

Artificial Intelligence

AI course

Application Guideline

1st Deadline : **2025 4/20**_(Sun) **23:59**_(JST)

2nd Deadline : **2025 5/30**_(Fri) **23:59**_(JST)





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Objective

To equip entrepreneurs with skills to create long-term global impact and foster a collaborative community.

- 1 Acquire essential skills and knowledge for success
- 2 Master VC/angel investment strategies and fundraising methods
- 3 Define MVP milestones to address challenges and achieve PMF (Product-Market Fit)

Location

Japan(Tokyo), United States (California), and Online

Target Applicants

Eligible Companies	Startups based in Japan
Stage	Pre-seed to Series A
Sector	AI



2 PROGRAM STRUCTURE | Program Overview

1 In-Person Bootcamp@Tokyo



Sessions & Lectures

Workshops, 1:1 mentoring, and KPI goal-setting for overseas fundraising and expansion, led by renowned AI investors and experts from North America.

2 Online Program



Lectures

Weekly themed online lectures and 1:1 sessions. Topics include customer acquisition, PMF, team building, capital strategy, fundraising, Go-to-Market strategies, and investor relations.

3 On-Site Program @US



Innovation Events in California

Attend local innovation events to understand the market and network with stakeholders to identify potential customers.

- ① Start X Week: In-person workshops, networking events.
- ② TechCrunch Disrupt 2025.

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In-Person Bootcamp | Sessions & Lectures

Workshops, 1:1 mentoring, and KPI goal-setting for North American expansion by inviting multiple US mentors from Start X network.

Capacity 15-20 Companies

Dates Aug 18-21 (TBD)

Contents

- Preparation for North American expansion, mentor connections, workshops.
 - Mentor introductions, GTM strategy workshops, pitch training for fundraising.
 - KPI setting and roadmap development through individual mentoring.
 - Networking event with mentors



2

Online Program | Lectures

Pre and Post-bootcamp online sessions with StartX mentors to acquire knowledge for business development and scaling with different angle.

Capacity 15-20 Companies

Dates Aug – November (details TBA)

Contents

- **1:1 Sessions:**
 - Capital strategy
 - Fundraising
 - Go-To-Market
 - Business planning
 - Investor relations
- **Weekly Sessions (TBA)**
 - Introduction, Outline
 - Customer acquisition
 - PMF
 - Team building



Nov 4 at 'The Hub'	Nov 5 at 'The Hub'	Nov 6 at 'The startup office'	Nov 7 at 'The startup office'	Nov 8 at 'The Hub'
Build for Growth - Cynthia Njoroge	Product Market Fit - Anurag	Investor pitch	Growing in the market - Aaron Yu	Pitching via Jeff Gibson
Regional Pitching - Nick Oke	Session by Stephen Torres	In Person - Neighborhood	Silicon valley tour	All roundtable + All pitch with community
Early Stage Recruiting - Noah Kishler	Stanford Tour	Sustainability event @ the hub	JPM Finance chat	Danish Address the founders - 2.30pm
Advisor meeting	Preparation time for pitch	Dinner/Networking with community	Dinner/Networking with community	Worktime from 2.30pm
Networking Dinner				

3

On-Site Program | Innovation Events

Attend events in California for market research, customer discovery and networking.

