2021 OCEAN SOLUTIONS
ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

For founders with a for-profit, market-driven ocean solution, applications are now open for our Ocean Solutions Accelerator Program 4th and 5th Cohorts. This is a first-of-its-kind initiative for future-thinkers with an idea that will solve critical ocean challenges we face today.

APPLY NOW

Want to know what we're looking for in early- and later-stage startup applicants for the Ocean Solutions Accelerator Program?

01 A strong team whose mission and vision aligns with our values.
02 Demonstrated track record of success.
03 Focused impact that drives measurable change.
04 Ability to scale with a path for the future.

DATES

01 4th Cohort: For early-stage startups (June 7 - July 2, 2021)

02 5th Cohort: For later stage startups (September 7 - October 1, 2021)

03 4th & 5th Cohorts application deadline: April 12

04 Final agreements must be signed and received for both Cohorts by May 10th.

KEY FACTS

DEFINITIONS

01 Early Stage: The startup has not yet raised a seed round and has a prototype.

02 Later Stage: The startup has recently closed a seed round or Series A and has a strong MVP and traction.

03 Accepted Solutions: We accept all types of ocean solutions, as long as it's solving our most critical issues as defined by United Nations SDG14. Historically, key impact areas we have considered include aquaculture & fisheries, new materials & packaging and ocean data.

FAQS

Q Does SOA provide funding?

A SOA does not provide funding as part of the program. However, SOA does invest in select startups post-program and there are opportunities to receive funding from supporters in SOA's network. We will, when relevant, often help make introductions to potential funders.

Q Does SOA take equity in startups?

A Through SOA, you will be able to leverage our incredible community of mentors, partners, and investors for the lifetime of your company. We ask for a small amount of equity or the right to invest in a future round in exchange for the time, resources, and valuable support that we provide. When you are successful and SOA receives a return, we reinvest it back into the ecosystem and the development of more solutions; so when you win, we win, and most importantly, so does the ocean.

Q What kinds of solutions does SOA accept in the Accelerator program?

A The ocean is under unprecedented pressure – depleted fisheries, plastic pollution, habitat destruction, and a variety of human activities threaten the economic vitality and ecological stability of the ocean. SOA works with a wide range of founders building scalable initiatives to meet these ocean challenges. If you are building a for-profit business that has a positive impact on ocean health then you should apply to our Accelerator Program. Depending on the stage of your company, you may be accepted into the early stage or later stage program.

Q If accepted, what documents will be required for completing the offer?

A If you are accepted, startups are notified of our intention to send an offer and they are provided with a startup agreement for signature. Startups will also be asked to provide documents related to the following legal categories as part of our due diligence process. Please plan to have this ready by April 12 in case of acceptance.

01 Incorporation & Qualification Documents
02 Capitalization Documents
03 Employee Matters & IP
04 Fundraising Documents

Q Do you accept solutionists of all ages?

A There is no restriction on age to apply to our program.

Q What is the application process?

A Once you complete the ~30 minute application, your application will be reviewed by the SOA Team and our Selection Committee of experts. If advanced, you will be invited to a 30 minute Zoom interview; there may be some additional follow up from the SOA team for more details as needed. If your company advances from there, you will need to prepare the documents below to complete the process.

Q Do I have to be from the United States to apply?

A No, the ocean's challenges are global problems and we are looking for solutionists from all around the world to join our programs.

Q What kind of support can I expect to receive during the program?

A Throughout the program, founders receive guidance from SOA's community as they engage with mentors, partners, and potential funders to achieve their goals. The Accelerator will also present founders with a rigorous curriculum that encourages personal development and executive training with a range of world class facilitators and pitch coaches.

The programs will culminate with virtual Demo Days, connecting entrepreneurs with more investors, mentors and industry experts. In addition, SOA routinely provides opportunities to gain exposure from our network of social media and connections to industry events.

APPLY NOW