

Frequently Asked Questions

– AIAP Start-up Track

Q1: What is the desired outcome of the programme?

The desired outcome is a spin-off company that successfully secures seed funding from VCs.

Q2: Who owns the IP right?

IP developed during AIAP belongs to NUS. Under the AIAP Start-Up programme, the IP will be licensed to the spin-off company upon a successful capital raise (of any type) of at least S\$50,000.

Q3: What are the licensing terms?

AIISG will license the IP to the spin-off company in exchange for a 5% royalty fee (capped after \$400K in revenue)

Q4: Can I join the AIAP Start-Up program without being an apprentice or after I have graduated from AIAP?

No. The start-up programme is part of AIAP and is offered only to apprentices currently in AIAP.

Q5: Can I have external team members in my start-up team?

Yes, you can, but you will still need to find a partner within the AIAP programme and form a team of 3.

Q6: How many apprentices are allowed per team?

Minimum 2; Maximum 3. Other configurations, including with external co-founders will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.



Q7: What is the expected quality of the MVP?

During demo week, the expectation is the MVP must be fully deployed and has been tested/used by external customers. If the product targets companies, at least one company must have used the product for a reasonable period of time and provided positive feedback. If the target is consumer, then a reasonable number of users must have used it and provided positive feedback.

Q8: What happens if a start-up team fails to secure funding after 9 months?

The team has another 6 months (extended incubation) to do so after the initial 9 months. During this 6 months, AISG will do its best to support the team, including offering them technical and business mentoring as well as the usage of AISG's compute resources. AISG will also offer the usage of office space on a case-by-case basis if the team needs it.

Q9: If the team fails to secure investment after 9 months, will that affect their graduation from AIAP?

No. Apprentices will be evaluated separately for the completion of AIAP. Failure to secure funding will not be used against them in this evaluation.

Q10: What if the team fails to secure funding after the extra 6 months?

In that case, the team must re-assess the commercial viability of their product. AISG has the right after that period to either turn the product into a brick or open-source the code. AISG is open to discussing other licensing arrangement with the team.

Q11: What if an apprentice in the start-up project decides to quit the project before completion?

This start-up project is equivalent to the 100E or makerspace project in the default AIAP track. Therefore, quitting the start-up project before completion will be equivalent to quitting an assigned project in AIAP. The case will be handled according to AIAP guidelines.

