

Pharmaceutical & Healthcare Startup Accelerator Program

“Blockbuster TOKYO”

Application guidelines

Beyond Next Ventures, Inc. operates Tokyo Metropolitan Government’s “Blockbuster TOKYO” which is an acceleration program for pharmaceutical and healthcare startup and now application is open for candidates as following guidelines. The program aims to accelerate foundation and growth of pharmaceutical and healthcare startups by providing various supports.

1. Outline of activities

Operated by Beyond Next Ventures, Inc., Tokyo Metropolitan Government provides “Seminar Program” for startups and researchers in pharmaceutical and healthcare field who are aiming to commercialize their technologies, with lectures for essential knowledge of startup business, funding raising, research and development, establishment of business alliances, etc. Furthermore, “Acceleration Program” will be provided for selected startups and researchers with mentoring from experts in specific fields such as drug discovery, intellectual property, marketing, data utilization, as well as matching opportunities with management candidates, investors, and potential collaborators. In addition, the program supports research and development by support research and developments, including supports for research funding and provisions for research facilities.

Furthermore, on the Demo Day in February or March 2020, participants of Acceleration Program will have an opportunity to present their business plan to investors, corporates, and research institutions for future funding and collaborations.

2. Eligibility

Participants of the program should meet all the following requirements (1) ~ (9). “Pharmaceutical and healthcare fields” refers to the following four business domains in this program.

Pharmaceuticals/ Drug discovery	small-molecule drugs, biologics, vaccines, drug delivery systems, raw material of drug products
Drug discovery and Supporting services	synthesis/production services, analysis services, compound library screening services, experimental animal production services, CMO (Contract Manufacturing Organization), CRO (Contract Research Organization), SMO (Site Management Organization), pharmaceuticals research software, laboratory informational systems, drug discovery IT systems, computational drug discovery
Medical/ Diagnostics	gene therapy, regenerative medicine (cells, cell culturing medium, reagents etc.), immunotherapy, genetic diagnosis, diagnostic imaging, biomarkers, etc.
Others	smart cell industry, bioinformatics, digital technologies or other related studies and technologies contributing to research and development of fields mentioned above

(1) Satisfy one of the followings:

- ① Those who are aiming to commercialize their technologies in the fields of pharmaceutical or healthcare by establishing a startup in the city of Tokyo.
- ② Small to medium-sized enterprise who are engaged in pharmaceutical or healthcare business including those who have offices in the city of Tokyo or who intend to establish their offices in the city of Tokyo in the future (Definition of “small to medium-sized enterprise” can be found in the following link.)

※ http://www.chusho.meti.go.jp/faq/faq/faq01_teigi.htm#q1

However, for the Seminar Program, those who are interested in supporting pharmaceutical and healthcare related startup that meet the conditions of either

① or ②, are eligible to apply as well.

(2) Comply with “10 Participant Rules”.

(3) No history of violation of laws and regulations.

(4) No history of tax noncompliance.

(5) No history of breaching a contract with public institutions, etc.

(6) Not belonging to an organization that may threaten public safety and welfare

(7) Not belonging to an organization that conducts political activities, religious activities, and election-related activities.

(8) Not belonging to a member of violence organization (Tokyo Metropolitan violence Group exclusion ordinance (2011 Tokyo Metropolitan Ordinance No. 54. referred to as "the violence exclusion ordinance") Article 2 second issue). Not belonging to legal representative of the group, employees or a group member, etc. (Violence organization as defined in Article 2 of the Ordinance and Article 4 of the same ordinance).

(9) Not deemed to be inappropriate for participation in this program by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

3. Program content

This project consists of a "Seminar Program" that focuses on lectures for essential knowledge necessary for starting and expanding pharmaceutical or healthcare startups and a "Acceleration Program", that provides more concrete support for its participants. If you wish to participate in the "Acceleration Program", you are required to participate in the "Seminar Program" as well.

