





The Project track is for an action-oriented idea aimed at creating a positive impact on campus and beyond (ex: policy, advocacy, event, media campaign, creative content, etc.).

The Venture track is for an idea supported by a sustainable and scalable business model, including for-profit, tech, social impact, nonprofit, creative and cultural.

				
	Get Inspired	Walk	Run	Fly
Primary Goal	Verify you are working on a problem that needs to be solved.	Verify that your solution solves the problem.	Verify that your idea is ready for scaling.	Verify that your idea is strategically scaling and creates sustained impact.
How to Verify Progress	<p>To validate your problem/solution, you can demonstrate that you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the problem and stakeholders Identified existing models/solutions Started to grow your team with relevant skills 	<p>To launch this solution, you can demonstrate that you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have begun growing your team Validated that the idea is desirable, feasible, viable, and equitable Created a viable financial plan 	<p>To show that your idea is ready to scale, you can demonstrate that you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have grown your team Implemented a financial plan Ventures: Have paying customers Projects: Have a target audience 	<p>To show that your idea is ready for further scaling, you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ventures: Have a repeatable and scalable business model (customers, funding, etc.) Projects: Execute and evaluate the project; submit an Action Report
Coaching Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Startup Manager Project Manager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovation Coaches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentor Innovation Network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentor Innovation Network
Supporting BUild Lab Events and Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry BYO Lunches Idea Open-mic Nights Weekly Friday Workshops Terrier Tells Weekly Workshops Launching a Project Workshops Expert Office Hours New Venture Competition Summer Accelerator Global Impact Challenge 			
How to Move to the Next Stage	<p>Ventures & Projects: Present progress to peers at a bi-monthly Feedback Forum</p> <p>Apply: bit.ly/FeedbackForumApp</p>	<p>Ventures: Pitch to Investment Panel; offered monthly</p> <p>Projects: Pitch to Project Panel; offered monthly</p> <p>Apply: bit.ly/InvestmentPanelApp bit.ly/ProjectPanelApp</p>	<p>Ventures: Pitch to Investment Panel; offered monthly</p> <p>Projects: Review final proposal and milestones with Program Director of Social Innovation</p> <p>Apply: bit.ly/InvestmentPanelApp</p>	<p>Ventures & Projects: Leverage community resources (ex: apply to accelerators or for community grants)</p>
Funding Incentives		<p>Ventures: \$1,000 and move to Run Stage</p> <p>Projects: Receive 25 % of budget request and move to Run stage</p>	<p>Ventures: \$2,000 and move to Fly Stage</p> <p>Projects: Receive 50% of budget request</p>	<p>Projects: Receive 25% of budget request after Action Report is submitted</p>

*Updated on June 30, 2020

Innovate@BU Innovation Pathway Resource Calendar

JANUARY 2020

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY 2020

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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MARCH 2020

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29	30	31				

APRIL 2020

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

START HERE!

Intake Form [<http://bit.ly/bupathway>]: Fill out this form to start receiving program information and next steps.

- Innovation Pathway Orientations [1x/month]** Learn how to use the program, its resources, and meet the staff who are here to help!

Startup & Project Manager Office Hours: Learn more about the program and get feedback on your idea.

- Feedback Forum [Every other Friday]** Once you've decided on your venture or project idea, present an overview and initial research at this casual roundtable of peers. After successfully presenting, your team can transition from Get Inspired to Walk.

- Idea Open-mic Nights [1-2x/month, 6-7:30pm]** Share your idea and get valuable feedback from peers.

COACHING & ADVICE

- Weekly Terrier Tells Workshops [Fridays, 4:40-5:30pm]** Hear from fellow Terriers who have launched their own ventures and projects. Each week will focus on a different topic to help you make progress on your idea.

- Launching a Project Workshops [Mondays, 2:30-3:30pm]** Each week students working on projects are guided through one Innovation Pathway Project Proposal element with BUild Lab experts.

- Industry BYO Lunches [Fridays, 1x/month, 12-1pm]** Meet Innovation Pathway teams working on an idea in the same industry as you to share challenges and advice.

Innovation Coaches: After successfully pitching at a Feedback Forum, you will move to the Walk Stage and be paired with a coach to help you with idea validation, business models, pitch preparation, and more.

Mentors Innovation Network: After successfully pitching at an Investment or Project Panel, Run teams are paired with a mentor that can provide in-depth feedback and advice.

Office Hours are available to all teams on a weekly basis with both expert Innovate@BU staff and external industry experts.

MOVING STAGES & FUNDING

- Investment and Project Panels [1x/month]** When your venture or project team is ready to move to the Run or Fly stage, apply to pitch at an Investment or Project panel for a chance to move stages and receive funding.

- Pitch Practice Sessions [9-11am]** are required and offered one week before every Investment Panel. Your team will be invited to a practice session once your Investment Panel date is confirmed.

COMPETITIONS & MORE FUNDING

- New Venture Competition [Thursdays, 6-8pm]** Venture teams are encouraged to compete in the New Venture Competition. It begins with Round 1: Pitch & Pizza Nights and requires a 60-second pitch.

- Summer Accelerator [Apps open in February]** Venture teams are encouraged to apply to the 10-week Summer Accelerator that provides mentorship, workshops, and a \$10,000 stipend.