

PLAINS VENTURES

Startup Toolkit

Oklahoma Founder Starter Kit

Everything you need to launch, grow, and fund your startup in Oklahoma.

plainsvc.com

WELCOME TO OKLAHOMA'S STARTUP ECOSYSTEM

Oklahoma is a growing hub for entrepreneurship with a network of accelerators, incubators, university research programs, and investors committed to building the next generation of high-growth companies.

This guide is your map. Whether you're pre-revenue with a fresh idea or preparing for your first institutional fundraise, the Oklahoma startup ecosystem has a program, a mentor, or capital provider for you.

We work most closely with i2E, a statewide nonprofit that supports founders from concept through scale but proudly partner with all entities working to make this ecosystem as robust and navigable as possible for our founders. Whether you were born here or have recently joined the growing wave of folks moving in from across the globe, we hope you reach out and take advantage of the resources available to help you on your way!

YOUR FRONT DOOR: THE OKLAHOMA COMMERCIALIZATION NETWORK

Not sure where to start? Start here.

The Oklahoma Commercialization Network (OCN) is a statewide initiative powered by OCAST (Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology) and led by i2E in partnership with Gradient, The Verge, and REI Oklahoma. OCN is the single-entry point into Oklahoma's entrepreneurial ecosystem — connecting tech-driven and scalable startups to the resources they need, when they need them.

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
OCAST	oklahoma.gov/ocast.html
Oklahoma Commercialization Network (OCN)	i2e.org/network

ACCELERATORS, BOOTCAMPS & STARTUP PROGRAMS

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
i2E — E3 Bootcamp	i2e.org/for-startups
gener8tor Oklahoma City	www.gener8tor.com/investment-accelerators/oklahoma-city
gBETA Oklahoma City	www.gener8tor.com/gbeta/oklahoma-city
Techstars Tulsa	www.techstars.com/accelerators/tulsa
Build in Tulsa	www.buildintulsa.com
NEOKC Renaissance — Oklahoma City Minority Founder Accelerator (OMFA)	www.neokcr.org/omfa
Oklahoma Farm Bureau — Ag Accelerator	www.okfarmbureau.org/accelerator
StitchCrew — Small Business	www.stitchcrew.com

VEST Her — Woman Founders

www.vesther.co

INCUBATORS, HUBS & WORKSPACES

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
Gradient — Tulsa	www.joingradient.com
The Verge OKC	www.vergeokc.com
Black Tech Street — Greenwood District, Tulsa	blacktechstreet.ai
Oklahoma Business Incubator Association (OKBIA)	www.okbia.org
OKC Innovation District	www.okcinnovation.com

FUNDING: GRANTS, LOANS & INVESTORS

Non-Dilutive Funding (Grants & Loans)

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
OCAST — Funding Programs	oklahoma.gov/ocast.html
REI Oklahoma — Business Lending	www.reiok.org/programs/rei-business-lending
Tulsa Economic Development Corporation (TEDC)	tedcnet.com
MetaFund	www.metafund.org
GrantVEST	www.grantvest.com

Venture Capital

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
Plains Ventures	plainsvc.com
Cortado Ventures	cortado.ventures
46 (FortySix) Capital	www.46.capital
Boyd Street Ventures	www.boydstreetventures.com
Oklahoma Life Science Fund (OLSF)	www.olsfventures.com
Victorum Capital	www.victorumcapital.com
VEST Her — Woman Founders	www.vesther.co/portfolio

UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH INSTITUTION RESOURCES

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
OSU Innovation Foundation & New Product Development Center	theinnovationfoundation.okstate.edu
OCU Law — Collab Clinic	law.okcu.edu/collab-clinic
Meinders School of Business at OCU	www.okcu.edu/business
University of Tulsa Research	utulsa.edu/research

SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
Oklahoma SBDC	www.oksbdc.org
REI Oklahoma — Business Resource Center	www.reiok.org/programs/programsandservices
StartupTulsa	www.startuptul.com
OK Catalyst	www.okcatalyst.com
Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance	www.okalliance.com
Oklahoma Department of Commerce	okcommerce.gov

TRIBAL NATION BUSINESS RESOURCES

Oklahoma is home to 39 federally recognized tribal nations, several of which offer meaningful economic development and entrepreneurship resources — particularly for founders with tribal affiliation or operating in tribal jurisdictions.

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
Chickasaw Nation — Business & Commerce	www.chickasaw.net/Services/Enterprises-Commerce.aspx
Choctaw Nation — Small Business Development	www.choctawnation.com

LEGAL SERVICES FOR STARTUPS

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
Dunlap Codding	dunlapcodding.com
McAfee & Taft	www.mcafeetaft.com
Head, Johnson, Kachigian & Wilkinson PC	www.hjkwlaw.com
OCU Law — Collab Clinic	law.okcu.edu/collab-clinic

KEY EVENTS & COMPETITIONS

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
1 Million Cups — OKC & Tulsa	www.1millioncups.com
Pitches, Pizza & Pints — The Verge OKC	www.vergeokc.com/news-events
Startup Grind Oklahoma	www.joingradient.com
i2E Entrepreneur's Cup (college students only)	i2e.org/entrepreneurs-cup

BEYOND OKLAHOMA: NATIONAL PROGRAMS WORTH KNOWING:

Non-Dilutive Federal Funding

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
SBIR / STTR — America's Seed Fund	www.sbir.gov
NSF — America's Seed Fund (NSF SBIR/STTR)	seedfund.nsf.gov
SBA Resources	www.sba.gov

National Accelerators & Networks

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
Y Combinator	www.ycombinator.com
Founders Network	foundersnetwork.com
Endeavor Oklahoma	endeavor.org

WORKING WITH PLAINS VENTURES

Plains Ventures is an early-stage venture capital firm investing in startups across Oklahoma and the surrounding region. Here's what we look for and how to work with us.

What We Look For

- Scalable, technology-enabled business models
- Founders with deep domain expertise or unique insight into their market
- Evidence of customer pull — early revenue, LOIs, or pilot agreements
- A market large enough to support a venture-scale outcome
- Founders who are coachable, resourceful, and relentlessly focused

Our Investment Process

- Initial meeting or pitch — 30–45 minutes to understand your business
- Due diligence — team, market, technology, financials, and customers
- Term sheet — if we decide to move forward
- Close — typically 4–8 weeks from first meeting

How to Reach Us

The best path to Plains Ventures is through the i2E network. If you've completed E3 or are active in the Oklahoma startup ecosystem, we're already paying attention. You can also reach us directly:

plainsvc.com

Plains Ventures is the investment arm of i2E. We're invested in Oklahoma's long-term success as a startup state, not just as a fund, but as community members.

plainsvc.com | i2e.org