



Advancing Climatetech and Clean Energy Leaders (ACCEL) REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

[Greentown Labs](#) and [Browning the Green Space](#) (BGS) are requesting applications from innovative startups with founding and executive teams that are primarily made up of BIPOC leaders who are developing climate solutions for sectors including electricity, transportation, buildings, manufacturing, and agriculture.

[Greentown Labs](#) and BGS recognize that the climatetech industry must change the status quo to put founders of color in the position to lead technology-driven companies that address climate change, support the development of diverse workforces, and fiercely advocate for the deployment of clean technologies in underserved communities.

Program Benefits for Startups:

- Work alongside a cohort of exceptional BIPOC founders to build and scale your startup
- Experience a structured curriculum of workshops led by experts that will cover a range of topics, including customer discovery, optimizing team performance, design thinking and prototyping, growth hacking, startup finance, storytelling and pitching, mental health & self care, and more
- Receive \$25,000 in non-dilutive grant funding (Note: there is no equity or financial obligation for invited companies to participate; it is a no-cost program)
- Receive mentorship from Greentown Labs and BGS's networks of mentors and startup experts
- Receive desk space and membership within Greentown Labs for the duration of the program and gain exclusive access to events, utilize spaces, and build meaningful relationships with key climatetech shareholders
- Receive BGS membership to unlock opportunities to learn, connect, and engage with practitioners in the clean energy sector on a just energy transition for Black and Brown communities



What We're Looking For

Greentown Labs and BGS understand that we have a responsibility to empower and support marginalized communities that have suffered the environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or government regulations. The ACCEL Program is all about supporting BIPOC founders as they develop climatetech solutions. We aim to build critical support infrastructure and leverage our collective networks, systems, and partners to accelerate the development and distribution of solutions by a diverse group of founders.

Solving the climate crisis presents an incredible economic opportunity where we can create an equitable, inclusive clean energy transition for generations to come.

We're looking for startups ranging from those that have developed a concept to those that have a minimum viable product built. Startups will focus on product and technology development, market development, capital raising, and management & team development throughout the accelerator, all while having access to Greentown Labs' incubators and world-class mentors from both Greentown Labs and BGS's networks.

Program Scope

Applications are open through Dec. 23, 2022, and the ACCEL program will launch in February 2023. The startup cohort will receive six months of acceleration, incubation, and mentorship, followed by an additional six months of mentorship.

Browning the Green Space will lead market and team development programming based on the lean startup model and customer discovery process. BGS will additionally provide workshops tailored to the experiences of underrepresented founders, including mental health, self care, and environmental justice.

VentureWell will serve as a thought partner in the program design and will deliver its national, established investment-readiness training program (known as ASPIRE) to better prepare early stage innovators for investment.



Eligibility

- Submit your completed application through the Greentown Labs website by Friday, Dec. 23, 2022.
- Be available for virtual and/or in-person interviews after the application deadline, if selected for further rounds.
- Disclose the status of any intellectual property (IP) relevant to your submission. **Do not submit confidential information in the application process.** Awardees will enter into non-disclosure agreements in order to protect their intellectual property throughout the ACCEL program.
- Applicants may apply from anywhere in the world, with priority consideration given to applicants residing in Massachusetts and Houston.
- If you are selected as an ACCEL program participant, a CEO/founder of your company will be required to attend all program events in order to enjoy full program benefits. Events will take place on-site in Boston and Houston, virtually, or a combination of both. A tentative timeline is as follows:
 - Kickoff Event: February 23, 2023 (Location: Boston)
 - Workshops: February–September 2023 (Locations: TBD)
 - Final Showcase: September 12, 2023 (Location: TBD)
- Greentown is committed to increasing diversity, maintaining an inclusive community culture, and creating a more sustainable planet for all. We welcome applications from founders and teams of all backgrounds, regardless of their ethnicity, race, gender, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, age, marital status, veteran status, or whether or not they have a disability.

Greentown Labs

Greentown Labs is a community of climate action pioneers working to design a more sustainable world. As the largest climatetech startup incubator in North America, Greentown Labs brings together startups, corporates, investors, policymakers, and many others with a focus on scaling climate solutions. Driven by the mission of providing startups the resources, knowledge, connections, and equipment they need to thrive, Greentown Labs offers lab space, shared office space, a machine shop, an electronics lab, software and business resources, and a large network of corporate customers, investors, and more. With its headquarters in Somerville, Mass. and a recently opened incubator in Houston, TX, Greentown Labs is home to 200 startups and has supported more than 450 startups since the incubator's founding in 2011. These startups have collectively created more than 8,400 jobs and have raised more than \$2.2 billion in funding. For more information, please visit www.greentownlabs.com or [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#).



Browning The Space

BGS is a nonprofit coalition of leaders and organizations that share the passion to advance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in clean energy. We seek to facilitate a just energy transition by putting Black and Brown communities first, and enabling systems change at the intersection of social, environmental, and economic justice. We are powering a just energy transition by creating jobs, building wealth, and reducing energy burden in Black and Brown communities. By removing barriers and expanding access, we seek to close the racial wealth gap while combating climate change.

BGS is focused on a comprehensive approach to addressing DEI across key clean energy and climatetech areas through our five connected but distinct focus areas:

- CAREERS: Paving pathways to employment in disadvantaged communities through scholarships, curriculum development, and workforce development.
- COMPANIES: Helping clean energy employers embrace, incorporate, and achieve DEI goals in their recruitment, hiring, and retention activities.
- CAPITAL: Enabling entrepreneurs from underserved communities gain access to resources through accelerators, incubators, and angel/VC investing.
- CONTRACTS: Enhancing opportunities for clean energy contractors from underserved communities through access to capital, technical training and certification, and assisting with bonding and insurance.
- COMMUNITIES: Bringing low-cost clean energy solutions to disadvantaged communities and removing barriers to clean energy adoption.

For more information, please visit browningthegreenspace.org, [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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