



Become a Mentee

The Accelerating Innovation IN Science (AXIS) mentoring program's goal is to provide tailored, experienced, objective guidance and insights to entrepreneurs that result in the expansion of the life sciences ecosystem and economic growth by cultivating serial entrepreneurs and driving innovation "up or out." The program is based on the successful model used by the renowned Venture Mentoring Service (VMS) program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

We would like to thank you for your interest in the AXIS mentoring program. Please fill out the form below and send it to info@axismentoring.org. We look forward to reviewing your application and we will be in contact!

Venture Name *(If you don't have a name, please enter TBD)*

Venture Street Address *(Please include city, state and zip code)*

Industry Categorization

Other Entrepreneurial Activity *(please check all that apply, past & present)*

- Other Venture
- Other

Who is the team?

(Please list just the founders and key members of the team)

Primary Contact

Name

Role in the Venture

Email Address

Affiliations

Phone

Team Member #1

Name

Role in the Venture

Email Address

Affiliations

Phone

Team Member #2

Name	
Role in the Venture	
Email Address	
Affiliations	
Phone	

Team Member #3

Name	
Role in the Venture	
Email Address	
Affiliations	
Phone	

Business Idea/Description

To help us best serve you, please answer a few questions about your venture. Don't worry about developing your responses formally like you would in a business plan. No deep details or financials are needed – just tell us what you think and envision at this point. *Use everyday language as if you were explaining these things to your friends or family.*

1. What do you do? Please provide a succinct 1-sentence description of what you do:

Example: Something like "we create and sell game software for consumers". "We are the X for Y" can work very well here – example: YouTube's concept statement was "Flickr for video."

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2. What is the problem? In a few sentences, please describe what problem you are solving:

Example: The amount of junk mail in everyone's email inbox is growing despite attempts to fight it. You can't be sure who sent you the mail. In addition to wasting time and being annoying, this poses threats to security, spreads viruses and clogs up networks.

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3. Who has it? In one or two sentences, describe who has this problem:

Example: This is costly for everyone in the chain: end users, IT departments and ISPs.

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4. How will you solve the problem? - In a few sentences and in completely NON-TECHNICAL terms, please describe how you expect to solve it:

Example: We have software that guarantees that the sender is who they claim. This can be implemented at ISPs and enterprises, allowing the entire chain to validate every email's origin and discard invalid messages before they travel further.

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5. How will you make money? In a few sentences, describe who will use it, who will pay you and how you envision selling to them. Again, you do not need to provide in-depth financial details.

Example: We will sell our software and services directly to the ISPs, web mail providers like Google and Microsoft, and F1000 companies through direct sales. We will provide a free add-on for email clients like Outlook so end users can easily adopt it.

6. What is the secret sauce? In a few sentences, describe what is special about your solution and product:

Example: Breakthrough identification algorithm that can be inserted into the backbone system at a switch level. Based on cutting-edge research developed under government grants by the founders as university researchers.

7. Is there IP? In a few sentences describe the IP status. Also if you are a student, is this venture idea based on your research at a University? If yes, has it been disclosed to the respective Technology Licensing Office?

Example: Have exclusive license to the university patents for the underlying technologies as well as further company-owned IP.

8. What is your current status? It's just fine to be very early in the process, even at the idea stage.

(Please check one)

- Idea exploration
- Ready to launch
- Making revenue

9. What type(s) of AXIS help do you think your startup needs?

(Please check all that apply)

- Business development
- IP strategy
- Commercial potential of technology
- Early team formation
- Occasional informal feedback
- Other

Additional Comments: *If there is anything else we should know about your venture, please let us know here.*