



IV D 2 – Fachstelle Berliner Startup Stipendium

Programme basics for the Berlin Startup Scholarship

What is the context of the programme?

The support of startups is among the most successful instruments of forward-looking economic promotion strategies. As part of the ESF+ programme of the funding period 2021-2027, innovative startups are being supported in the framework of “founders’ workshops” and similar formats. The funding relates to new skills requirements in connection with innovation processes of the economy, technological change, including, among others, modern information and communication technologies (e.g. artificial intelligence, DeepTech and quantum technologies) as well as ecological objectives (e.g. climate protection, energy efficiency and use of renewable energies). In this funding call, the Berlin Startup Scholarship introduces a dedicated focus on female founders and innovators (BSS Women).

What is the programme about?

The aim of the programme is to promote innovative, technology-related startups through coaching, training and scholarships, especially in the context of ICT, digitisation and internationalisation. For this purpose, the founding teams (usually two to five people) are being provided the necessary technical infrastructure such as workplaces or laboratories. Prerequisite for the founders are at least initially developed business plans and prototypes or prototype-like procedures. The participants are being selected through competitive procedures of the project providers (incubators) and supported over a period of six to twelve months. The aim of the projects is to improve the skills of the founders, and to develop the marketability of the relevant products and services.

How does it work?

The selection of coaching and training staff is carried out by the project partners (incubators) according to the needs of the projects and startups. Funding is being provided to startup centres namely incubators at universities, research institutions and companies with research and development focus. The volume of the scholarships amounts up to 2.500 € per person and month for a certain amount of time depending on the project partner.

Project partners are specialised organisations with the tasks of overall coordination, application, implementation, accounting, public relations and networking as well as evaluation if necessary. In the context of European State Aid Law, the de minimis Regulation is applied to every single startup supported. The implementation of the programme is managed by the Senate Department for Economics, Energy and Public Enterprises of the State of Berlin in cooperation with the Investitionsbank Berlin (IBB), which is a trustee of the Land of Berlin and the approval authority.

The program line BSS Women specifically targets female entrepreneurs as well as founding teams with at least 51% female members. It addresses needs that are specific to women in the founding phase, e.g. through specially adapted coaching and qualification formats, childcare support and networking with female mentors.

List of project partners

Avant Now GmbH

Project name:	Avant Now Accelerator
Industry focus:	Avant Now supports majority female-led impact-tech startups transforming urgent global challenges into scalable, venture-backable companies.
Application periods:	Cohort 1: now - 29.03.2026 - start: 1.05.2026 Cohort 2: 01.04.2026 - 31.07.2026 - start: 1.09.2026 Cohort 3: 01.08.2026 - 30.11.2026 - start: 1.01.2027 Cohort 4: 01.12.2026 - 31.03.2027 - start: 1.05.2027 Cohort 5: 01.04.2027 - 30.11.2027 - start: 1.01.2028 Cohort 6: 01.08.2027 - 30.03.2028 - start: 1.05.2028 Cohort 7: 01.12.2027 - 31.07.2028 - start: 1.09.2028
Contact:	Viktoria Trosien
Further information:	www.avant-now.com

BIA Hubs GmbH

Project name:	Tomorrow Accelerator
Industry focus:	ClimateTech, DeepTech, AI
Application periods:	Batch 1: planned: 08.04.2026 - 27.05.2026 Start: 01.06.2026 Batch 2: planned: 01.03.2027 - 22.04.2027 Start: 01.05.2027 Batch 3: planned: 14.02.2028 - 17.03.2027 Start: 01.04.2028
Contact:	Darius Moeini
Further information:	https://www.tomorrow-accelerator.com/

Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft (HTW Berlin)

Project name:	Berliner Startup Stipendium an der HTW Berlin
Industry focus:	Tech, Design & Sustainability Greentech, Impact Entrepreneurship and digital technologies with Fast Track Agile Market Launch as key method
Application periods:	Batch 1: 10.03.2026 - 20.04.2026 - start: 01.06.2026 Batch 2: 23.11.2026 - 13.01.2027 - start: 01.03.2027 Batch 3: 20.09.2027 - 05.11.2027 - start: 01.01.2028
Contact:	Sarah Lüking (sarah.lueking@htw-berlin.de) Julia Zöbisch (julia.zoebisch@htw-berlin.de)

Further information: [https://entrepreneurship.htw-berlin.de/stipendien-
unterstuetzung/berliner-startup-stipendium/](https://entrepreneurship.htw-berlin.de/stipendien-unterstuetzung/berliner-startup-stipendium/)

Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Recht (HWR Berlin)

