

Overview

[Stanford Ignite](#) is a certificate program that teaches innovators to formulate, develop, and commercialize their ideas. In this program, participants are exposed to both the fundamentals of business, and the practical aspects of identifying and evaluating business ideas and moving them forward. The program uniquely combines current graduate students and entrepreneurs with innovators, scientists, and engineers from leading companies. It is intended for innovators who do not have graduate-level business degrees.

Stanford Ignite started in 2006 on the [Stanford campus](#) in Silicon Valley, and now is offered in global locations such as [Bangalore](#), [Beijing](#), [London](#), and [São Paulo](#). Since its launch, more than 2,000 participants from 30 Countries have completed the program, with over 30% whom are women.

Program Details

The program is taught by prominent [Stanford GSB faculty](#) and exposes participants to:

- Core business skills, such as marketing, operations, strategy, accounting, finance, and economics.
- Applied skills, such as negotiation, teamwork, public speaking, leadership, and pitching
- Approaches to product design and prototyping.
- Working in a team to develop a plan for commercializing a new product or service for an existing organization or a new venture.
- Prominent executives, business leaders, and venture capitalists will participate as guest speakers, expert panelists, and business mentors providing candid feedback throughout the venture-building process.

Program Impact

Past participants of Stanford Ignite have been able to launch incredibly successful businesses. In fact, some of these companies have even been acquired by companies like Google and Twitter. The program is also offered to U.S. military veterans to

bolster veterans' innovation and entrepreneurship knowledge and support their transition to from military to civilian life.

Examples of ventures and innovations coming out of Stanford Ignite include:

- A U.S. military veteran who launched a new product in November that uses voice-based threat detection to screen refugees and identify terrorists or other security threats.
- A Chinese Entrepreneur who built a speech-recognition app using big data and AI to foster a bilingual culture.

Stanford Ignite-Bangalore

Bangalore was the first global location offered outside of Stanford campus. Since its launch in 2013, 187 participants have completed the program, including 43 women.

Past participants have come from cities all over India and have represented dozens of notable companies. The next Stanford Ignite-Bangalore program will take place starting January 2018. Examples of ventures and innovations coming out of Stanford Ignite-Bangalore include:

- A liver transplant, pancreatic surgery and hepatobiliary doctor who created a low-cost health care program for a hospital in Bangalore that is now being implemented at hospitals in Africa.
- Flavour Labs, co-founded by a participant in the Bangalore program, was acquired in March by the food tech startup InnerChef.