

The Social Innovators Program

To Earn a Certificate in Social Entrepreneurship from the University of Pennsylvania



Schoolyard Ventures

Admission Process

George School students may apply online at: www.schoolyardventures.com/george

Applications must be submitted by 11:59pm on Wednesday, June 3, 2020. Phone admissions interviews will be scheduled with students after their applications are received. Please note, this program will reach capacity quickly, so students are encouraged to apply early.

The Social Innovators Program allows students to learn about entrepreneurship and experience it first-hand while earning a Certificate in Social Entrepreneurship from the University of Pennsylvania. During the twelve-week program, students learn how to launch ventures of their own that create value and a positive impact on society.

The Entrepreneurial Mindset

Entrepreneurship is much more than merely learning how to start a business. It's a mindset—a creative problem-solving framework that can be applied to any number of situations and opportunities—and it's fundamental to students' long-term success in school, work, and life. It allows them to see opportunities where others don't, make risk-adjusted decisions, persevere through adversity, and communicate effectively with stakeholders and the public.

The Social Innovators Program is a partnership between the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice, George School, and Schoolyard Ventures, an organization that develops university-level, real-world learning opportunities for ambitious high school students. Developing an entrepreneurial mindset while in high school gives students substantive differentiation from their peers, better insight into their future educational and career opportunities, and more grit and resilience to accomplish their goals.

Program Details

The twelve-week program is a virtual program (online). Lessons will be viewed online and include engaging interviews and case studies with young entrepreneurs. During recitations, students will participate in live online group discussions led by Schoolyard Ventures staff. Students will also have continual access to personalized guidance and support from the whole Schoolyard Ventures team. Because students choose their own projects, each student's experience in the program is unique to his or her interests and goals. Schoolyard Ventures has helped students launch ventures ranging from tech companies and fashion retailers, to community-based non-profits and social movements. Students are encouraged to find something that sparks their curiosity and to use intrinsic motivation as the basis for developing an entrepreneurial mindset.

At the end of the program, students will present their work and most importantly, their personal development. Students who successfully complete the requirements of the course will earn a twelve-week Certificate in Social Entrepreneurship from the University of Pennsylvania.

2020 Fall Term

September 1 - November 20

Important Dates

Application Deadline

Wednesday, June 3 at 11:59pm

Virtual Program Kick-Off

Three Options: September 1, 2, or 3 at 7pm

Weekly Virtual Recitations

Week of September 7 through week of November 16

Once accepted into the program, each student will have the opportunity to select a recitation day and time. They will be given several options—all one-hour slots during weekday evenings. While students are expected to attend all of their scheduled recitations, one-time conflicts can be accommodated with enough notice, and students will be allowed to attend alternate recitations.

Program Cost

Tuition for the 12-week program is \$2,195. George School students receive a discounted tuition of \$1,925. A 50 percent deposit is due upon acceptance, and the balance is due by August 15. Financial assistance is available for students receiving tuition assistance from George School.

Questions

Contact Rich Sedmak at rich@schoolyardventures.com or 267-481-1696.

Informational Webinar for Parents and Students

Prospective students and their parents are invited to attend a webinar with Schoolyard Ventures Director Rich Sedmak on May 20 at 7pm or May 27 at 7pm. For more info and to register, visit: www.schoolyardventures.com/georgewebinar