers, and the underscore.
Icon	Select the icon and icon color to be used for the layout.
Description	Enter a description of the purpose or nature of the layout.
	This description helps other users identify the layout throughout the system.
Category	Enter or select the group to which this layout belongs.
	Use categories to organize like layouts together. For example, you may choose to group all the layouts used for global layouts into the same category, in order to separate them from layouts that are used in process model configuration.
	Leave this field blank to add to the Default category.
	To define a new category, select New Category and enter the category name.
	To delete a category, remove every item from the category. Empty categories are deleted automatically.
	Layouts specific to project pages, configured based on process models on upgrade, display in an Upgrade category and are named based on the correlating process model.
Order	Enter a number to specify the page layout's place when it displays in a list of layouts. Lower numbered layouts display higher in the list.

Field	Description
	Note: Layouts set as active project pages will display before existing project pages to provide most relevant data first.
Active	Select this check box when the layout is ready to use.
	Note: If you deactivate a layout that is associated with a process model, the association remains; however, the projects based on the model no longer display the layout as a project page.
Create global link	Select if the layout's intended use is as a global link that is accessed from outside a project. When selected, a global link is created when you click Save or Save and Close in the layout editor.
	If this layout's intended use is as a dashboard or other page displayed in a project with project-specific information, leave this check box clear.
	After creating the layout, go to System > Page Design > Global Links to configure the global link.
View in Accolade Go	Select to make the layout available for viewing in the Accolade Go mobile application.
	Note: If an Advanced Platform pod is set to a layout, the Available to Mobile check box will be disabled.
Show project header	Select this check box to include the header portion of a project page when this layout displays within a project.
	For example, you may choose to not show the project header for layouts used to gather ideas and for idea campaigns.
	The default hides the header in layout pages.
Hide project menu	Select to remove the project details menu 🔁 access from the
	layout on a project.
	Hiding the project menu removes the ability to:
	access the communication options for email and chat.
	migrate, copy, close, or delete a project from the layout.
Hide Navigation Breadcrumb	Select this check box to hide the hierarchy breadcrumb and menu from the layout on a project.
	For new layouts, this option is unchecked by default.

Field	Description
Show process graphic	Select to include the process graphic when this layout displays within a project.
	The default hides the process graphic in layout pages. Select to show the graphic in projects that use layouts where it is important to show the stage the project is in.
Use master buttons	Select this check box to enable Apply and Reset buttons that save and reset changes to quick grid pods in the layout that are not set as read only.
	If unselected, Apply and Reset buttons are available to save or reset changes in each individual quick grid pod.
	If the Read Only Quick Grid advanced setting is enabled on a quick grid pod, no updates can be made to that pod regardless if master buttons are used.
Enable page filters	Select this check box to enable runtime filters that can be applied to all charts and reports pods in the layout.
	Note: In order to apply runtime filters, the selected reports must be set up with filters that have runtime filtering enabled, and the selected charts must be created from an online report with filters that have runtime filtering enabled.
	If unselected, filters may be available to be applied individually to charts and reports pods, but not to the layout as a whole. See the Viewing Charts and Reports topic in the Accolade online Help for more information on runtime filtering options.
Enable cycles	Select this check box to enable Charts on the layout. Chart Cycles can be enabled on any layout.
	Cycles allow you to look at the various charts based on a common metric, such as Region, Business Unit, Product Line, etc. Each chart configured for Cycles will re-render based on the selected Cycle value.
Add to new Process Models	Select to automatically associate the layout with Gated , Non-Gated , and/or Idea process models when new process models are created.
	The layout defaults as checked in the Pages & Layouts section on the Pages tab of a new process model and is useful when wanting to include the layout as a default project page.
Page width	Select how the page layout width is determined.
	Select Autofit to display the page to fit the pods and pod contents left aligned.

Field	Description
	 Select Fixed and enter the width of the layout in pixels to have the page display with a forced width.
Fill page	Select to expand the height of the lowest pods in the layout.
	The pods extend to fill the remaining space on the layout if the layout does not already scroll on a page. If the layout scrolls, the lowest pods do not expand.
Alignment	If you set the page width as Fixed , select the layout alignment as Left , Center , or Right .
Margin color	If you set the page width as Fixed , click the color block next to the field and select a color to apply to the margin width of the layout.
Background color	Click the color block next to the field and select a color to apply to the background of the layout.
Configuration Access	Select the access groups to which the layout belongs.
Groups	Process Designers with matching permissions will be able to edit and view the layout or the data within its pods. The access groups displayed are based on the current user's access group permissions and the access groups the layout belongs to.
Process Model Usage	(Only available when editing an existing layout) Click the Process Model Usage button to see the list of process models that the layout is associated with.
	The list includes all process models the layout is included in, as well as links to the process model's component tree pages that you have Edit access to.

- 4. Click **Save** in the lower right corner of the page to save changes, **Save and Close** to save the configuration and close the editor, or **Cancel** to close the editor without saving changes.
- 5. Continue with any one or more of the following steps to complete and implement the layout:
 - Add one or more pods or comparison sets to the layout. Without at least one pod, the layout is blank.
 - Associate the layout with one or more existing gated, non-gated, or idea models to include it in projects based on that model.
 - Add the layout as a global link to display the page outside of a project.

Notes:

• To delete a layout, click in the **Delete** column on the Layout page. If you delete a layout that is used as a global link, the global link is also automatically deleted.

Important! Do not delete system layouts used for personalized home pages. You will not be able to undo this action and will have to contact a System Administrator to run

a script to re-add the layouts.

- Copying layouts containing the Advanced Platform pod will not copy the JavaScript or HTML files. Save the copied layout then add or upload the JavaScript and/or HTML files.
- The filter icon will not appear in a layout's charts or reports pods if there are no filters available for users to apply to the contents.

