TVCOG Makerspace Residency Application- Entrepreneurship Track

Created to support local, up and coming hardware-based startups, this residency track provides entry into TVCOG's Incubator Program, 1 year of TVCOG membership, access to fabrication equipment, dedicated work space, and customized mentorship, all provided for free to participants from July 7, 2026 to July 1, 2027.

Applications are due by 11:59pm on June 25, 2026.

Applications include questions about both the business and you as a founder. Thus, applications should be completed by a business-focused founder (age 18+) who will be one of the in-person program participants, if accepted.

Important application information:

- **Drafts:** This form only supports saved drafts for logged-in Google account users. We strongly recommend saving a draft of your answers in another document as you work.
- **Attachments:** Attachments are not supported in this form; **supplemental documents should be provided via publicly viewable link or sent via email to info@tvcog.net**. Use the subject line "[Your Name]- Entrepreneurship Residency Docs" and give files relevant names (resume, business plan, etc.)
- **Proprietary Information:** Only NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION regarding your product and business should be provided in this application. TVCOG does not enter into non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) for the review of residency applications.

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

Program Requirements

2. **In Person Commitment:** *

This is a 1-year-long program with a strong in-person component at our facility, located at 30 3rd St in Troy, NY. Housing is **not** provided.

If selected, are you able and willing to live in and work from NY's Capital Region (within Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, or Washington counties) **during the program?**

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, I live in NY's Capital Region
- No, I do not currently live in the Capital Region area but will relocate if selected for this program.

3. **Reporting Requirements:** *

If accepted into this program, you will be required to provide economic impact data during the program and up to 5 years after you leave the COG. Data may be shared with grant funders, TVCOG's board and in annual impact reports.

Check all that apply.

- [ ] I understand and agree to these terms.

4. **Community Engagement & Media Requirements** *

If accepted into this program, you will be required to actively participate in the TVCOG community and be featured within our promotional media. This may include features in newsletters, social media posts, video recaps of your residency and more. We understand that some startups may not wish to/be able to share certain information, and will work with you on the best way to share your story.

Check all that apply.

- [ ] I understand and agree to these terms.

5. **TVCOG Recognition Requirements** *

Participants are required to recognize TVCOG in all relevant media and on company social media platforms during the duration of the program. Examples include recognizing TVCOG as a supporter in any press about your business, adding TVCOG's logo to the company website, etc. Exact terms are flexible and can be determined on a case-by-case basis with TVCOG staff.

Check all that apply.

- [ ] I understand and agree to these terms.

6. **Final Showcase Requirements** *

Participants will be required to complete a final showcase at the end of their Residency, and work with TVCOG staff to complete a "Residency Recap" video. The exact format is flexible, and will be decided upon in conjunction with TVCOG staff. Options include participating in a local Pitch competition, presenting working prototypes at TVCOG open houses, etc.

Check all that apply.

- [ ] I understand and agree to these terms.

Basic Business Information

7. **Business Name and Address** *

_____

8. **Business Structure** *

Mark only one oval.

- Non-Profit
- For-Profit
- LLC
- Other

9. **Tax ID** *

_____

10. **Year Founded** *

_____

11. **Company Website/Social Media (Optional)**

_____

About You

We want to get to know the person who will be our main contact for the residency. Please provide the following information.

12. **Full Name** *

_____

13. **Pronouns** *

_____

14. **Are you a current TVCOG member?** *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- No, but I had a membership in the past

15. **Phone Number** *

16. **Home Address** *

17. **Please provide a brief Maker Statement introducing yourself. (250 words max)** *

Tell us about yourself, your background, your interests, why you're involved in this business venture, or anything else we should know about you.

18. **Briefly describe your relevant experience and skill set. (250 words max)** *

If you have a resume available, please provide a link or email a PDF to info@tvcog.net. If you have participated in any other incubators, accelerators or business bootcamp programs, please note that here.

