



Purdue DIAL Venture Studio Fellowship Program

APPLICATION OVERVIEW

We are thrilled you are considering the DIAL Venture Studio to launch your startup. We believe our people-first approach and deep corporate partnerships make our program one of the best options for any entrepreneur, regardless of your career stage.

Our goal is to build each of our cohorts from varying professions, industries, educational levels, and personal backgrounds. Great entrepreneurs don't fit any single mold. In selecting a cohort, we will have your application reviewed by a hiring committee with diverse backgrounds and worldviews in an effort to be as inclusive as possible. Yet, there are some key experiences and profile characteristics we are seeking in those Fellows that may transition to potential co-founders, including the following,

- Leadership and drive – the ability to motivate and influence others to achieve common goals; achievement orientation and ownership of outcomes.
- Innovation and creativity – novel viewpoints and imaginative problem-solving.
- Intelligence and critical thinking – ability to grasp complex concepts and then distill and simplify to achieve practical application.
- Collaboration and teamwork – inclination to be inclusive and achieve common goals with others; seek reasonable compromise and consensus along a path to success.
- Communication and empathy – effectively transferring information and ideas; skilled listening; ability to sense and understand others' situations, thoughts, and feelings.

We review an array of responses and measures to make our decision. These responses are gathered through a combination of online forms, uploaded offline documents, videos recorded and uploaded with active links, and assessments completed by our service vendors.

After your application is completed and materials are uploaded, we then employ six stages in our selection process as outlined below.

1. Review of your application questionnaire and video submission.
2. Delivery of assessments by our service vendors that are then compiled and reviewed.
3. Initial interview, including a detailed discussion of the DIAL program and your potential fit and interest level; this session also includes feedback on your assessments.
4. If there is a mutual fit and interest, broader interviews are scheduled and conducted by the hiring team.
5. Hiring committee review followed by conversations with references.
6. Decision to extend offers to join the Fellowship program.

If you have questions about our process, please email Donna Steele @ steeledl@purdue.edu. We want to make sure you understand our program and feel comfortable with it before proceeding, so don't hesitate to reach out.



NEXT STEPS

You will be completing your application via this webform: [DIAL Fellows Application](#). We have found it best not to access this form until you have completed all pre-work and are ready to provide all required information in a single submission, as we don't provide the option to save in-process forms. The following items are required to complete the application form,

1. Applicant name, address, and contact information.
2. Your current resume or CV (no more than 4 pages in length) and LinkedIn profile URL.
3. Download the [DIAL Fellows Interest Questionnaire](#), which, after completion, will be uploaded within the application form. Please limit your responses to no more than 300 words for each of the six questions.
4. A work sample that displays your style and reasoning when addressing an audience and outlining a strategy. Do not create this document for submission; instead, provide an existing work product that you completed in the past. This could be a PowerPoint presentation, text document, or spreadsheet model. Although preferred, it is not required that this example be business-related. Other possibilities might include a thesis paper or proposal for a community non-profit entity. *Please strike out any proprietary details within the document before submitting it.*
5. A video of yourself answering the following two questions.
 - i) What factors have brought you to the decision to apply for the DIAL Venture Studio Fellowship program?
 - ii) Considering your background and experiences, describe the two primary contributions you feel you would add as a cohort member.

Your video should be a simple portrait view with no special effects. The video should be steady and in focus, and last no longer than 3 minutes. Please upload your video to your YouTube account as [unlisted, but not private](#), so a viewing link can be provided in the application form.

6. The names and valid emails for three business references. These references will only be contacted during stage 5 of the application process if you are accepted by the hiring committee.

During the application process, you will receive progress updates and additional communications via email as you move through the stages, e.g., invitations to complete assessments or to set up interviews as needed. Please make sure you whitelist emails from the domain @dialventures.com.

DEADLINE

We will be selecting three Fellows for inclusion in our cohort launching on August 3, 2026. **The application window for the Fall '26 cohort will close July 5, 2026, at midnight PDT.** If your application is incomplete and does not include all the required information, it will not be considered. It is best to give yourself plenty of time to complete the pre-work, validate video links, etc., so you do not overlook any instructional steps.