



How can you apply?

- Apply as one of the following:
 - An **inventor** with an idea (you have a technology)
 - A **business contributor** without an idea (join a team)
 - A **clinical contributor** without an idea (join a team)
 - A **scientific contributor** without an idea (join a team)
- If you have an idea (i.e. you're an **inventor**), you can apply for either:
 - **Bio track: therapeutics, diagnostics, tools**
 - **Eco track: food & agriculture, chemicals & energy, consumer products**
- **NOTE:** all inventors **MUST** obtain approval from local tech transfer office before participating in the program



IP questions on application

Tell us about your progress ^

Is the technology based on or related to intellectual property (IP) of a university or university-affiliated institute? *

Yes No Unsure

Have you or the principal investigator previously spoken with your technology transfer office (TTO) about the invention? *

Yes No I would like help reaching out to my TTO

No, but we have an appointment

Have you reached out to your technology transfer office about your interest in participating in Nucleate's Activator program? *

Yes No Planning to

I would like help reaching out to my TTO

Have you notified your principal investigator about your interest in participating in Nucleate's Activator program? *

Yes No Planning to

Please tell us about your current IP situation. *

<input type="radio"/> I have not reached out to my university TTO yet	<input type="radio"/> I have not disclosed my invention yet but have started to talk with my university TTO
<input type="radio"/> I have disclosed my technology to my university TTO	<input type="radio"/> I have a provisional patent on my invention
<input type="radio"/> I have a patent on my invention	<input type="radio"/> I have started the licensing process
<input type="radio"/> I have licensed my invention from the university	<input type="radio"/> Other

Please elaborate on your IP status.

Disclosures & Engagements ^

Have you or your team presented/disclosed this invention/technology before? *

Yes No Unsure

Have you or your team engaged with any legal firms yet? *

Yes No Unsure

Notice of Information Release
 Activator is a non-confidential program. Accepted applicants should expect that submitted materials may be shared with Activator participants and Nucleate leadership to facilitate team formation, mentor matching, and workshop planning. We will never share your information externally to the program without your approval. Reach out to us if you have questions about how to provide non-confidential information regarding your project.

Please upload a short, non-confidential slide deck. Include a tech overview and at least one slide with your business goals. This is highly recommended to be admitted to the next step as semi-finalists. Should be uploaded in PDF format. 10 slides maximum.

Drag & drop a file or [browse](#)

Additional Resources:
 Check out the following resources regarding how to present your data non-confidentially, and why:

- 1. [Should you require a signed NDA from a potential VC investor?](#)
- 2. [The do's and don'ts of sharing proprietary information](#)
- 3. [How do I share confidential information with VCs?](#)
- 4. [Presenting data in partnering discussions](#)

Disclaimer: Application materials marked as confidential will be discarded and not considered as part of your application.

[Save and Review](#)



What does it mean to be an **inventor**?

- **Required qualification:** Current academic trainee (Post-doc/PhD/MBA/MD/JD/MS)
- **Eligible inventions:**
 - Projects in life sciences with **preliminary POC data**.
 - Projects have **received consent to participate from tech transfer offices**, but have not yet licensed their IP to external partners.
 - **Less than one year to the next inflection point** that require substantial investment (translational academic or private).
- **Value for you:**
 - Develop a clear path to technology commercialization
 - Build out a company team with fellow graduate students, postdocs, and clinical residents
 - Receive guidance and mentorship from leading academic and industrial professionals
 - Connect with potential investors and companies for resources and collaboration



What does it mean to be a **business contributor**?

- **Required qualification:** Current or previous academic trainee with relevant business experience
- **Relevant experience we look for:**
 - Degree in business/entrepreneurship (e.g., MBA, MS)
 - Accelerator/entrepreneurship educational course experience
 - Internship or full-time job in industry (e.g., consulting, VC, biotech, pharma)
- **Value for you:**
 - Become part of a company team with fellow graduate students, postdocs, and clinical residents
 - Develop a business strategy and market evaluation for an innovative solution
 - Receive guidance and mentorship from leading academic and industrial professionals
 - Connect with potential investors and companies



What does it mean to be a clinical contributor?

- **Required qualification:** Current resident, fellow, or medical student
- **Relevant experience we look for:**
 - Demonstrated interest in biotechnology
 - Previous research, business, or clinical experience
 - Potential field of expertise (for inventor)
- **Value for you:**
 - Learn about the fundamentals of biotech venture formation (i.e., formulating ideas and technical approaches, development and regulatory strategy, fundraising)
 - Gain experience working within an interdisciplinary team toward advancing a real biotech venture
 - Develop a framework for evaluating unmet clinical needs and selecting indications(s) for a novel technology/therapeutic approach
 - Improve your awareness of opportunities for clinicians within biotech startups



What does it mean to be a **scientific contributor**?

- **Required qualification:** Current or previous academic trainee with relevant scientific expertise
- **Relevant experiences we look for:**
 - Demonstrated interest in biotechnology commercialization
 - Previous research or business experience
 - Specific technical/scientific field of expertise (contingent on team's technology need)
- **Value for you:**
 - Become part of a company team with fellow graduate students, postdocs, and clinical residents
 - Receive guidance and mentorship from leading academic and industrial professionals
 - Connect with potential investors and companies



Expectations of being part of the 2024-25 Activator cohort

Commitment:

- Expect the workload of a 3-credit course
- Attend all regional workshops (occur twice a month) from February to May
 - Submit pre-work at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled workshop date
 - Submit post-work within 5 days after each workshop
- Missing/Late pre-work and lack of attendance in workshops will lead to removal from the program (at regional chapter's discretion)
- Attend HQ Seminars for additional educational materials

Value for you:

- Network with other biotech co-founders globally
- Connect with potential investors, lawyers, and industry experts for resources and collaboration
- Have the opportunity to pitch your company at our Demo Day to audience comprising of program mentors, renowned academics, industry veterans, and top-tier VC judges