19. **Geographic Residency Information** *

Priority consideration is given to applicants who are Capital Region residents and/or currently attending college in the area. This is defined as either living in or being actively enrolled in a college located in one of the following counties: Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, or Washington counties.

Check all that apply.

- [ ] I am a Capital Region resident.
- [ ] I am currently enrolled in a college/university located within the Capital Region.
- [ ] I am not currently a resident or college student in the area.

Personal Finance Information

Priority consideration is given to applicants whose total personal household income falls within HUD's definition of being Low-to-Moderate Income (LMI) for the Albany-Schenectady-Troy area, which is based on household size. See the HUD income limits here.

You will be asked to provide your projected income range and household size as you expect it to appear on your 2026 tax filings. Projections are understood to be good-faith estimates.

20. **How many people are in your household (including yourself)?** *

Please report your household size as it will appear on your federal tax return (i.e., yourself, spouse if applicable, and any dependents you claimed). Do **not** include unrelated roommates or others who live with you but are not part of your tax household.

Mark only one oval.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 or more

21. **What is your projected total household income for 2026 (before taxes)?** *

Mark only one oval.

- Under $20,000
- $20,000–$29,999
- $30,000–$39,999
- $40,000–$49,999
- $50,000–$59,999
- $60,000–$69,999
- $70,000–$79,999
- $80,000 or more
- I do not file my own taxes; I am claimed as a dependent by someone else.

About Your Team

22. **Are you a solo founder?** *

Please only answer no if you have multiple founders that own more than 10% of the company.

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, I am a solo founder.
- Yes, but I have a dedicated leadership team supporting me.
- No, our startup has multiple dedicated founders.

23. **Please list all of your company's founders.** *

Include yourself. Provide the first and last name, title and LinkedIn (if applicable) for each founder.

24. **Tell us more about your founders.**

What is their experience and why are you the right team for this venture? What is your structure and dynamic like? Where are the other founders located? If you are a solo entrepreneur, you may skip this section.

25. **Not** including the founders, how many people are currently on your team? *

Please provide full name and role (part-time contractor, full-time employee, interns, mentors etc.)

26. TVCOG provides a year of complimentary membership to up to 2 team members, including yourself, during the residency year. **If accepted, will one of your team members be joining you as a member?**

If you know who that team member might be, please indicate that as well. This is not a final decision and can be altered at a later date.

About Your Idea

During the residency, you will be expected to focus on one specific idea/product. TVCOG is a hardware-focused incubator, so products must be a **physical item**. For companies working in Digital Gaming/AI/Quantum Computing, your product must have a significant hardware component.

27. **Product Category** *

Applicants from all sectors are invited to apply, but priority consideration is given to applicants whose product falls within one of the named categories below.

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Advanced Electronics
- [ ] Clean Energy/Clean Tech
- [ ] Advanced Manufacturing/R&D
- [ ] Life Sciences
- [ ] Advanced Materials
- [ ] Digital Gaming (must include significant hardware component)
- [ ] AI or Quantum Computing (must include significant hardware component)
- [ ] Other: _____

28. **Briefly describe your product/technology.** *

What will you be working on during the Residency? You can include links to photos of proof-of-concept prototype, basic designs or any other relevant information to help us understand what you're making.

_____

29. **What problem are you trying to solve and for whom?** *

_____

30. **Tell us about your market.** *

We are looking for scaleable startups. How big of a market are you looking at? What market research, if any, have you already done?

_____

31. **What is your differentiation?** *

How are people or competitors currently handling this problem? How is your approach unique compared to competitors?

_____

32. **Which of the following best describes the current stage of your product?** *

Mark only one oval.

- Concept/idea/research stage (nothing built yet)
- Proof-of-concept/lab/benchtop stage (partial system)
- Working prototype (full system)
- Pre-production/pilot line stage (testing manufacturing processes)
- Production/manufacturing stage (manufacturing processes solidified)
- Not sure

33. **If you have a prototype, what stage is your prototype at?** *

Mark only one oval.

