



Accelerate CA: Inclusive Innovation Hub Program (Accelerate CA) - Q & A

Updated as of 04/19/23

1. I am interested in applying for the Accelerate CA Program but am unable to attend the meeting on April 11th. Will that meeting be recorded and if so, may I get a copy of the recording to hopefully answer my questions?
 - a. Yes, the recording of the webinar is available on the CalOSBA website at <https://calosba.ca.gov/grant-and-funding-opportunities/> and emailed to all webinar registrants.
2. Who is eligible to apply as a Round 1 applicant?
 - a. The following entities are eligible to apply as a host organization(s):
 - A Round 1 applicant must be a current iHub who has received an award during the 2022-2023 grant cycle.
 - A designated Accelerate CA Hub shall include at least one major university or research center or institute, one economic development organization, and consist of at least four of the following, in any combination:
 - A business support organization, including a workforce development or training organization, incubator or business accelerator, technical assistance providers, chambers of commerce, and networking organization that supports innovation
 - An angel or venture capital network
 - A business foundation, innovation foundation, science foundation, laboratory research institution, federal laboratory, university laboratory, or research and development facility
 - A municipal economic development division or department
 - A federal government partner such as a national laboratory
 - A for-profit entity with a focus on innovation
3. When is the deadline for Round 1 applications?
 - a. All applications must be submitted via email to calosbaprograms@gobiz.ca.gov copying Program Manager cassie.fortes@gobiz.ca.gov by 5:00 PM PDT on May 4, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted.
4. Can you provide a list of the current iHub awardees who are in Round 1?
 - a. List of 2022-2023 iHub awardees can be found here: <https://calosba.ca.gov/funding-grants-incentives/ihub2/>.
5. Can we provide mini grants to businesses within the program?
 - a. No, funds awarded to designated Accelerate CA Hubs shall not be used to deliver grants to small businesses.
6. When will Round 2 information be released?
 - a. Details and dates for Round 2 will be released once Round 1 is closed. Information will be made available on CalOSBA website at <https://calosba.ca.gov/grant-and-funding-opportunities/>.
7. How should we present the Statements of Cooperation? Do these need to be on letterhead? Can we put more than one on a page since they need to fit within the 15-page narrative.



- a. Please provide the letters on letterhead and include it within your 15-page narrative.
8. Are we required to spend \$250,000 each year to be eligible for the next year?
 - a. Yes, it is expected that all Accelerate CA Hubs will spend the full \$250,000 each year.
9. When will information on the \$6.5 million small business grants be made available?
 - a. Information on the small business grants will be made available during year 2 of the Program.
10. Do we need to have letters of support from institutes in each area listed?
 - a. Yes, your letters of support must include at least 1 from a county economic development agency or corporation, and 1 educational institution and/or federal laboratory.
11. Can participants extend their work to other regions?
 - a. Yes, participants can extend beyond their primary region(s) and are encouraged to illustrate their overall geographic footprint in their proposal.
12. Are you looking for specific industry focus proposals?
 - a. No, there is not a specific industry focus for this program. Instead, we are seeking proposals with unique initiatives that address opportunities, gaps, and challenges specific to the industry and/or region(s) you serve.
13. Are the budget and Goals/Benchmarks templates included in the 15-page limit?
 - a. The budget and Goals/benchmarks spreadsheets are not included in the 15-page limit and should be submitted as attachments. If you intend to include written detail of your goals or budget in the narrative, then this would count toward your 15-page limit.

*Please note that questions may be added to this document on a rolling basis, please check back for updates