



Instructions for Applying to the Fall Cohort of cs/root

Thank you for your interest in applying to an upcoming cs/root cohort! This application form is to be completed by applicants to clarify the details and scope of their idea. Submissions will be reviewed May 1, 2023 (for the fall cohort) and December 1, 2023 (spring cohort). Please contact cs/root director James Harder for additional information or questions, jharder@vt.edu.

Name(s) - Please limit teams to four members:

Affiliation:

- VT Undergraduate
- VT Graduate Student
- Community Member
- Local University or College

What county do you live in (e.g. Pulaski, Montgomery, Floyd)?

What is the name of your startup?

What problem does your idea address? Who is the audience?]

What is your idea? How does it provide a distinctive solution?

What steps have you already taken to bring the idea to fruition? What types of skills and experiences do you have to help execute the idea? [Nothing is required, but please describe any progress that has been previously made.].

When and where do you plan to start the company?

What are your goals for participating in a cs/root cohort?

Additional Information - None required but please add any additional details or resources (website link, slide decks, etc)

FAQ

Who can apply to a cs/root cohort?

CS/root serves students (graduate and undergraduate), faculty, and members of the community, providing opportunities and support to develop and execute technical ideas. The community consists of the cities of Covington, Lynchburg, Radford, Roanoke, and Salem; and the counties of Alleghany, Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Botetourt, Campbell, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski, and Roanoke.

Who will review applications?

A small review team composed of the cs/root leadership, alumni mentors, and community advisors will review applications and, in some cases, setup interviews for potential cohort teams.

What do I need to apply?

The application can be found [here](#). Applicants should have basic information about their idea, the problem it solves, and why it is a distinctive solution. Pre-launch, early-stage, nascent ideas are encouraged and applicants are not required to have taken previous action.

When can I apply to a cs/root cohort?

Applications will be taken on a rolling basis; however, applications will be reviewed May 1st and December 1st of each year.

When will cs/root cohorts begin and what is the commitment level?

cs/root cohorts will begin in August 2023 and continue throughout the fall. A spring cohort will start in early 2024 for applications received in December 2023.

I already have a developed business, can I still apply to a cs/root cohort?

cs/root is intended to support pre-launch and early stage companies and ideas. However, cs/root acts as a hub for entrepreneurship and frequently coordinates with other business support organizations at Virginia Tech and the local community. Please feel free to reach out to the cs/root leadership team for advice for locating support for all stages of computer science businesses.

I've been accepted to cs/root. What can I expect to do in the cohort?

Teams will participate in:

- 1. Mentorship and advising from seasoned technical founders;*
- 2. Hands-on training and support to brainstorm, encourage, develop and implement new technical ideas; and*
- 3. Networking activities that encourage entrepreneurial mindshare and community among CS-focused entrepreneurs.*

Cohorts will meet several times a month and accepted teams will develop a consistent relationship with a mentor from their area of specialization.