Capacity

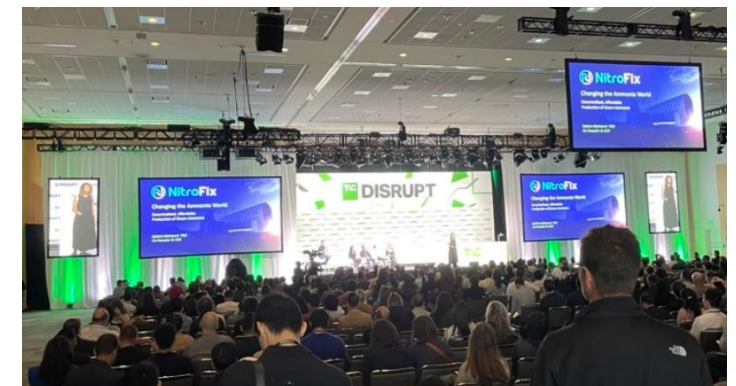
15-20 companies

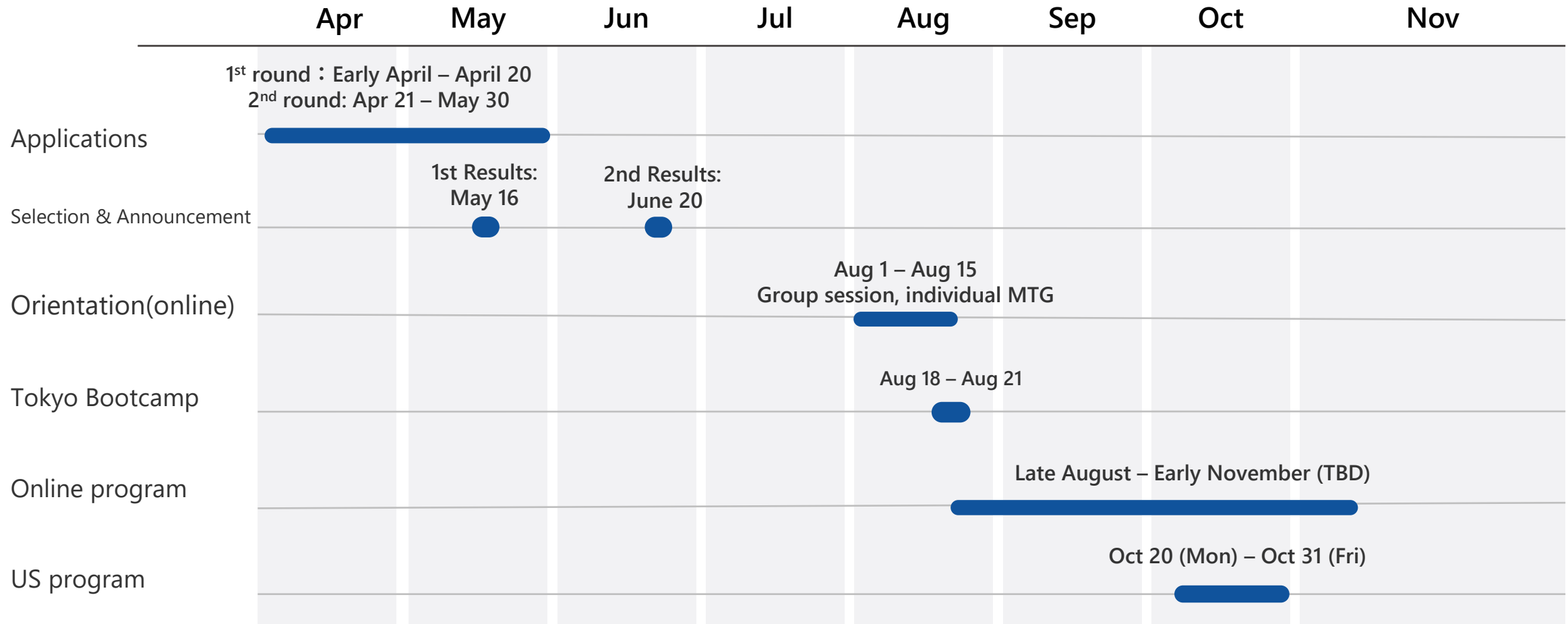
Dates

October 20 (Mon) – October 31 (Fri)

Contents

- **Week 1 : Start X Week**
 - Workshops, networking with mentors, Stanford campus tour etc...
- **Week 2 : Tech Crunch Week**
 - Attend TechCrunch Disrupt 2025, October 27–29





※Schedule subject to change.



StartX

<https://web.startx.com>

A Stanford-affiliated accelerator, fellowship, and community for students, faculty, and alumni.

- Largest Stanford startup ecosystem: 1,000+ companies, 300+ active mentors/investors.
- Portfolio valuations exceed \$60B total, with:
 - 165+ companies valued over \$100M.
 - 18 unicorns (e.g., Bolt, OpenSea, Playco).
 - Average fundraising of \$24M per startup.
 - 100+ exits (acquisitions/IPOs).
- 5x higher female founder representation than industry average.
- Network includes 75 Stanford professors and 1,600+ entrepreneurs.



Darsh Singh Mann
Project Leader



Stephen Torres
Program Manager



Anne Caillat
Key Personnel – the Director of Programs



Shannon McClenaghan
Key Personnel – CEO of StartX



Andrew Higgins
Key Personnel – CMO at StartX



Sreejith (Sreej) Mohan
Program Management



Andrew Maas

AI/NLP,
Stanford PhD,
StartX AI Roundtable Lead,
CEO of Pointable.



Andrew Radin

Scaling/fundraising,
Stanford MS,
CEO of Aria Pharmaceuticals



Andrew Vigneault

Investor,
CEO of ClearGraph (30+ seed investments).



Cyrille Najjar

Scaling,
2018 CES Innovation Award winner.



Anurag Wadhwa

Go-to-Market expert
ex-Google, P&G



Noah Kindler

Team building,
Stanford CS, Harvard MBA,
led 2 unicorn product teams.

Requirements

Must meet all requirements 1-5 and agree to the terms and conditions

1. Japan-based startup.
2. Actively planning global expansion or fundraising.
3. Business-level English proficiency
- 4. Founder's participation**
5. Agreement to [program terms](#), [online program conditions](#) and post-program surveys.

Notes

- Past participants of Startup City Acceleration Program or Global Startup Acceleration Program may apply.
- Data might be shared with Cabinet Office, METI, and partner accelerators.

Selection Criteria

Applications reviewed by StartX and JETRO based on submitted materials. Finalists may be invited for interviews. No status inquiries accepted.

1. Team expertise, network, and language skills.
2. Product/service growth potential and market fit.
3. Alignment between course content and business goals.
4. Bonus points for Ecosystem Hub City-based startups.

Costs

◆ JETRO covers

- Program fees

◆ Participant covers

- US program travel and accommodation
- Domestic travel/lodging for Bootcamp
- U.S. entry costs (ESTA/VISA/insurance etc...)
- Program-related communication fees
- All other non-JETRO-covered expenses

The following both items must be submitted to complete your entry.



◆ English Pitch Deck (10 slides max, PDF/PPT) including:

✓ Product/service (problem solved + solution)

✓ Business model, market size, competitive advantage

✓ Past achievements and future plans

✓ Team background (include founders' LinkedIn profiles)

* Data might be shared with Cabinet Office, METI, and partner accelerators for selection and program operation

【Consultation with JETRO】

[30 Min MTG
request form](#)

For applicants uncertain about course selection or needing assistance with the application process, JETRO offers 30-minute advisory sessions. However, use of this service does not affect selection decisions and application deadlines may be adjusted based on submission volume.

CONTACT

Company	JETRO startup support div
Contact	Kaga, Ibaraki
Email	su-support@jetro.go.jp
Location	〒107-6006 Tokyo, Minato, Akasaka, 1-12-32 Ark Mori Building 7 th floor