(1) Seminar Program

Seminars focusing on starting and expanding pharmaceutical and healthcare business will be provided.

(2) Acceleration Program

- ① Mentoring from experts from various fields based on individual needs (pharmaceutical research, clinical trial design, marketing, intellectual property, business development, overseas expansion, fundraising, establishment and growing of a venture business, data utilization, etc.)
- ② Supports for team building with management candidates
- ③ Pitch practice
- ④ Access to shared laboratory and office (including experimental equipment) free of charge
- ⑤ A wide range of support through matching with corporates, investors and other support organizations, etc.
- ⑥ Research and development support
- ⑦ Pitch Presentation Event (public)
- ⑧ Other various support programs.

4. Recruitment and program timeline

(1) Seminar Program

Application period: Application starts from April 24, 2019 and open until March 2020 (However, participants need to register for each seminar and seats for each seminar is limited.)

Program period: May 2019 to end of March 2020 (about one seminar per month)

(2) Acceleration Program

Application period: May 2019 ~ July 19th, 2019.

Deadline for the first round of application: June 28th 2019 (Friday) Deadline for the second round of application: July 19th 2019 (Friday).

Program period: October 2019 ~ March 2020 (candidates matching with mentors scheduled during August ~ September 2019).

5. Program location

The events will mainly be held in the city of Tokyo (Nihonbashi area in the Chuo Ward). However, it may be possible to participate through web connections for participants from remote locations.

6. Capacity of each program

(1) Seminar Program

Registration for Seminar program is unlimited, but seats for each seminar is about 100.

(2) Acceleration Program

Approximately 20 teams will be selected from applicants.

7. Application fee

Participation in this program is free of charge. However, accommodation expenses, transportation expenses and food expenses associated with program participations, and expenses for research use in the shared lab, etc. will be paid by the participant.

8. Application process

Either you apply to the Seminar Program or the Acceleration Program, please fill and submit the entry form (simplified version) on our website (<http://www.blockbuster.tokyo>) (Briefing events are scheduled to be posted on the website).

In the case of applying to Acceleration Program, please also download the entry form (full version) from the website submit it to our office, in addition to the entry form (simplified version) on the website,

9. Selection criteria of participants

(1) Seminar Program

All of eligible applicants will be accepted. However, seats for each seminar are limited and you need to apply to each seminar to secure your seat.

(2) Acceleration Program

Review of the application is based on written documents. In addition, there will be interview process. Selection criteria are as follows:

- Having enthusiasm for commercialization
- Developing a technology that solves social issues
- Expecting a promising business opportunity
- Unique and practical technology or business plan
- Ambitious and capable team

10. Rules for participants

(1) Participation in the Seminar Program

Acceleration Program participants should attend all Seminar Program sessions and those who participate only in the Seminar Program should participate in the program which they want to attend.

(2) Participation in lectures, mentoring and improvement on business plan

Acceleration Program participants should participate in lectures and meetings with mentors during the program period. In addition, participants should revise their business plan based on advices from their assigned mentors

(3) Participation in matching events with business firms, investors, support organizations, etc.

Acceleration Program participants should participate in matching events held during the period

(4) Participation in Demo Day (Open presentation)

Acceleration Program participants should take part in Demo Day and attend practice sessions for the presentation during the program period.

(5) Others

- Participation in the program is limited to the registered individuals or members of the team.
- Participants should understand supports via the programs are limited and not require additional supports from operators and mentors.
- Acceleration Program participant must consent to the disclosure of the company name and company profile (or project outline) necessary for an advertisement of the program.
- Cooperation as much as possible for projects for pharmaceutical and healthcare startups supporting program by Tokyo Metropolitan Government
- Acceleration Program participants must not disclose confidential information of other participating teams upon participating in the program. In addition, participants are required to submit a signed written agreement of the nondisclosure statement.
- Participants of the Acceleration Program should fully understand the purpose of this project and participate actively through the program period.

● Contact

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