Exercises - Create a Campaign Using Page Layouts



Try out what you have learned!

- Design a campaign using a page layout. Ensure the layout contains a Create Project pod.
- Include an image pod, several different metric pods, and voting pods.
- Associate the page layout to a project.

Submitting Ideas

Accolade provides a mechanism to submit ideas for products, services, and other areas that your company has chosen to campaign for ideas. Users with Accolade access can enter ideas directly through Accolade.

How you enter ideas depends upon how the idea submission or idea campaign was created. Work with Accolade designers and managers at your sight regarding how you enter and idea at your company.

To submit an idea to an idea campaign:

Search for a campaign project and add the project directly from the campaign. Users must have access to the campaign project based on access group accessibility.

- 1. From Accolade, search for the name of the campaign that is provided to you from the campaign manager or other executive at your company, and display the project.
- 2. Review the details of the campaign.
- 3. Click Add New within the campaign project and enter the information for the idea.
- 4. Click **Create** to submit the idea to the campaign.



Depending on how campaigns are setup at your company, your submitted ideas may be available in the Work pod on the **My Work** page from the **Workspace** menu. Ensure the Work pod on this page is configured to display Ideas. You can also see a list of projects added to the campaign from the Portfolio tab in the campaign project, or a portfolio project list, if available, within the campaign's page layout.

To submit an idea in Accolade from the Ideas menu:

1. Do one of the following:

- From the Idea menu, click Submit Idea.
- Open the idea submission web page provided to you and continue with step 3.
- If you accessed the idea submit page through the Idea menu, select an idea type and click Continue.
- 3. Enter a descriptive idea name and provide an email address so the company can contact you about your idea.
 - If you accessed the entry form from the **Idea** menu, your email address is filled in with the address associated with your Accolade user profile.
- 4. Select the **Notify me of gate decisions about this idea** check box if you want to be kept informed about the evaluation of your idea as it moves through the evaluation process.
- 5. Complete the details about your idea in the fields provided.
 - The details for each idea vary depending on your company's implementation, and possibly the idea type you are submitting.
- 6. In the Attachments section, upload files containing additional information about your idea.
 - For example, you may have sketched a picture of your idea that would be helpful to share to the person who evaluates idea submissions at your company.
- 7. Click **Submit** to save your idea and send it for evaluation.
 - **~**

To view ideas that you have submitted that have become projects, select **My Work** from the **Workspace** menu. Ensure the Work pod on this page is configured to display Ideas.

Resubmitting Ideas

If you submit an idea that needs more information, the idea might be returned to you so that you can provide the needed information. The request to resubmit your idea arrives in an email containing a link to the Idea page where you can modify the details or add attachments to provide the additional information as requested.

If the Idea Manager cancels the request for resubmission, the link no longer works. If the request is canceled while you are working on providing more details, the idea is no longer available for resubmissions.

Notes:

- If the Automatically Publish Submitted Ideas system parameter is enabled, the
 documents attached to an idea submission are automatically published and are available
 through search.
- Attachments are viewable as related documents.
- This article mentions using the Work pod on the My Work page to view submitted Ideas.
 Depending on your company's configuration, you may not have access to this menu or it

may be renamed. The Work pod is also available on the **Comprehensive** and **Focused** home page layouts, and on the **Upcoming Gates** page.

Exercises - Vote on Ideas in Projects



Try out what you have learned!

- Navigate to the project containing the idea campaign page layout.
- Select the custom project page containing the voting pod.
- Use the star scale to select your rating.

Managing Idea Submissions

When an idea is submitted, an idea project is created. An Idea Manager or a Project Manager (depending on the idea setup) are assigned as the Project Manager to the new projects to review and evaluate the ideas, closing idea projects for ideas that are not being considered for future efforts. The assigned manager to a campaign is considered the campaign manager.

Do the following to manage ideas within Accolade:

- Request more information about an idea to add or correct information to make the idea a better candidate.
- Manage the project through the evaluation process, assigning team members to prepare deliverables, just as a standard project.

When the last gate meeting of an idea project has received a go, the Process Manager can migrate the project to the appropriate development model.

Request More Information About Ideas

Note: Idea resubmission requests apply only to ideas created using an idea model. If a campaign is set up to use a non-idea model as the **Default Portfolio Model** in the campaign model definition, this feature is unavailable.

Idea Managers can return an idea to its submitter for additional information and clarification if the original detail provided is not detailed enough to evaluate the idea. The original submission must have included the submitters email address to request that the idea be resubmitted using the process below.

To request more information about an idea:

- 1. Display the idea project.
- 2. Click in the upper right corner of the page and select **Return Idea to Submitter**.
 - If the idea deliverable is part of a workflow that is in progress, the Return Idea to Submitter is unavailable until the workflow is completed or canceled. When you return an idea for resubmission, the idea deliverable workflow cannot be started until the idea is resubmitted or the request to resubmit is canceled.
- 3. In the Remarks... dialog box, enter any notes about why you are returning the idea to the submitter, including information that is required for the idea to be evaluated.
- 4. Click Return Idea and Send Email.

Accolade sends an email containing your remarks and a link to the Idea page where they can modify and add additional information, as necessary.

Note: The idea must be published to return it to the submitter.

To cancel a resubmission request:

- 1. Display the idea project.
- 2. Click $\overline{\Longrightarrow}$ in the upper right corner of the page and select **Cancel Resubmission**.

If you cancel the resubmission request before the resubmission arrives, the submitter cannot resubmit the idea. The idea project contains the information it had when it was originally created.

Accolade does not send an email to the submitter about the cancellation.

Note: The idea must be published to cancel the resubmission.

