

Dear Academic Leaders,

We hope, you must be busy in leading academic life and inspiring students to pursue innovative and entrepreneurial journey and contributing in shaping the Indian startup ecosystem building and streamlining.

We would request for quick dissemination among student innovators, potential student entrepreneurs, incubated startups and Graduate Alumni startups to use this opportunity by submitting their Entrepreneurial venture plans/startup applications through AICTE online portal (www.startup.aicte-india.org) before 21st May 2018 (24.00 Hrs) (Extended date). Startup Applications ready with technological innovation/prototype and working business model stage will be preferred. Successfully submitted applications with required attachments will be considered for below two opportunities;

A. Currently AICTE is accepting applications for the first cohort of 10 women tech entrepreneurs to visit Canada under the Canada India Acceleration Program (CIAP) 2018, which is a joint initiative of AICTE - Carleton University to Support 100 Women Led Student Tech Start-ups Over a Period of Five Years. For this, we would like to invite applications from Women Innovative Tech entrepreneurs those are in **Student/Early Stage Startup*** phase only. The **Canada-India Acceleration Program (CIAP)** is formulated as part of MoU signed between AICTE and Carleton University to support and promote international collaborations between India and Canada, while designing collaborative programs in the area of start-up and innovation development in technical institutes and higher education in India.

1. AICTE will consider the application submitted through the same portal for the **Student Startup Mentorship India program (open to both genders)** by associating with major ecosystem enablers of country, which will be conducted on 25th and 26th June 2018 with following benefit features; (Please visit application portal and AICTE website regularly for updates).

- Get Involved in Exciting Discussions and Network with Fellow Innovators and Experts from Different Disciplines.
- Receive firsthand Information and Orientation on Developing Feasible, Scale-able and Sustainable Start-ups
- Know the Global Challenges and Opportunities and Prepare Yourself Towards a Global Start-up.
- Receive Fast Track Mentorship and Investors Interaction/Linkage Opportunity.
- Pre-Incubation and Incubation and Industry/Market Linkage for Innovative Ideas/Potential Start-ups.

The tentative timeline for the CIAP & Mentorship - 2018 program is as below:

- Application Submission Period: 17th April – 21st May 2018 (Extended)
- Scrutiny and Short listing of 1st Round Applications: 26th May 2018
- Organizing Student/Early Stage Startup Mentorship India: 25th & 26th June 2018 (Will be attended by both Genders)
- Final Announcement of 10 Women Entrepreneurs for CIAP, Canada: 27th June 2018 (Exclusive opportunity for Female Leaders)
- Time window for Visa and logistic Arrangement and Coordination: July – 2nd Week of Aug 2018
- 10 Women Startup Team tour to Canada for CIAP: 3rd and 4th Week of August 2018
- Experience Sharing and Post Acceleration Stage Followup

*Student/Early Stage Startup can be an individual or team of like minded entrepreneurs (entity registration is not necessary at the time of submission but likely to be get registered very soon) is working on innovations which is in pre-incubation phase (or) similar having been started by one or more co founders in his/her college days (or) having been started by alumni of any institute in India within 2 years of passing out from any academic program. This also include any other startup which is incubated (or) otherwise but it is between 0-3 years of its operation since its incorporation. We encourage student/Early Stage startup team with Innovation-Technology-Business to submit their applications.

The last date for submission of application through portal (www.startup.aicte-india.org) is 21st May 2018 (24:00 hrs) (Extended). For any queries, please write to us at startup@aicte-india.org

Please share this recent announcement among student/early stage tech startups in your network too.

Startup Policy Implementation Unit

AICTE, New Delhi