



Eligibility & Requirements

A critical component of the cross-campus Western Entrepreneurship ecosystem, the Western Accelerator is open to Western students, faculty, and recent alumni with an expectation of a full-time commitment. The Western Accelerator will provide an intense, rapid and immersive education for prospective entrepreneurs. Our goal is to accelerate the life cycle of high potential ventures and to compress a year's worth of learning into a few months for their entrepreneurs.

Entrance to the Accelerator is a competitive process, accepting 6-8 teams per cohort. During their time in the accelerator, teams will:

- Receive a stipend of \$3,000 per month.
- Benefit from weekly programming: half-day educational sessions on leadership, sales, investors, pitch skills, etc. as well as mentoring sessions with successful entrepreneurs.
- Join networking events with successful entrepreneurs, industry experts, investors and service providers.
- Participate in "Pitch Day" at the end of program—a dynamic event where teams deliver their idea and business plans to an audience from the local entrepreneurship, business and investment communities.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- The Western Accelerator will run from January 9, 2018 to April 26, 2018.
- Founders are required to operate out of the Western Accelerator (SH 3366), Monday through Friday from 10AM to 3PM.
- Founders are required to participate in all Accelerator events/workshops/competitions throughout their time in the Western Accelerator.

ELIGIBILITY

- Teams must have one to three founders. Founders working out of the Accelerator must have decision making ability.
- At least one founder must have a connection to Western. I.e.: Student, Faculty, Staff or Recent Alumni (graduated within the last five years).
- Startups must have high potential to scale (i.e. have IP and/or have a clear competitive advantage addressing a large potential market).

APPLICATION PROCESS

There are three parts to the application to the Western Accelerator. All parts should be submitted together on or before October 26, 2017.

1. Write a one-page letter stating why you believe you will benefit from participation in the Western Accelerator and how you will contribute to others success.
2. Create a 10-page slide deck to describe your business. Please follow the guidelines prescribed by Guy Kawasaki here: <http://guykawasaki.com/the-only-10-slides-you-need-in-your-pitch/>. We will only read your first 10 slides; please do not send more.
3. Create a 1 minute video of you pitching your business. Please upload the video to YouTube and provide us with a link to view it.

Please do not disclose confidential information in your letter or on your slides.

[Please submit your application using this link.](#)

Top ranked teams will have the opportunity to present their business to a selection committee in November 2017.