

## Apply to SpinUp: U of T's first wet lab incubator welcomes applications from early-stage entrepreneurs.

Mississauga, ON – 14 September 2023

Welcome, early-stage life science entrepreneurs: U of T Mississauga invites membership applications for [SpinUp](#), U of T's first wet lab incubator for life science innovation. Apply online by 31 October 2023 to start your membership in early 2024.

### What does it mean to be a SpinUp member?

Membership at SpinUp gives entrepreneurs access to

- **Wet lab space** in [U of T Mississauga's](#) new science building – at heavily subsidized rates more than 50% below market standards. Here, each entrepreneur has a
  - personal 6x5ft full lab bench;
  - dedicated 6ft fume hood; and
  - range of shared infrastructure, equipment, and instruments: e.g., cold and chemical storage, centrifuges, autoclaves, fully equipped biosafety level 2 rooms, microscopes, etc.
- **Entrepreneurship supports** run by SpinUp and UTE, one of the world's [top-five university-managed business incubators](#). Supports include mentorship programs, networking events, and practical workshops. They focus on building strong lab cultures and helping companies scale up beyond their early stages.
- **Outstanding faculty and science trainees** at U of T, a [world top-twenty university](#). U of T Mississauga opens entrepreneurs to new research partnerships and opportunities for student internship – all in the Greater Toronto Area, at the heart of Canada's two largest life science sectors.
- **Co-working office space** in an open-concept suite, including
  - A dedicated individual desk with lockable cabinet; and
  - Access to a bookable eight-person meeting room.

Members also have the opportunity to work alongside other entrepreneurs at [SpinUp](#), growing their companies through the shared knowledge of a talented cohort. Together, talent accelerates innovation.

➤ To learn more about SpinUp's supports, please explore [our website](#).

### Am I eligible for membership?

SpinUp invites applications from scientists at U of T and beyond whose start-up companies:

- are early-stage – up to and including the point of earning seed funding;
  - have demonstrated need of subsidized wet lab space;
  - have a vested interest to interact with U of T Mississauga's community by, e.g., (a) building research partnerships with faculty; (b) speaking in our [INSPIRE entrepreneurship program](#); or (c) supporting students through experiential and work-study education; and
  - participate in another [UTE accelerator program](#) or are supported by a U of T external partner organization. Examples of partners include – but are not limited to – CCRM, ISED, Ontario Genomics, OBIO, adMare, Altitude Accelerator, IDEA Mississauga, SPEC Labs, and MaRS.
- For questions about eligibility, please email [spinup@utoronto.ca](mailto:spinup@utoronto.ca).

## How do I apply to SpinUp – and win a Blue Ticket to advance my work?

- Apply online by 31 October 2023. The application form invites you to share basic, non-confidential information about your company's research priorities, value proposition, and long-term goals.
  - On the same application form, you can opt-in to be considered for the Blue Ticket competition. The inaugural Blue Ticket, generously supported by Merck, will provide one SpinUp-based company with
    - Free one-year membership;
    - An unrestricted \$5,000 cash prize; and
    - Mentorship opportunities with Merck.
  - The two competitions – for SpinUp membership and for the first Blue Ticket – are assessed separately. Our first SpinUp cohort of up to twenty-three entrepreneurs will receive membership offers in December 2023. The one Blue Ticket winner will be announced in January 2024.
- For questions about SpinUp applications, please email [spinup@utoronto.ca](mailto:spinup@utoronto.ca). To learn more about the Blue Ticket program, explore the announcement and application guide here.

## How can I learn more about SpinUp and U of T Entrepreneurship?

- [SpinUp](#) is the first wet lab venture incubator at the [University of Toronto](#), Canada's leading centre for learning and discovery and one of the world's top-two universities for [health science productivity](#).
- [SpinUp](#) is purpose built to drive life science innovation. It offers early-stage life science start-ups access to outstanding wet lab space, equipment, and expertise in the new science building at [U of T Mississauga](#) – at a fraction of the cost of comparable facilities. The new science building will open in fall 2023 as one of the greenest and most comprehensive wet lab facilities in North America.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**  
MISSISSAUGA



- SpinUp is proudly part of [U of T entrepreneurship](#), a network of 12+ innovation accelerators across three campuses. Over the past ten years, this network has supported more than 650 capital-backed companies, which have created 9,000 jobs and raised \$2.5 billion in external investment. U of T now launches more research-based start-ups than any university in North America outside of MIT.
  - Learn more about [SpinUp](#) and [U of T Entrepreneurship here](#).