



Are you eligible to join the Applied Data Incubator?

The Applied Data Incubator is publicly funded by the Senate of Berlin, ESF and the European Commission. Therefore, certain eligibility criteria apply:

- We can enroll team of 2 to 4 team members that work on one common project. Ideally all team members have a university degree or comparable working experience and are able to provide degrees in English.
- This project needs to be in an early prototype status or should showcase a prototype-like procedure, e.g. developed during the Applied Data Hackathon. Ideally a first business plan draft is available, e.g. as part of a pitch deck presented at the end of the Hackathon.
- All team members need to have their main residence in Berlin during the program. The nationality or age of the participants is not relevant. Visa can be issued with the help of LEA. However, visa holders might need to be enrolled in cohort 2 starting in October 2022 to allow sufficient time to obtain the visa. Existing visa need to allow working on startup projects (e.g. jobseeker, freelance or business visa. Student visa are not eligible.)
- Within the incubator program all founders will work full-time (at least 40 hours per week) on their project. Candidates need to be able to commit fulltime.
- Income and activities in terms of startup development are permitted. However, the program and the issued scholarship of 2,000 Euro per person per month are to be considered as a full-time employment, it serves to cover the monthly living costs. Paid secondary activities are permitted (to a limited extent as long as the full-time project work is not impaired).
- During the scholarship the participants are allowed to generate sales / profits, which they generate through pilot customers. Major investments need to be communicated to the organizer team and also outlined during the hackathon process.
- Teams may receive prize money from private and public competitions, regardless of the amount. The acceptance of investments is permitted, these serve only to cover the personnel and material costs, the founders are not allowed to pay a salary (income-expenditure overview).
- The replacement of team members in case of their resignation is possible within the first month.
- The founders are not allowed to have already been or are currently supported with a startup grant, e.g. the EXIST-Gründerstipendium, Gründungsbonus or Berliner Startup Stipendium. The Berlin Startup Scholarship can only be

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awarded once to each participant. The startup grant can only be obtained as a sole funding benefit, purchases from other public subsidies are not permitted.

- The scholarship holders are permitted to work with external cooperation partners. However, the cooperation partner must not gain a controlling influence on the company so that the scholarship holders are free and independent in their business dealings during the sponsorship.
- The intellectual property acquired during the scholarship period remains with the scholarship holder, unless applicable legal regulations state otherwise.
- The employment of personnel for the purpose of building up the company is permitted. Compliance with the minimum wage law (MiLoG) is mandatory.
- Teams are not required to enter with a legal entity. However, in case of incorporation in Germany, the date of the business registration may not be more than 3 months in the past at the time of application. All companies must be headquartered in Berlin.
- In case a legal entity in a foreign country exists, you need to incorporate in Berlin within the first two month of the incubation program. The incubator offers special legal support for company foundation. We can only accept companies that are not economically active on the German market yet.
- Unincorporated teams are also not forced to incorporate a company during the program.
- During the project period and beyond, all scholarship holders have information duties regarding their whereabouts and, if applicable, the development of a founded company.

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