INCLUSIVE INNOVATION LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
INSPIRE • MOTIVATE • INFLUENCE

**Purpose**

Diverse perspective matters. Ventureprise and City Startup Labs want to encourage more diversity among the individuals who mentor local entrepreneurs and make decisions in funding new startup ventures. This collaborative learning program educates, empowers and inspires women and underrepresented minorities to use their leadership expertise to advance an inclusive environment that helps drive North Carolina’s economic growth. Experience in entrepreneurship is not required, but welcomed.

The mission of the Inclusive Innovator Leadership Academy is for graduating participants to serve as leaders, mentors and decision-makers in the North Carolina entrepreneurship ecosystem.

**Benefits**

1. **Create Change Makers** - This program connects you with entrepreneurs seeking to solve big problems that can benefit from your expertise.

2. **Learn New Skills** - The program encompasses four workshops designed to prepare you to be a mentor and leader in the innovation and entrepreneurship community.

3. **Build Your Network** - You will have the opportunity to meet and network with organizations from across the state including serving as a venture investment reviewer for the NC IDEA Foundation.

4. **Contribute as a decision-maker** - You will have the chance to be matched with different organizations seeking innovation and entrepreneurship leaders, mentors, and decision-makers.

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why inclusive leadership?

- to grow you need to differentiate
- to differentiate you need to innovate
- to innovate you need diversity
- to activate diversity you need inclusion
- the solution: inclusive leadership
Features

Venture Reviewers
Upon completion of the workshops, participants will serve as venture
reviewers for startups seeking funding through the NC IDEA grant program.

Workshop Series
Participants will attend four workshops in 2 weeks provided by Ventureprise,
City Startup Labs, Georgia Tech Venture Labs, and the NC IDEA
Foundation. The programming will cover entrepreneurial thinking, mentoring
startups, Lean LaunchPad curriculum, customer discovery process and
venture readiness and review.

Match Day
North Carolina entrepreneurial ecosystem organizations will pitch
opportunities for graduates to serve in leadership, mentorship and decision-
making roles in their organizations.

Eligibility

Participant Qualifications:
- Underrepresented minority status
- North Carolina Resident
- 5+ years experience in field
- Must attend all workshops and serve as a Venture
Reviewer
- Interest in entrepreneurship, innovation and
commercialization

Program Dates

7/27  In-person Kick-off
8/9   Virtual Academy
8/10  Virtual Academy
8/24  Virtual NC IDEA Micro Session
9/14  In-person Match Day

Questions about the program?

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IILA Summer 2021
By the Numbers

18 Graduates
7 Innovation
Partners
9 Industry
Sectors

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