

Stages		Overview					Benefits/Support That Can Be Provided									Revocation	
Stage	Expected Outcome	Objective	Key support mechanisms	Eligibility Criteria to Apply	Submission/proof requirement	Evaluation mechanism	Summary of support provided	Mentorship and PoC Requirements	KPIs and Performance Metrics	Monitoring Cadence	Attendance Waiver (AW)	Deferment Eligibility	Deferment Requirements	Funding and Grants	Eligibility to Build your own Startup In Internship Semester	Revocation Rules	Reinstatement
1. Idea	Problem discovery / early validation	Low-risk support to discover and validate problems; build confidence and checking for founders mindset	Mentorship (internal)	NA; Any enrolled student from any academic year across campuses	2-page Idea Brief; Idea Review checks problem definition, target customer, validation plan etc. Sample .	On-ground campus PoC approval and endorsement	A chance to build your own startup in the internship semester + Community events, NST mentor mapping, online resources, pitch-day slots, help finding co-founders	Access to NST Mentors (central or campus)	Validation milestone adherence; External feedback	Monthly progress report submission	NA	NA	NA	Eligible for micro-grants after pitch day in the next stages	5th/8th Semester; Subject to approval of submissions/proof required for the stage	NA; can still take general mentorship	NA
2. Prototype	MVP development / early prototyping	Support MVP building and technical feasibility	Financial benefits Academic Benefits (Attendance Waiver, Deferment, reinstatement) Mentorship (External + Internal mentors-Technical and Business) Note: *Students entering any stage directly must meet eligibility criteria for that stage *Students can still benefit from Internal mentorship without any Financial and academic benefits if they dont meet eligibility criteria.	Stage 1 eligibility + Passed in all courses at the time of application Disclaimer- Academic eligibility is required only if the student required academic benefits (AW, deferment consideration) Non-mandatory but good to have : External business assessment, Intent to pay, investor interest	MVP to be built/In-Progress: Problem and prototype plan; Milestone plan, demo/wireframes, mentor endorsement..	Entrepreneurship committee + Technical Code review	Previous stage support + on ground PoC, external mentors, platform credits, prototype grants, AW, workspace (campus-dependent)	Dedicated Mentor: Biweekly check-ins; PoC must validate AW feasibility	Milestone adherence; Prototype feasibility; market fit; Novelty; Scalability If Existing MVP: Above KPIs + Users onboarded; ICP identification proof	Bi-weekly updates; monthly external mentor sign-offs; committee review every 6-8 weeks; monthly check for contest performance of >40%	Case-by-case, decided by Entrepreneurship committee	Case-by-case; to be decided by the Entrepreneurship Committee	N/A (Unless direct investor interest, Automatically considers them to stage 3 rules)	Micro-grants and credits awarded on pitch-day with external mentor scoring	5th/8th Semester; Subject to approval of submissions/proof required for the stage	Academic Waiver: If 2 missed updates; ≥60% milestone adherence and/or failed in contests on monthly check; Failed in end-sem/mid-sem exams, Attendance waiver is revoked. Students must: 1. Continue with regular flow of academics (OR) 2. Apply for deferment in the next semester (refer to deferment eligibility)	NA
					MVP + at least one: LOI, revenue, signups; checklist covers architecture, security, tests, deployment and scalability plan + quarterly milestone plan + User base and initial revenue proof (if any)												
3. Building (MVP+ / Early Revenue)	Market readiness, traction and scale	Support validated prototypes moving to real users, LOIs, revenue		Previous stage eligibility + Passed in all courses at the time of application	Previous stage support + Case-by-case support, KPI-driven guidance, external mentorship, AW, Deferment option, Legal and IP registration support	Entrepreneurship committee + External members	Previous KPIs: signups, conversions, revenue, retention, quarterly milestones	Bi-weekly updates; Quarterly milestone review; monthly mentor sign-offs; Bi-weekly KPI checks	Case-by-case, decided by Entrepreneurship committee	Yes (Strict) Only in Sem 3 / Sem 5 / Sem 7 (not in Year 1)	Deferment form + re-entry agreement + Business plan, projections, LOIs/signups/revenue, endorsements, re-entry plan	Scaling grants, govt grant assistance, Legal and IP assistance grants, Micro-grants	5th/8th Semester; Subject to approval of submissions/proof required for the stage	Same triggers as previous stages + Deferment not approved if failure in end-sem and Mid-sem exams (Can still take general mentorship without benefits)	Students are reinstated back into the course in the same year/semester as in the deferment form.		

Definitions:
1. Entrepreneurship Committee: Campus Committee + Central Committee + External members (Technical/Business as per stated requirements)
2. AW: Attendance Waiver
3. Case-by-case: Special cases as per Entrepreneurship committee decision.

Overall Context: A stage based policy for a student entrepreneurship program that maps support to team maturity/stage at which they join the program. The sheet defines three stages: Idea, Prototype, Building/MVP, the type of support and benefits each stage receives (Mentorship, Financial, Academic and Infra), who is eligible, and the operational rules for attendance waivers, deferment, mentorship, and funding. It is built to make selection, approvals, and resource allocation into a repeatable playbook.

Overall Application Process:

1. Students that meet the eligibility criteria of any stage can apply to said stage directly.
2. Submission/Proof required for the applied stage is to be submitted.
3. Evaluation is done basis the mechanism set up for specific stages and benefits are extended to teams accordingly.
4. Once approved, KPIs and performance metrics are to be met according to the monitoring cadence to be eligible/continue to benefit from support mechanisms provided.
5. If eligibility criterias are not met on quarterly evaluations, stage wise benefits will be revoked (Case-by-case Subject to Entrepreneurship committee decisions).

Note: All Benefits/Support provided along with AW and deferment is decided by and subject to Entrepreneurship committee approval.