



TEKWOMEN QLD STARTUP STUDIO

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - 2025

Supporting emerging female agrifood-tech entrepreneurs and accelerating the growth of female-led agrifood-tech startups across Queensland.



APPLICATIONS CLOSE
27 APRIL 2025

A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDERS

Multiple studies have identified the complex systemic problems creating barriers for women entering STEM-based careers with only 15% of STEM jobs in Australia held by women. In addition, only 22% of Australian startups are led by women.

But, the evidence is undeniable...female founders are a better bet. Agrifood-tech startups with at least one female founder deliver higher revenues, and 35% greater returns on investment dollars compared with their male counterparts in tech. In 2022 VC funding for female-led startups has dropped even further to 2.1%.

So what this tells us is there is still a lot of work to be done! As female founders of an agrifood-tech startup we are actively playing our role to support more women into agtech. Our programs are flexible and customised to specifically overcome some of these barriers and help more female agtech founders get the attention they deserve!



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is the TEKWOMEN QLD Startup Studio for?

The TEKWOMEN QLD startup incubator is for Queensland based, female-led early stage agrifood-tech startups. It is a 15-month startup incubator that supports female founders achieve their growth goals through cohort sprints, regional residencies, 1:1 coaching and mentoring, and connections to potential customers, partners and investors.

By agrifood-tech startup, we mean a high growth potential, innovative startup that is tech-enabled and focused on solving challenges/opportunities across the agriculture and food sector. Technology applications could be software, hardware, implements with tools such as AI, Big Data, IOT, Intelligent apps, robotics, drones, autonomy, sensors, block chain, food bio-processing technology, block chain and traceability and lots more! Some of the challenge areas we focus in on are drought resilience; soil health and nutrient management; crop protection and pest control; animal health; precision agriculture; alternative sustainable inputs; and waste-to-value and circular economies.

Eligibility is determined by the Queensland Government's Accelerating Female Founders Program:

- A Queensland female founder is a Queensland resident, female-identifying person acting as a sole founder, a co-founder, or in a leadership position (CEO, Director, Executive) within an innovative business or the innovation ecosystem.
- Innovation Driven Enterprise (IDE) - a business that emphasises innovative solutions as a key driver of growth, competitive advantage, and value creation. Such enterprises focus on developing and commercialising new products and/or services to achieve their strategic outcomes

More info: <https://advance.qld.gov.au/entrepreneurs-and-startups/backing-female-founders-program>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I apply?

We are currently accepting expressions of interest for our TEKWOMEN QLD Startup Studio . [Click here](#) to submit a simple Expression of interest. Alternatively, if you would like to talk with one of our program managers [Click Here](#)

How much does it cost?

Thanks to the support of the Advance Queensland Initiative, Accelerating Female Founders Program we are able to offer spots in our startup incubator at a subsidised rate of \$750.00 to Queensland based female-led agrifood-tech startups. Note spots in our programs are usually valued at \$10K+. For those female founders who have a genuine inability to pay, F2F will look to contribute where possible.

What is the time commitment of the program?

The TEKWOMEN QLD Startup Studio is a 15-month program that will offer a high degree of flexibility to participants including:

- Targeted cohort sprints
- Online and face to face elements in regional and metro locations
- Opt in learning modules and workshops
- Self-managed 1:1 coaching and mentoring

During weeks of more intense online programming we would look at a maximum of 2 hours per week of contact time.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I have to attend the in-person events and bootcamps?

Throughout the program we have face to face bootcamps and networking events. Through our funding partner we are able to provide contributions to your travel expenses. Whilst we strongly recommend you join these elements we understand that at times this may not be possible. We will provide as much flexibility as possible to each participant.

How many businesses are you accepting?

Your learning experience is our highest priority and the program is intentionally designed to provide 1-1 support. We will be accepting 12 spots in this program.

What will the virtual sessions look like?

The program is based on monthly sprints across a range of key business growth themes. During the month we will meet once a week- once a fortnight depending on the program schedule. Sessions are really interactive so you have lots of time for questions and discussion! We allow for content breaks and working weeks to help you execute your plan and your dedicated business coaching calls will be self-managed and booked in when suits.

What happens if I miss a session?

All our sessions will be recorded, but we recommend live participation to benefit from collaboration with your cohort. You will have access to our full E-learning system of content, resources and tools.

