

MIT delta v 2021 Application

- Thank you for your interest in applying to **MIT delta v**.
- Applications are due Sunday March 28th at 8pm Eastern.
- For any questions, please email **deltavstaff@mit.edu**

Traditionally, delta v has two cohorts, one based at MIT and one in New York City.

For summer 2021 we will be a virtual program with no physical office space. All accepted teams will be part of a combined delta v cohort, but NYC-focused startups will still have access to the resources and network of a traditional New York-based accelerator program.

Your team **MUST** have at least one co-founder who is an MIT student or post-doc enrolled in a degree granting program for the 2020-2021 academic year and who can commit to working full-time over the summer.

Those graduating in either February or June of 2021 are considered current MIT students for the purpose of delta v.

YOUR STARTUP

- **Team name:**
(it's okay if you change it later)

- **60 second video**

What we are looking for in this video is twofold ...

- (1) who are the members of your team, what do each of you do, and why are you part of this venture;
- (2) give us your elevator pitch on the problem you are trying to solve, your proposed solution, and why you are passionate about this;
- (3) why you are excited about delta v.

We understand with teams being remote that this video may be a challenge. If only one person is able to appear in your video, we get it.

Ideally, your team can all join online at the same time and record your clip. One solution is to record all your team members using Zoom.

We won't be judging based on the quality of your video; we just want to get a sense of each of team member as both individuals and a team, as well as a little more about your idea and your passion.

Please provide the link to the video.

You can upload it to YouTube, Vimeo, or a cloud-based storage platform. If you choose, you can make the video "unlisted" so it can't be seen by anyone who doesn't have the direct URL. However, please do *not* set the video to private as we will be unable to view it.

- **Elevator pitch:**
300 characters or fewer

- **Broadly speaking, what industry do you consider your startup to be in?**

For the next 5 questions, each has a max answer length of 2000 characters.

- **What problem are you trying to solve? Who are you solving it for?**

- **How do you plan to solve this problem?**

- **Who do you view as your competitors? How do you differ from them?**

- **What inspired your team to get together and solve this problem?**

Tell us briefly how your team came to be and what was the spark that led to the start of this venture.

- **How much traction do you have to date?**

Please be as specific as you can about what you've accomplished as a venture so far: user interviews ... acquired customers ... revenue ... share any hard data you may have that validates your business. Think about this as the milestones you've achieved.

- **PLEASE NOTE:**

Fundraising is a full-time job; therefore, during the 3 months of the accelerator we expect teams to be focused on delta v. Whether or not your team is at this stage, this summer is NOT the time to be looking to raise money. That said, please let us know whether or not your team has already fundraised for your venture.

This would include angels, friends and family, grants, personal dollars invested, etc. Please be specific. Don't worry ... there is no "wrong answer".

- **How long have the co-founders known each other? What projects or ventures have you worked on together in the past?**

Include past work on this venture as well, if applicable.

- **What impact would the success of your company have on the world?**

Max 800 characters

- **What are your team-level goals for the MIT delta v experience? Where do you hope and expect your team to be at the end of the program in September?**

Please be as specific as you can.

- **Why do you feel that delta v is the right place for your team to spend the summer? What value do you hope to get out of our program (as opposed to other ways you could spend June, July & August building your business)?**
- **How will your team add to the overall cohort as well as to the culture of this summer's program?**
Maximum 1500 characters
- **There will be many teams applying to delta v, so choosing which venture to accept will be difficult. Why do you think *your* team should rise to the top? What sets you apart from other teams?**
Maximum 1500 characters
- **delta v will be virtual for 2021. Please share how your team will plan to work together, execute, and ultimately be successful in this type of environment.**
- **Where do you plan for your company HQ to be located this summer?**
This does NOT affect our decision making; we want to be able to support your team with a relevant network and ecosystem exposure over the summer. Remember also that delta v will operate on an Eastern time zone schedule.

BE AWARE: you MAY establish shop outside the U.S. however this MAY result in us being unable to pay you due to current federal regulations.
- **Where do you plan for your company HQ to be located *after* delta v?**
If you don't know at this time, feel free to enter "unsure".
- **Anything else you want to share with us about your team?**
The next set of questions are about the individual members, so this is your last chance to write about your team.

Your Team Roster

This section will cover the members of your team. You must have at least two and no more than five co-founder level individuals included on your application, of which at least one must be a current MIT student (as defined above).

The first team member listed will be considered the main point of contact for your team during the application, interview, and acceptance process. We will only send to this first email listed and it will be that person's responsibility to inform the other team members.

