







AC JumpStart investment amount must be matched cash (such as angel/VC investors, friends/family/founders, academic institution, government sources, and industry investors). Funds must be shown in the businesses bank account.

- x University of Waterloo alumni who received their degree within 5 years and have technology innovation or ideas suitable for business startups are eligible for university matching funds. As this is a competitive process, the top university applicants as selected by a review committee will be invited to present their business opportunity.
- x Conestoga College stream applicants must be in touch with the Conestoga Centre for Entrepreneurship (CEE) before applying.
- x Dust show proof of funds and project pending plan
- x completion of the AC JumpStart application form in full

If you have any questions regarding eligibility, please contact [info@acjumpsstart.com](mailto:info@acjumpsstart.com) prior to submitting an application.

### **Eligible Activities**

Eligible activities that will enable entrepreneurs to launch their businesses may include

- x technology development
  - o feasibility/demonstration, prototype
- x sales and marketing
- x labour (job creation)
- x facilities (equipment)
- x professional services;
  - o legal (business incorporation/registration)
  - o accounting (HST registration, business/personal tax filings)
  - o intellectual property protection (patenting)

- market/sales strategy
- business planning

### ***Eligible Costs***

Direct eligible costs for project activities may include:

- labour and operating expenditures
- materials and supplies
- consulting and/or professional fees\*
- travel and meeting costs
- minor capital and non-capital acquisitions (eg. software)

\*Applicants are strongly encouraged to include incorporation costs and associated legal and accounting fees within their budget plans.

### ***Ineligible Costs***

Ineligible costs for project activities may include:

- unreasonable, or costs not related to the eligible activities
- costs incurred prior to the date of the proposal approval
- major infrastructure and capital costs such as land, building and related constructions costs
- food, accommodation and entertainment costs
- tuition costs fees for administrators, including payments to any member or office of the recipient's Board of Directors

## **How do I apply to AC JumpStart?**

The AC JumpStart application form can be found [here](#).

### **IMPORTANT:**

Before completing your application, carefully review the guidelines to ensure your proposal activities and objectives fit within the initiative's objectives and criteria. A complete application package must be submitted in order to properly evaluate your proposal.

## What is the review process for AC JumpStart?

AC JumpStart applications will be reviewed collaboratively by an expert panel consisting of AC JumpStart partner representatives (Accelerator Centre, Conestoga College, University of Guelph, University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University) and independent judges.

A collaborative selection process from the same panel will generate a select list of candidates to engage in one-on-one interviews and dedicated 'pitch competitions.' The number of applicant selections will vary by institution.

**On behalf of the Accelerator Centre, Conestoga College, University of Waterloo, University of Guelph, and Wilfrid Laurier University, we would like to thank all applicants who apply to the AC JumpStart Program.**

This is a competitive process, with only the top applicants being accepted. All applicants will be advised of the result of their applications, and those that are not successful may be encouraged to re-submit (up to two times per company, total) to other cohorts.

## What do I need to know if I get accepted into AC JumpStart?

Successful applicants will be required to execute **the AC JumpStart Agreement** as a requirement for the release of project funding.

An initial payment based on the company's first quarter financial needs (not to exceed \$15K, UW has exceptions and can alter payment amounts) will be made at the start of the program to enable initial work to begin. The company will receive follow-on funding in tranches based on the completion of well-defined milestones approved by AC JumpStart mentors and partner organizations.

In order to fully receive the grant, the company must report monthly on mentorship hours, their progress towards project completion, and investment milestones achieved to date. The milestones submitted are to be discussed with the mentor group at the start of the program, and if modified they must be approved by the mentor and ACJS lead, and returned in the fillable sheet format (provided by the ACJS lead) by the company immediately.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

It is important that successful applicants be aware of the applicable tax implications of AC JumpStart funding they may receive, and that it will be their responsibility to pay all applicable business taxes (including HST) required by the Province of Ontario or the Government of Canada.

## Where can I find additional information on AC JumpStart?

For additional AC JumpStart and/or program eligibility, please contact:

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Federal Economic  
Development Agency  
for Southern Ontario

Agence fédérale  
de développement économique  
pour le Sud de l'Ontario

Canada 