- No prototype yet.
- Pre-engineering Prototype (Proof-of-concept prototype)
- Engineering Prototype (Looks-like & works-like prototype)
- Engineering Validation Test (multiple units built for testing)
- Design Validation Test (Looks-like & works-like the final product)
- Product Validation Test (First significant production run)

34. **What are the biggest challenges you are facing right now?** *

What roadblocks (other than just funding) are preventing you from growth?

35. **How much time are you currently dedicating to your business?** *

Is it a side hustle? Are any founders working on it full-time? Do you have other jobs?

36. **How are you currently funding the business?** *

Are you self-funded? Have you raised any capital? How much? What structure? (include grants, equity, debt, etc...)

37. **What is your ultimate vision for this product/business?** *

38. **What traction do you have so far?** *

You could share revenue numbers, customer numbers, pilots, etc...

This Residency

Created to support local, up and coming hardware-based startups, this residency track provides 1 year of TVCOG Incubated membership, dedicated work space, and customized mentorship, all provided for free to participants. This expansion of the Residency program is part of our work to ensure accessibility in the local entrepreneurship ecosystem by removing barriers to access.

39. **Short Answer #1:** How would participation in this program empower your business? What specific resources at TVCOG would you utilize during the program? (250 word maximum) *

40. **Short Answer #2:** What will this Residency look like for you? What are your specific goals for this program? (250 word maximum) *

The Residency is loosely structured, and Residents are expected to set goals and timelines appropriate to them. For example, a company with a proof-of-concept prototype may come to the Residency with a goal of producing a working prototype.

We want to know more about how this Residency will work for you. You could share goals, a rough timeline, what a typical week in the Residency might look like for you, skills/connections you hope to gain, etc.

41. **Short Answer #3:** What interests you about this Residency program specifically? How would this Residency remove barriers to success for you? (350 word maximum) *

TVCOG's Residency programs provide free access to already-existing resources here at TVCOG, including our Incubated Membership, in an effort to ensure that our resources are accessible to everyone. Strong applications will demonstrate that TVCOG resources may be inaccessible to them without this residency. What barriers, financial, systemic, or otherwise, are you facing in your entrepreneurship journey? How would this Residency help remove them?

42. How did you hear about this program? *

43. **Additional Documents** *

Documents can be provided either via link in the "open share" section or via email to info@tvcog.net
Please note, personal resumes for the individual applicant are **required.** All other documents are optional, but we recommend providing at least one of the additional document types. Please indicate what you will be providing below.

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Personal Resume (Required)
- [ ] Business Model Canvas
- [ ] Deck
- [ ] Business Plan
- [ ] Preliminary Designs (non-proprietary only)/Photos of Prototype
- [ ] Documents will be emailed to info@tvcog.net with subject line "[Your Name]- Entrepreneurship Residency Docs."
- [ ] Documents will be provided via link in the open share section below.

44. **Open Share** (optional)

Is there anything else you would like to share with us? Links to additional documents can also be provided here.

45. **Final Steps!** *

TVCOG is a community makerspace that serves all ages. In order to keep our space safe for everyone, we have community guidelines and a code of conduct for all members, including Residents. As such, TVCOG reserves the right to:

- Perform background checks on any program participant or applicant, subject to applicable law;
- Deny membership or program entry to any individual convicted of a violent or sexual offense;
- Suspend or dismiss any participant who is charged with, or convicted of, a violent or sexual offense during their time at TVCOG; and
- Dismiss any participant or member for failure to follow community guidelines and deny them future membership.

Check all that apply.

☐ I understand and agree to these terms.

Thank You!

Your submission will be reviewed by TVCOG staff. We expect to accept up to 4 founders into the program; notifications of application status will be sent out via email by July 2.

Please note: if you are not accepted into this Residency program, you may be a good fit for some of our other programs. Often, TVCOG staff will waive application requirements for other programs, including our Incubator Membership and Small Business Support Program, based on information provided here. We encourage you to read through the entire application status notification, as it may contain details on other options being offered to you.

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