- **How many co-founder level team members do you have?**
2 / 3 / 4 / 5

The following questions will need to be answered for every member of the team that you will be including as part of this application.

- **First name**
- **Last name**
- **MIT email address**
If non-MIT, please enter your primary email address.
- **Personal email address**
So we can stay connected with you after graduation when your MIT email address is no longer valid. (For non-MIT, if your answer above is already your personal email, you can skip this question.)
- **Phone number**
- **LinkedIn profile URL (optional)**
- **Will this team member be working full-time this summer?**
If no, please explain what you will be doing for the period of time you will be away from the program between June and the first week of September.
- **If you are a current MIT student, what degree are you pursuing?**
Bachelor's / Master's / Doctorate / Post-doc / Not an MIT student
- **If you are a current MIT student, what is your expected graduation year?**
Please answer with the calendar year, NOT "I'm entering the second year of my MBA"

- **If you are a current MIT student, what course are you?**
We're looking for the course number, please.
- **If you are a current MIT student and pursuing a dual degree or double major, please enter it here.**
- **If you are *NOT* a current MIT student, what is your current academic status?**
Whether currently enrolled at another school or already graduated, please tell us your degree(s) and major(s) as well as graduation year and college or university.
- **Which best describes your gender identity?**
 - female
 - male
 - trans female / trans woman
 - trans male / trans man
 - genderqueer / gender non-conforming / gender fluid
 - unsure / questioning
 - prefer not to answer
- **How would you best describe yourself?**
 - Hispanic/Latino/Spanish origin
 - Black or African-American
 - American Indian or Alaskan Native
 - Asian
 - Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
 - White
 - Multiracial
 - Prefer not to answer
- **Brief biography**
Tell us about your background, your work or startup experience, and any other pertinent details.
- **Are you a hacker, hipster, or hustler?**
If you fit more than one category, choose the one that feels most like the one you self-identify with.
 - Hacker (you can solve any technical problem and make anything work).
 - Hipster (you are a creative design genius who makes the user experience awesome).
 - Hustler (you are the one who closes deals and brings back the money).
 - I have no idea what this means.

- **Please list all entrepreneurship and innovation courses you have taken to date.**
Please include any courses you are currently enrolled in this semester.

- **What level of understanding do you have in the 24 Steps and "Disciplined Entrepreneurship" framework?**
This is solely to gauge a base level for individuals coming into the program. In the past we have held a "DE bootcamp" for members of accepted teams prior to the start of delta v who are interested in "learning up." Prior knowledge of DE is NOT required for delta v teams, but is helpful.
 - strong
 - medium
 - slight
 - none

- **Please list any prior experience you have starting your own company or working with or for a startup.**

- **What personally motivated you to get involved with this startup?**
There are many paths one can take. Why did you choose this one as opposed to doing something else? What is in this experience for you?

- **What are your *personal* goals and expectations for MIT delta v?**

FINAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

(once all individual team member information is entered)

- **Are any of the co-founders included in your application international students who will require work permits to take part in the program?**
(Please upload requested documentation below if yes)

International students who will be graduating from MIT by June 2021 will need to secure F-1 post-completion Optional Practical Training authorization before being able to participate since you will no longer be an enrolled student.

Your start date **MUST** be before June 9 when delta v begins.

Please upload proof of OPT authorization or proof that you have started the process for ALL students who will require such documentation.

Questions? Email deltavstaff@mit.edu

(For international students who will be continuing their education at MIT on an F-1 visa, participation in MIT delta v is considered on-campus employment since you are receiving stipends from MIT. Therefore, no CPT or OPT authorization will be required.)

- **How did you hear about MIT delta v? Please check all that apply.**
for Trust Center use only so we can maximize our marketing efforts in the future
 - Email blast
 - Orbit website
 - Personal contact via MIT faculty or staff
 - Mentioned in a class you are taking
 - Social media channel
 - Word of mouth
 - other

You must hit the SUBMIT button on the bottom of the application page to send your application through.

Thank you for completing your team's application to be a member of the MIT delta v cohort this summer. Please visit <http://deltav.mit.edu> for information.

TIMING: Applications will be reviewed the first week of April and interviews will begin soon after. *Please note: If you do not get asked to schedule an interview, this does not mean your team has been rejected.*

We expect to send all acceptance decisions no later than mid-April (some *may* be sent earlier) and teams must notify us of their participation within 48 hours of receiving notification. If you have any specific questions about MIT delta v or the application process, please email **deltavstaff@mit.edu**