FAQ

Timeline & Call for Applications
1. What is the deadline to apply for the next cohort? April 15, 2021.
2. Where do I apply? In order to apply, please fill out – or update – your founder application on StartOut online community portal. Once you submit your founder application, you will be redirected to a dedicated page with additional questions specific to StartOut Growth Lab.
3. How long is the program? The program lasts 6 months.
4. When does the next cohort start? The next cohort will start on May 17, 2021
5. Is there a fee to join the program? No fee to join.

Eligibility Criteria
6. What is the typical stage, industry, traction of a startup which is a good fit for the program? Early-stage, scalable startups are the best fit for our program.
7. Do you welcome applications worldwide? Yes, the upcoming cohort is a virtual cohort and we welcome founders from anywhere in the world.
8. Is the program for product-based businesses only or is it suitable for service-based companies? Both are suitable for the program. However, consulting type businesses are not a fit as they are not very scalable or venture backed
9. Is the program accepting applications from non-profit organizations? Non-profit organizations are not a good fit for this program. However, non-profit organizations can join our regular Founders Program.
10. Is the program for tech-enabled companies only? No, non tech-enabled startups can apply.
11. Do you accept solo founders? Yes, we accept solo founders, but we do prefer to have co-founder groups. On a side note, one person companies are typically too early stage for the program.
12. What is the youngest age an applicant can be? 18 years is the youngest age of applicant we will accept.
13. What constitutes a product launch for the program? Is it current users of an MVP or active users on a product with all of the bells and whistles? This depends on the situation per company. We like to see applicants have their product in the market transacting. MVP or Pre-MVP tends to be too early for the program.

Program content & Community
14. What is the time commitment for the program? Wednesday from 9AM PST - 1:30PM PST.
15. What kind of support do founders receive once they join the program? Founders get support from the EIRs that run the program, assigned mentors matched by
StartOut, experts that provide office hours based on different subject matters and the other founders in the Cohort.

16. For those with non-LGBTQ+ co-founders, what has been the experience of non-LGBTQ+ co-founders in the past? **Experience has been very positive. We have 1 company in the current cohort that has a non-LBGTQ+ founder and their experience has been excellent.**

Results & Impact

1. How old is the program? **The Lab was founded in 2017 and is run by StartOut, the largest nonprofit organization for LGBTQ+ entrepreneurs, now in partnership with DLA Piper.**
2. How many startups have you supported? **Since our founding, we have supported 33 startups. SGL graduated companies have raised $107M in funding and created over 210 new jobs.**
3. Who are the startups who have graduated from the program? **You can find the full list here.**

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