Project name:	BSS VI
Industry focus:	Female majority Teams in Deep Tech & Future Technologies, Smart Cities and Social & Impact Entrepreneurship
Application periods:	1. Call: April/ May 2026, Start 01.06.2026 2. Call: October/ November 2026, Start 01.12.2026 3. Call: May/ June 2027, Start 01.07.2027 4. Call: December 2027/ January 2028, Start 01.02.2028 5. Call: July/ August 2028, Start 01.09.2028
Contact:	Katrin Jahnke (Katrin.Jahnke@hwr-berlin.de)
Further information:	https://www.startup-incubator.berlin/

ignore gravity GmbH

Project name:	Grace Berlin Accelerator - Berlin StartUp Stipendium
Industry focus:	industryagnostic, focus on female founders
Application periods:	Batch 1: 16.03.2026 - 19.04.2026 - start 01.06.2026 Batch 2: 24.08.2026 - 27.09.2026 - start 01.11.2026 Batch 3: 12.07.2027 - 22.08.2027 - start 01.10.2027 Batch 4: 24.01.2028 - 29.02.2028 - start 01.04.2028
Contact:	Leonie Moos lm@ignore-gravity.com Lena Bumke
Further information:	https://www.grace-accelerator.de/home.html

MotionLab ML

Project name:	Hardtech Innovation
Industry focus:	Technologies for Environment and Sustainability (CleanTech, Circular Economy, GreenTech, energy transition, lightweight construction), smart-energy-solutions, mobility, digital key technologies (AI, DeepTech)
Application periods:	Batch 1: 01.04.2026 - 31.05.2026 - start: 01.06.2026 Batch 2: 01.04.2027 - 31.05.2027 - start: 01.06.2027 Batch 3: 01.04.2028 - 31.05.2028 - start: 01.06.2028
Contact:	Amelie Lemmen - al@motionlab.berlin
Further information:	https://motionlab.berlin/de/hardtech-innovation-programm/

SIBB e.V. - Verband der Digitalwirtschaft Berlin-Brandenburg

Project name: SIBB Incubator

Industry focus:	a) Cyber-Resilient Societies and Trustworthy AI: Cybersecurity & secure, trustworthy AI (IT security, data security, data protection, digital identity, Digital Sovereignty) b) liveable digital Future & Deep Tech e.g. in Smart City, Smart Mobility, Green Health
Application periods:	Batch 1: 02.03.2026 - 04.05. 2026- Start 01.06.2026 Batch 2: 02.01.2027 - 02.04.2027 - Start 03.05.2027 Batch 3: 01.11.2027 - 03.03.2028 - Start 03.04.2028
Contact:	Ron Reckin - ron.reckin@sibb.de
Further information:	www.sibb.de/incubator

Startup Colors UG

Project name:	Vision Health Pioneers Incubator
Industry focus:	Health
Application periods:	Batch 1: 11.03.2026 - 29.03.2026 - Start: May 1 2026 Batch 2: 15.01.2027 - 28.02.2027 - Start: April 1 2027 Batch 3: 01.01.2028 - 31.01.2028 - Start: March 1 2028
Contact:	Maren Lesche, Maren@VisionHealthPioneers.de Nicola Filzmoser, Nicola@visionhealthpioneers.de
Further information:	www.visionhealthpioneers.de

Science & Startups

Technische Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin in cooperation with Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin

Project name:	Berliner Startup Stipendium & Startups for Democratic Resilience
Industry focus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life Sciences & Digital Health • Immersive Technologies & Robotics • Quantum Systems & Cybersecurity • Circular Economy & CleanTech • Additive Manufacturing & Innovative Construction Open for all scientific innovations
Application periods:	Batch I: 01.03.2026 - 11.03.2026 Start: 01.04.2026 Batch II: April 2026 - May 2026 Start: 01.07.2026 Batch III: July 2026 - August 2026 Start: 01.10.2026 Batch IV: October 2026 - November 2026 Start: 01.01.2027 Batch V: January 2027 - February 2027 Start: 01.04.2027 Batch VI: April 2027 - May 2027 Start: 01.07.2027 Batch VII: July 2027 - August 2027 Start: 01.10.2027 Batch VIII: October 2027 - November 2027 Start: 01.01.2028 Batch IX: December 2027 - January 2028 Start: 01.03.2028

Batch X: April 2028 - May 2028 Start: 01.07.2028

Batch XI: June 2028 - July 2028 Start: 01.09.2028

Contact:	bss@science-startups.berlin
Further information:	www.science-startups.berlin/programs/berliner-startup-stipendium

WISTA Management GmbH

Project name:	Adlershof Startup Lab
Industry focus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key digital technologies, including AI, deep tech, cybersecurity, quantum technology and applications, and gaming technologies • Mobility, including aerospace • Environmental sustainability and technologies, including clean tech, the circular economy, the energy transition, climate change, green tech, and lightweight construction • Smart City - solutions for future societal challenges, solutions to improve quality of life
Application periods:	Batch 1: until 07.04.2026 - start Batch 1: 01.06.2026 Batch 2: 01.01.2027 - 31.01.2026 - start Batch 2: 01.04.2027 Batch 3: 01.10.2027 - 31.10.2027 - start Batch 3: 01.01.2028
Contact:	Yvonne Plaschnick Project Coordination Adlershof Startup Lab asl@wista.de
Further information:	www.adlershof.de/startuplab