



## THE JIM LEECH MASTERCARD FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP (FOR 15 AFRICAN STUDENTS)

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO OPEN FROM

*November 2 To November 30, 2020*

The Mastercard Foundation in partnership with Queen's University under their flagship Innovation Centre the Dunin-Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre (DDQIC) is inviting African Students to apply for an opportunity to participate in the Jim Leech Mastercard Foundation Fellowship on Entrepreneurship. Queen's University is a public research University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada and the Dunin-Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre (DDQIC) is the University's Innovation Centre that aims to turn ideas, technology, or inspiration into ventures.



**Who is eligible for the Virtual Fellowship Program?**  
This Fellowship is available to All students at Makerere University (both undergraduate and postgraduate) and recent graduates of 2018, 2019 and 2020.

### THE FELLOWSHIP FOR 15 AFRICAN STUDENTS WITH OUTSTANDING BUSINESS IDEAS

The Fellowship will be based at DDQIC. The Fellowship will be offered to at least 15 Fellows with 15 outstanding business ideas. They will benefit from the online version of DDQIC's "QyourVenture". This Eight-month accelerator program provides:

- » Access to the Discipline Entrepreneurship Toolbox for five months. This is an online entrepreneurship training program with 24 steps developed by the Martin Trust Center for MIT Entrepreneurship.
- » Access to an incubation support for three months. The Fellows will be on boarded into a company creation process with access to mentorship and coaching from DDQIC's network. They will compete to win seed funding grants from DDQIC's network of investors.

#### The Recruitment Process

The recruitment process has been designed to be practical and will use the performance-based online training programs – to not only validate ideas and assumptions around the business ventures the applicants are working on, but also to qualify for the Fellowship. The recruitment process involves three levels:

**Level 1:** Approximately 1,000 students will be recruited in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program Network. These students will go through the online Disciplined Entrepreneurship training, unlocking 11 steps/topics such as understanding customers and markets. This will be for a period of two months.

**Level 2:** Out of the 1,000 students, a minimum of 30 students with 30 promising business ideas will be selected to continue with the online training offering 12 topics, such as designing products and scaling businesses. This will be for a period of 2-3 months.

**Level 3:** Out of the 30 business ideas, the 15 most promising ones, as selected through a pitch competition, will receive the full Fellowship. After the eight-month Fellowship program, the Fellows will continue to have access to the DDQIC's network. Where appropriate, they will be linked to local resources that will help accelerate the growth of their ventures.

#### Support to facilitate the Virtual Fellowship Program

Each Fellow will receive a \$500 stipend. The stipend is to ensure the Fellows have access to digital devices as well as safe and secure internet access.

#### Selection Criteria:

1. There will be no quota/target number of youth recruited per university.
2. Students/Fellows will be recruited from current 11 university partners based on students' competencies, potential, motivation, and business ideas.
3. Ideal candidate would be/have:
  - Entrepreneurial spirit
  - Idea stage or pre-idea for a potentially scalable business
  - Bias for action
  - Coachable & adaptable
  - Sense of agency.

Timeline/Milestone	
Application to recruit the 1,000 students	November 2 to November 30, 2020
Announce the top 30 business ideas (a minimum of 30 students)	February 2021
Launch the incubation program for the top 15 business ideas (a minimum of 15 Fellows)	May 2021