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# STARTUPCINCY RESOURCE PATH By cintrifuse

We are the driving force behind our region's new economy. Built by a diverse community of innovators, makers, founders, and disruptors, StartupCincy is our rallying cry. An ecosystem for those that love the hustle, hard work, passion, and dedication it takes to transform an idea into reality. **STARTUPCINCY** is a strategic initiative of Cintrifuse, the startup catalyst with one very clear mission: to make Greater Cincinnati the #1 tech startup hub in the midwest and among the most attractive innovation hubs in the nation. We believe that winning in the startup space stimulates our economy and invigorates our community.



#### **STAGES**

IMAGINING/INCUBATING DEMONSTRATING **MARKET ENTRY** GROWTH

- -• You want to activate an idea
- You need to prove your idea works
- Your idea works and you need to sell it
- -• Your idea is selling and you want more people to buy it



# START CINCY

# PLANNING YOUR TRIP

Choose your line below and follow it on the path to find the resources to help you start and grow your business through all four stages: imagining / incubating, demonstrating, market entry, and growth

#### **RED: INNOVATION LINE**

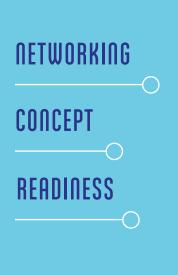
Follow this line if you're a tech or high-growth company. These companies form around a new technology or breakthrough process that has the potential for a very large market, probably beyond the immediate region. These businesses go through the same stages as other startups but often at a faster pace. And they sometimes need assistance with proof of concept, pitching for equity investments and building leadership teams.

## **DEVELOPMENT STAGES**

#### IMAGINING/INCUBATING

------ You want to activate an idea

Utilize these resources if you have an idea for a business but are not sure where to start. Network with industry professionals and entrepreneurs, attend events to test concepts and work with groups that help formalize companies. Through these experiences, test the viability of business ideas, talk to potential customers, and receive feedback from others.



#### DEMONSTRATING

You need to prove your idea works

Utilize these resources if there is interest in your business idea, and you want to bring the concept to life. Source seed-stage funding for the business, build a concept prototype and introduce the prototype to the market. Business owners at this scale work and collaborate in coworking offices with other entrepreneurs. In this stage, discovering a customer base, testing prototypes, and validating the idea prepares the business for market entry.

## **POINTS OF INTEREST** \*See resource details to left

Allos Ventures	• •
Aviatra Accelerators	- • • • •
Aviatra Launch	- • • • •
Aviatra Networking	• • •
Bearcat Launchpad	• • • •
bioLOGIC	
Blue North	• • • • •
Borderlands	• • •
The Brandery	• • • •
Business Backer	- • • • •
Cincinnati MicroCity Loan Program	
Cincinnati Minority Business Collaborative	- • • • •
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber	
Cintrifuse	• • • •
City of Cincinnati Department of Community and Economic Development	• • • •
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Economic & Community Development Institute (ECDI)	
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Findlay Kitchen	• • •
Flywheel Social Enterprise Club	• •
The Founder Institute	
Fueled Collective	• • •
Gather Cincy	
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Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce	- • • • •
Greater Cincinnati Microenterprise Initiative (GCMI)	

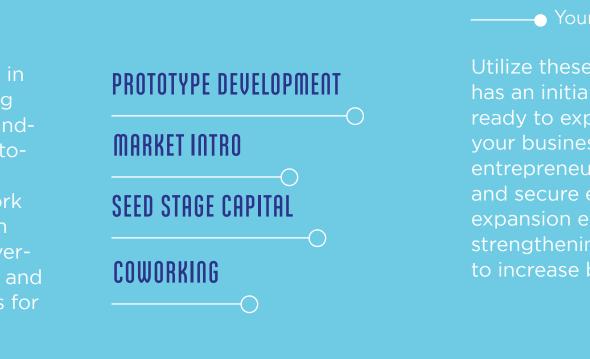


#### **NAVY: MAIN-STREET LINE**

Follow this line if you have a brick-and-mortar store: Think restaurants, coffee shops, dry cleaners, retailers. These companies have employees, need operations support and are typically focused on sales: That means getting customers in the door and getting them to come back. Other challenges include cash flow and funding.

#### **ORANGE: MICROENTERPRISE LINE**

Follow this line if you're starting small but have big dreams. Companies in this category require little capital to launch. Most are focused around the owner's personal expertise - consulting, design, lawn care - and they may not require a physical location. Online businesses and solopreneurs also fall into this group.



#### MARKET ENTRY

Your idea works and you need to sell it

Utilize these resources if your business has an initial customer base, and you are ready to expand in the market. Incubate your business alongside other entrepreneurs in a short term program, and secure early-stage capital to support expansion efforts. This stage encourages strengthening sales and marketing plans to increase business revenues.

#### INCUBATION

EARLY STAGE CAPITAL

Grow Cincinnati Fund	• • •
HackCincy	• • •
Hamilton Labs	• • •
The Hamilton Mill	• •
HCDC Business Incubator	
HCDC CoWorks Space	• • •
HCDC Office of Innovation + Creativity	$ \rightarrow $
Hillman Accelerator	···· • • •
Hive13	· • • • ·
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Incubator Kitchen Collective	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
The INKUBATOR	··· • • • •
Iron Chest (MORTAR)	• •
Keiretsu Forum Midwest	· • • • •
LISC Greater Cincinnati & Northern Kentucky	• • •
The Living Room	• • •
Main Street Ventures	· · • • • ·
Miami Redhawk Launch Accelerator	- • • • •
Minority Business Accelerator	• • • •
Morning Mentoring	
MORTAR	• • • •
MOVE	• • •
NewME	• • • •
Northern Kentucky Tri-Ed	• • • •
Novel Coworking	• • •
OCEAN Accelerator	
OCEAN Programs	
Odd Fellows Cowork	• • •
Ohio Minority Business Assistance Center	🔶 🍐 !

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Follow this line if you've survived the startup phase and you're ready to scale. Second-stage firms have enough employees to exceed the comfort- able control span of one owner and benefit from adding professional managers. A business typically enters second stage when it approaches \$1 million in total receipts, and that business can be in any industry.

#### GROWTH

• Your idea is selling and you want more people to buy it

Utilize these resources if your business is prepared to reach a large scale and become financially sustainable. Look for further funding from Venture Capitalists, further expand your customer base, and work with economic development organizations. Make Cincinnati a place for your business to flourish.

**GROWTH CAPITAL EXPANSION RESOURCES** 

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#### LIME: SECOND-STAGE LINE

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