

Researcher 2 Entrepreneur Grant Program



Turn breakthrough research into real-world impact

The R2E Grant is a new MIT capstone-style program that gives PhDs and postdocs launchpad to turn their research into real-world ventures.

Why are we doing this?

- **Direct response to campus need from PhDs and postdocs**
- **Proven model: building on delta v accelerator success**



Participants Go On to Found Other Companies at a Prolific Rate:

130 Additional Companies

\$2B Additional Funding

Why R2E?

- Receive intensive and customized **mentorship** not covered in your research training
- Develop your **entrepreneurial skill set**
- Broaden your **professional network**
- Learn from peers and build a **lasting community**
- Earn a little bit of **money** (more on this later)
- Make progress within a **safe environment**

Program Outline

Phase 1

Customer Focus

Program Outline

Phase 1

Customer Focus

Phase 2

Path to Tech Validation Focus

Program Outline

Phase 1

Customer Focus

Phase 2

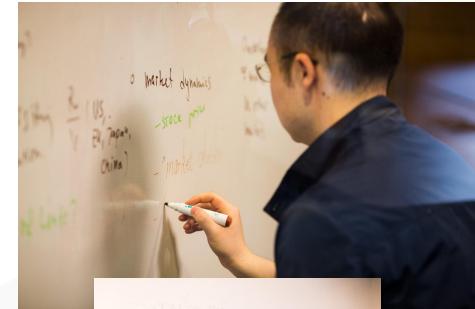
Path to Tech Validation

Phase 3

Company Focus + Path to Impact

R2E Typical Programming Cadence

- + **Bi-weekly (twice a month):** Pod meetings & EIR coaching (~2 hrs)
- + **Monthly:** One structured program event (workshop or guest speaker)
- + **Every 2 months:** Social activity / community building
- + **Quarterly:** Board meeting with mentors & advisors



Program Components

Guest Speakers & Workshops

**Hear stories and learn skills
from current founders and MIT
alumni, plus additional 1:1
support via office hours.**

Example Workshops:

- PMR
- Fundraising
- Translating Research
- IP & Licensing
- Scientist to Founder
- Team Formation



Mock Board Meetings

Learn to communicate progress & milestones succinctly and effectively with experienced mentors

- 7-10 curated experts from relevant startups, industry, and faculty
- 1x board meeting per phase focused on specific topic
- Evaluated based on phase rubric

All three board meetings are mandatory: December 11th, February 26th April 23rd

Social & Cohort Building

We invest in building the cohort by hosting social outings and events and we expect you to do the same throughout the year.

Example Events:

- Boston Harbor Cruise
- Board Member get together
- Charles River Kayaking
- Cohort Dinners
- Mystery Nights
- And more...

Trust Center Funding

Program Funding

Team

Each team is eligible to earn up to \$20,000 equity-free for their startup



Don't apply for the money. Apply to get coaching and customized content!

Key Agreements

Participants are expected to dedicate ~10 hours per week to advancing their venture.

Fellows must attend a bi- weekly 2-hour evening cohort meeting which include the program sessions.

Participants must obtain sign-off from their PI/advisor to ensure alignment with lab responsibilities.

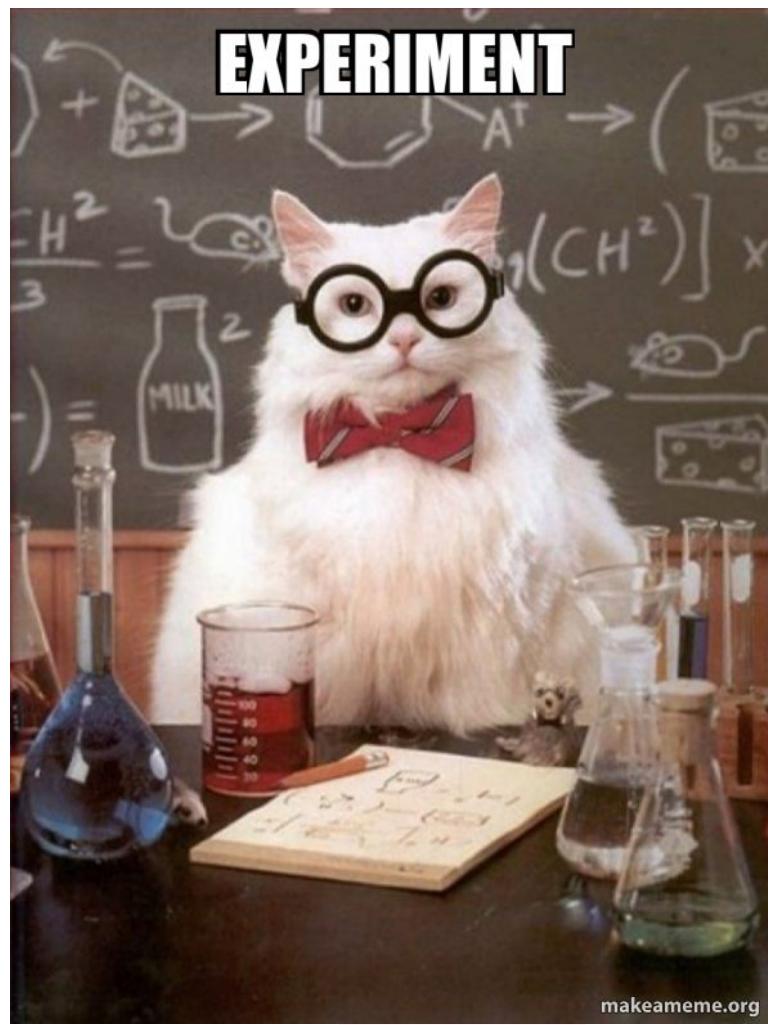
Other MIT programs and grants (Sandbox, Legatum, etc.) are accepted and encouraged!



GIFRUN.COM

Expectations

EXPERIMENT



Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology

makeameme.org





Who Should Apply

- Open to individuals or small teams (2–5 people) — no requirement to have co-founders
- Must include at least one MIT PhD student or postdoc
- Participant(s) must have started to developed technology and started exploring its potential commercial applications
- Clear interest in pursuing commercialization of the technology after R2E

Selection Criteria

- 1. Traction**
- 2. Technology validation**
- 3. Commitment beyond the program**
- 4. Commitment to cohort**

Application Process

Applications

Opened....

August 10!!

(5pm)

Application Process

Applications Open August 10th

- 1 Minute Video
- Team Information
- Idea Overview

Apply Online:

<https://orbit.mit.edu/applications/r2e25>

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Applications Close September 8th

Teams Notified by end of September

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Key Dates

August 10 Applications Open

September 8th Applications Close

Mid -September Interviews

Late September Application Decisions Sent

October 14 Program Starts

December 11 Board Meeting #1

February 26 Board Meeting #2

April 23 Board Meeting #3

R2E Leads



Emily Mooney
Co-Lead



Macauley Kenney
Co-Lead



Christine Hsieh
Lead Advisor

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We can't wait to review your applications!

Questions? Email r2e@mit.edu

Pre-Program Bootcamp

Students who have not taken the bootcamp or 15.390 and accepted non-MIT participants take part in a Disciplined Entrepreneurship bootcamp.

Covers:

- Life of an Entrepreneur
- Disciplined Entrepreneurship
- PMR
- More as requested...

All are welcome for a refresher!

