

## FAQs

### **What is the Paratus Digital Health Hub Accelerator?**

A: The Accelerator program is focused on identifying digital health tools that enhance preparedness and response to public health emergencies due to chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) incidents, pandemic influenza and emerging infectious diseases.

Across these areas, we are interested in digital health solutions that can support preparedness, health readiness and mobilization. The Paratus Digital Health Accelerator program provides comprehensive support to digital health companies to build and scale their solutions. This support is provided at no cost to program participants.

### **What types of ideas is this challenge seeking?**

A: This global call for solutions is open to startups from across the innovation ecosystem with an established proof of concept, evidence of product-market fit and business model potential.

Areas of focus for the accelerator include digital health tools that enhance preparedness and response to public health emergencies due to:

1. Chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats
2. Pandemic influenza
3. Emerging infectious diseases

If your solution is working in another segment or space, please provide a narrative around how it relates to the focus areas above.

Across these areas, we are interested in digital health solutions that can support preparedness, health readiness and mobilization. Specifically:

- Technologies to enhance clinical trials for medical countermeasures (MCMs), which could include innovations for enhanced recruitment and retention or optimized trial design.
- At-home digital diagnostics and telemedicine solutions that utilize artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) approaches for diagnosis and risk assessment.
- Novel approaches to collect, process, evaluate and validate real-world evidence for therapeutics, devices and diagnostics, including use of AI/ML.
- Digital twin approaches using multimodal clinical data, including AI (e.g., EHR, imaging, unstructured notes) for early identification, endotyping or treatment guidance for disease severity to enable early intervention.
- Integrated capabilities to identify deterioration in the pre-hospital setting to assist in assessing, diagnosing and treating CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear) mass casualty patients. For example, innovations that enable sensor data collection, AI model development, responder- and clinician-facing user interfaces and tools that can facilitate integration with larger healthcare enterprises.

### **When does the challenge begin and when will winners be announced?**

A: Applications will be open from March 31, 2025, until May 9, 2025, at 11:59pm CT. By May 23, 2025, MATTER will select and notify between five and seven finalists to participate in the 10-week accelerator followed by the final showcase in August 2025 or September 2025.

### **Who is eligible to apply?**

A: We're seeking entrepreneurs and university-backed researchers who are developing digital health solutions that will empower the nation to prepare for and respond to health security threats and improve the continuum of clinical care. This global call for solutions is open to startups from across the innovation ecosystem with an established proof of concept, evidence of product-market fit and business model potential.

### **How do I apply for the challenge?**

A: Visit the challenge page to apply. You'll be asked to answer questions about your solutions and submit a presentation.

### **How many times can I apply?**

A: Each applicant (i.e. a company, entity or individual) can submit one submission.

### **How many companies will be selected?**

A: Five to Seven companies will be selected to participate in Cohort 2.

### **What will participants receive?**

A: This program will provide participants access to mentorship, exclusive resources and interactive curriculum from subject matter experts to refine their value propositions and craft their pitch through a 10-week accelerator program. The program will culminate in a virtual showcase.

- Engage with other cutting-edge startups
- Network with peers and leading influencers
- Receive mentorship from industry leaders and subject matter experts
- Gain exposure to the MATTER community
- Participate in a customized 10-week curriculum
- Present to potential investors, partners and clients
- Participate in a virtual showcase in August 2025 or September 2025

### **What are the expectations for participation?**

A: As part of this program you will:

- Participate in a customized 10-week curriculum with a commitment between 3-5 hours a week, including:
  - Weekly one hour mentor session
  - Weekly one-to-two hour curriculum session
  - Additional time with subject matter experts (30 minutes to an hour each week)
  - Guided activities for completion on your own time

### **What judging criteria will be used to evaluate solutions?**

A: We will evaluate submissions with the following criteria in mind:

- Ability to clearly articulate the problem statement
- Demonstration of the quality, feasibility and scalability of proposed solution
- Differentiation of solution within the competitive landscape
- Capability of participant to develop and execute concept/idea
- Extent to which Paratus Digital Health Hub can advance solution (i.e., mission fit)

**What if I still have unanswered questions regarding the challenge?**

A: Please contact [paratus@matter.health](mailto:paratus@matter.health)