Entrepreneurship for Cardiovascular Health Opportunities (ECHO) – Call for Applications

June 16, 2021 • Reply to Wesley Noell

The Translational Biology & Engineering Program (TBEP), at the University of Toronto and the Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research, in partnership with the Health Innovation Hub (H2i) is pleased to announce a call for applications for the 2021-2022 Entrepreneurship for Cardiovascular Health Opportunities (ECHO) program.

ECHO is a specialized experiential training program with the main objectives to:
1. Provide entrepreneurship training, mentorship, networking and funding opportunities for early ventures in the cardiovascular health sector.
2. Aid in transferring research innovations and intellectual property from academic and hospital institutions into the economy.
3. Create more start-ups in cardiovascular health sector.

What We Offer

A 12-month online training program, involving a unique combination of five complementary modules delivered by experts in the entrepreneurial field:

Module 1 - Principles of Entrepreneurship: The MaRS Entrepreneur’s Toolkit Workshops focused on fundamental entrepreneurship business principles. (Oct – Dec 2021)
Module 2 - Health Venture Rounds: A series of interactive workshops focused on key subjects pivotal to the success of early stage start-ups in the health sector. (Jan – Jun 2022)

Module 3 - Lessons from Leaders: A webinar series in which successful entrepreneurs and business leaders share their experiences in commercializing technologies in the cardiovascular health sector. (Jan – Jun 2022)

Module 4 - Community of Mentors: Successfully ranked ventures will become clients of H2i, a University of Toronto campus-linked accelerator, with access to H2i’s extensive network of mentors, professional funding and events.

Module 5 - Ignite Start-up Funding: The program will culminate with pitch training, private pitch sessions and ECHO PITCH 2022 - a public pitch competition event, where the program ventures will have the opportunity to win start-up funding from a $250,000 pool. (Jul – Oct 2022)

**Eligibility**

Any Canadian-based researcher, clinician, student and/or entrepreneur developing cardiovascular technologies and innovations is eligible to apply.

**Competitive Enrolment Process**

a. Application: Complete the following two forms and submit by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, August 6, 2021.

1. [ECHO Application Form](#): submit to [Soror Sharifpoor](#)
2. [H2i Venture Application Form](#): submit online

b. Interviews: Interviews will commence September 2021 for select applicants. The program begins October 2021.
For full program information and enrolment instructions, please visit the ECHO program page or contact Soror Sharifpoor (Director, Strategy & Translation; TBEP)

Distributed to: Vice Dean / Vice-Principal Research, Research Funding Opportunities, Health & Life Sciences, Faculty Research Facilitator, Faculty, Entrepreneurship, Departmental Research Facilitator, Departmental Business Officer, Dean / Principal, Chair / Academic Director