Application Details

Applicants Must

1. Have an innovative idea
2. Have the capacity to complete the specific project objectives submitted within one year (two semesters)
3. Be a project team (1+ people) preferably led by a current U of A Engineering student
4. The application must detail a project that falls outside of your current class projects.

Application Process (approx 2-3 weeks)

1. Complete the Online Application Form.
2. Within 1 to 2 weeks, suitable applications will be selected.
3. Applicants will be contacted to schedule a pitch meeting where they will have the opportunity to present their proposal.
4. Applicants will be contacted with a notice of acceptance or rejection.

Selection Criteria

1. Team - applicant has the skills, knowledge and capacity to undertake the project.
2. Project concept and opportunity - suitable projects will have an innovative idea or solution. The project should identify a specific opportunity or need.
3. Feasibility and capacity - accepted projects will have specific objectives that can be feasibly completed within two semesters and with the resources available through the program.

The number of projects that can be accepted is limited. Applications will be evaluated as they are submitted. Not all projects will be accepted. Evaluation will be based on the proposal-resource fit, rather than the perceived value of the idea. Note that access to the Pod requires a valid, active OneCard (available to students, alumni, faculty).
What to expect

Accepted projects will have access to following:

1. Lab space for prototyping and experimentation. Technicians and faculty may occasionally be available, however teams are responsible for lab maintenance and operation of all equipment and tools.
2. Teams will have access to workspace for prototyping, assembly, and collaboration.
3. Storage space may be available on a first-come-first-served basis.
4. Mentorship through approximately 2-4 hours per month with a matched mentor.
5. Office hours may be available weekly for general advice and support with projects.
6. Project teams will have access to workshops, seminars, and events throughout the semester.
7. The support team and mentors will endeavour to provide other resources as required for specific projects.
8. Project teams with ongoing activities may spend up to three semesters in the Pod.
9. Project teams are expected to contribute to improving the physical space of the lab in a supportive team atmosphere with other project teams.

*Some consumables will be available in the lab. In general material and project costs are the responsibility of project teams.*