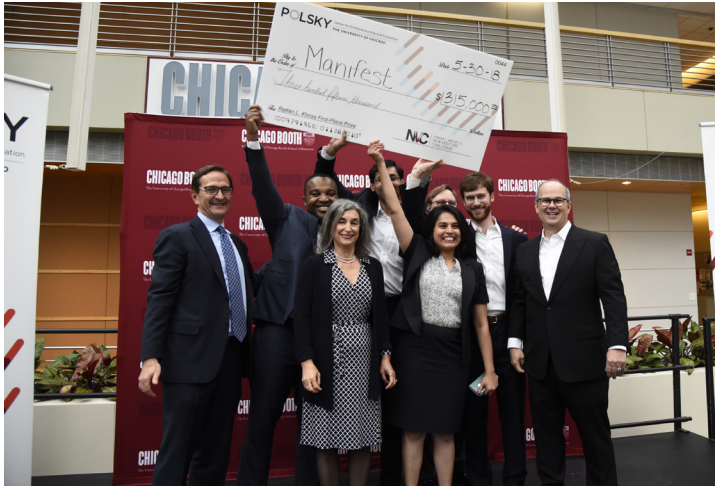


ALUMNI NEW VENTURE CHALLENGE

The premier startup launch program designed to help University of Chicago alumni entrepreneurs turn ideas into viable businesses.



OVERVIEW

Launched in 1996, the **Edward L. Kaplan, '71, New Venture Challenge (NVC)** is one of the top accelerators in the U.S. designed to help companies affiliated with the University of Chicago turn ideas into viable businesses. Run by the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, the program includes five tracks to serve the diverse entrepreneurs at the University of Chicago. The Alumni New Venture Challenge (ANVC) track serves University of Chicago alumni who are launching early stage ventures.

PROGRAM FORMAT

The Polsky Center will work in conjunction with University of Chicago alumni in various regions to manage the ANVC. The program is divided up into three phases, which are outlined below.

- **Phase I:** Eligible University of Chicago alumni entrepreneurs will apply to the ANVC with a feasibility summary. They will select one of the participating regions to apply to. Regional alumni leads will select 4-8 companies to advance to Phase II of the ANVC, with support from the Polsky Center team.
- **Phase II:** Accepted companies will participate in local programming, mentorship, and feedback opportunities (resources will vary by region). Phase II companies will receive access to virtual resources from the Polsky Center. Phase II will conclude with a regional semifinals event, where top team(s) from each participating region will be selected to advance as finalists to Phase III. Each region will send at least one finalist team, based on the number of applicants.
- **Phase III:** The program will culminate in Chicago during the spring quarter, where finalist teams from each region will pitch in front of a world class panel of investors and established entrepreneurs.

CALENDAR

Phase I Application Deadline

Sunday, January 6, 2019

Phase II Companies Announced

Monday, January 21, 2019

Phase II Programming

February - April, 2019

Regional Semifinals

March - April, 2019

Phase III ANVC Finals

Thursday, May 2, 2019

QUESTIONS?

Contact Hannah Mannino, Associate Director of Entrepreneurship Programs at the Polsky Center, at hannah.mannino@ChicagoBooth.edu



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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Venture must be original and have commercial promise
- Team lead must be an alum of the University of Chicago as of application date
- Venture must be a for-profit enterprise
- Venture must not have participated in any of the NVC tracks
- Venture must have less than \$1M USD in annual revenue
- Venture must not have raised more than \$1M USD in total debt/invested equity
- Venture must be less than 5 years old
- Venture must be incorporated
- Alums may submit their application to only one participating region
- Alums may submit multiple companies
- Venture is not eligible to apply to any other track of the NVC in the same year

REGIONAL ALUMNI LEADERSHIP

University of Chicago alumni are selected to lead the ANVC program in their region by the Polsky Center staff and faculty. These alums are individuals who are passionate about entrepreneurship, have demonstrated success in leadership roles, and expressed interest in working alongside the Polsky Center in supporting alumni venture development.

If you are interested in serving as a regional alumni lead for the ANVC, please contact Gorana Kolar at gorana.kolar@ChicagoBooth.edu.

Please direct all other questions related to the program to Hannah Mannino at hannah.mannino@ChicagoBooth.edu.