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| **FAQ** | **Answer** |
| Can providers submit bids for both start up support and scale up support? | Yes, if your organisation has the necessary capacity, skills and experience to support both start up and scale up activities. However, we anticipate that these types of businesses would require different levels of support than each other, as they will have different needs. Therefore, any bids should be separate.  |
| Should a separate bid be submitted for each lot? | Yes.  |
| How many lots are there?  | In total there are 3 types of lots you can bid for. There are no limits to the number of lots you wish to bid for. The lots are:* 1:2:1 support
* Workshop events
* Business accelerators

The threshold for each lot is £19,750.The lots are the same whether you are bidding to support start ups or scale ups.  |
| Can we bid for just one lot? | Yes. |
| Can we bid for one lot for start up support and other lots for scale up support? | Yes. Please ensure each lot is bid for separately. |
| Why is there a threshold of £19,750? | LLEP works in partnership with Leicester City Council as its accountable body. LLEP follows their procurement rules. Below the threshold, procurement can be managed locally and more quickly without the need to follow a full and lengthy tender process. Therefore, the maximum bids we will accept are £19,750.Please note that the original tender incorrectly states the threshold is £19,000. The correct threshold is £19,750. |
| Will you accept substantial proposals above the affordability threshold that will cover multiple lots? | No. Each bid must be beneath the threshold we set. |
| Can workshops for start-ups and high growth businesses be delivered as one single workshop?  | No. We believe that both start ups and scale ups will require bespoke support. Individual workshops should support either just start-ups or just scale-ups |
| Are businesses over 36 months old eligible for this support programme?  | No, this programme is targeting businesses which have been trading for no more than 36 months. |
| What is your definition of a start-up? | We are not providing a detailed definition of start ups as we feel different providers may work to different definitions. For a start up to be eligible for this support from this programme it must meet the following criteria:* Must be a trading business, not a pre start-up
* To have been trading for less than 36 months
* Be a registered UK company based in Leicester & Leicestershire
* Have a scalable business model
* Have a working prototype model of the product or service, preferably with active users
* Ability to commit to the length of the programme
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| Are you anticipating that support will be delivered live or via Teams? | We hope that at least some support can be delivered face to face in a blended delivery model. However, we understand that this may not be possible dependant upon the pandemic and the health and safety restrictions on site.  |
| Should our bid include all associated delivery costs (e.g. refreshments, venue hire) | Yes. |
| What level of peer to peer support do you anticipate be available as part of the programme? | We accept that providers may be running separate (closed) peer to peer support programmes to different cohorts of businesses simultaneously. However, we are hopeful that where possible, providers can open up their networks to businesses receiving support through this programme, and to give access to locally managed peer support networks and networking opportunities. |
| When do you expect the programme of support to begin? | We have specified the week of the 6th September, the exact start date will be agreed with each provider we contract with.  |