



Corporate Sponsor FAQs

What is a Corporate Sponsor, and how does the MEIA Corporate Sponsorship Program work?

A Corporate Sponsor provides financial assistance to support MEIA’s operations in exchange for a defined set of benefits as described in the *Sponsorship Prospectus*. Corporate Sponsorships typically cover a calendar year (365 days) and are not tied to Cohort start or end dates.

How do I become a Corporate Sponsor?

Contact MEIA via the website form (<https://mdeia.org/contact-us>) or send an email to info@mdeia.org.

What Corporations are eligible to be Corporate Sponsors?

Any business in good standing in the State of Maryland (or the State the company is based in, if there is no nexus in Maryland) can be a Corporate Sponsor. MEIA reserves the right to decline sponsorship for Corporations whose missions diverge from MEIA’s climate and economic development mission.

Can you explain each of the benefits in the *Sponsorship Prospectus*?

Benefit	Explanation
Minimum Cash Donation (excludes Startup Team Budget)	The amount of cash donated to MCEC or to the University of Maryland Foundation to support MEIA operating activities. The amount donated determines sponsorship level.
Opportunity to Work with a Startup Team	At certain levels, Corporate Sponsors have the opportunity to become Strategic Sponsors. See Strategic Sponsor FAQ.
First Look Access to Cohort Applications	At certain levels, all Startup Team applications will be forwarded to the Corporate Sponsor for a first look before MEIA begins its general search for a Strategic Partner match.
Seat on MEIA Startup Team Capital Pitch Advisory Panel	At certain levels, the Corporate Sponsor may participate in the Capital Pitch Advisory Panel that hosts a pitch training and feedback event prior to the cohort finale.

Cohort Finale Pitch Dinner An Invitation Only Event # Tickets	Based on level, a Corporate Sponsor will receive tickets to the invitation-only cohort finale pitch dinner.
Present at Workshop at Startup UMD	Based on level, a Corporate Sponsor may host a seminar at Startup UMD, the University of Maryland College Park's Startup Lab that is run by the UM Ventures. This event will be open to the public and publicized via MCEC/MEIA and UM Ventures.
Speak at Cohort Training Event	Based on the level, a Corporate Sponsor may be given time at one of many cohort training events to speak to teams on a topic mutually agreed by the sponsor and MCEC.
Logo on Website / Banners / Emails	All Corporate Sponsors will be recognized on the MEIA website, in banners that appear at events, and in emails sent by MEIA or MCEC. Based on level, the size of the logo may change.
MEIA Website Profile	All Corporate Sponsors will have a 50 word profile on MEIA's website and a link to the Sponsor's website.
Marketing to Cohort Team	MEIA will e-mail all teams on your behalf with marketing information about your brand at least one time during the cohort period. Based on level, Corporate Sponsors may also table at Cohort Training events or at other mutually agreed times where Startup Teams will be present in person.
MCEC Newsletter Article Sent to over 2,000 people at 500 different companies	Based on level, a Corporate Sponsor will be able to write a certain number of articles for the MCEC/MEIA newsletter that promotes their products and/or services and/or brand. Articles are subject to editorial control by MCEC.
MCEC-hosted Lunch-N-Learn Targeting entire MCEC community.	Based on level, MCEC will host and Sponsor will present at a Lunch-N-Learn event at the MCEC offices or similar venue and will invite the entire MCEC community. Lunch-N-Learn topics must be mutually agreed by Sponsor and MCEC.

2019 MCEC Summit - # Tickets Commit by Sep 30, 2019	For Corporate Sponsorships secured by September 30, 2019, Sponsor will receive free tickets to the 2019 MCEC Summit.
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