

SKY HIGH VENTURES

Founder Application

Six-month venture-building programme

This is **not** the application form, this is just providing you with the questions so you can be ready when online.

1. About You

Full name	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Email address	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Mobile number	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
University	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Degree programme	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Year of study	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Expected graduation date	<i>DD / MM / YYYY</i>
LinkedIn profile	<i>Insert URL.</i>
Website, portfolio or relevant social profile	<i>Optional - insert URL(s).</i>

2. Application Route and Team Status

You do not need a startup idea or an existing team to apply. During induction, we will bring selected founders together and form teams around complementary skills, experience and potential.

How are you applying?

- ☐ As an individual and I would like to be matched to a team.
- ☐ As an individual with a venture idea.
- ☐ As part of an existing team.

If you are applying as part of an existing team, list the names and universities of the other team members. | Optional

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Do you currently have a venture idea?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, provide a working title and a one-sentence summary. | Maximum 50 words | Optional

Click or tap here to enter your response.

3. What You Bring

Select every area in which you can make a credible contribution. You will provide detailed evidence for your three strongest areas below.

☐ Leadership	☐ Software development	☐ Artificial intelligence
☐ Sales	☐ Marketing	☐ Design / UX
☐ Product development	☐ Engineering	☐ Finance
☐ Public speaking	☐ Networking	☐ Operations
☐ Strategy	☐ Research	☐ Data analysis
☐ Other		

For your three strongest areas, provide specific evidence, the result achieved and how long you have developed the skill.

Skill	Evidence and your personal contribution	Measurable result	Time developing
<i>Skill 1</i>	<i>Enter evidence.</i>	<i>Enter result.</i>	<i>Years / months</i>
<i>Skill 2</i>	<i>Enter evidence.</i>	<i>Enter result.</i>	<i>Years / months</i>
<i>Skill 3</i>	<i>Enter evidence.</i>	<i>Enter result.</i>	<i>Years / months</i>

What do people usually come to you for help with? / *Maximum 150 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Which skills are you currently developing, and why do they matter to you? / *Maximum 150 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

4. Evidence of Achievement

Rather than telling us how good you are, show us. Focus on difficulty, personal action, persistence and measurable outcomes.

What is the hardest thing you have ever accomplished? Explain why it was difficult, what you did and the outcome. / *Maximum 300 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Tell us about something you have built from scratch. / *Maximum 300 words*

Examples may include a business, software product, charity, event, society, community, website, YouTube channel or app.

Click or tap here to enter your response.

What achievement are you most proud of, and why? / *Maximum 200 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Have you ever sold anything?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, describe what you sold, your personal role and the result. / *Maximum 200 words / Optional*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Have you ever led a team?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, describe the team, your role, the challenge and the outcome. / *Maximum 200 words / Optional*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Tell us about an important failure. What happened, what did you learn and what did you change afterwards? / *Maximum 250 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

5. Entrepreneurial Experience

Select every activity you have completed. Formal business experience is not required; we are interested in evidence that you take initiative and make things happen.

☐ Started a business	☐ Freelanced	☐ Built software
☐ Designed a product	☐ Managed people	☐ Raised money
☐ Organised an event	☐ Ran a society	☐ Created online content
☐ Built an audience	☐ Made sales	☐ Negotiated a deal
☐ Won a competition	☐ Applied for funding	☐ Managed a budget

Choose up to three of the activities selected above. For each, explain the context, what you personally did, the result and what you learned.

Experience 1 | *Maximum 200 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Experience 2 | *Maximum 200 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Experience 3 | *Maximum 200 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

6. Learning Mindset

Which source or experience has had the greatest impact on your thinking? Explain what changed as a result. | *Maximum 200 words*

This could be a book, course, article, mentor, conversation, project or lived experience.

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Which podcasts, newsletters or other sources do you follow regularly? List up to three and explain the value of each. | *Maximum 150 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Which entrepreneurs or business leaders do you admire? Select no more than two and explain why. | *Maximum 200 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

What new skill have you taught yourself in the last 12 months? Explain how you learned it and provide evidence that you can use it. | Maximum 250 words

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Tell us something interesting you have learned recently. Why does it matter, and how might you apply it? | Maximum 150 words

Click or tap here to enter your response.

7. Drive and Commitment

The programme runs for six months and requires a minimum commitment of 20 hours per week. Core sessions take place in Birmingham, and consistent attendance is expected alongside your academic responsibilities.

How will you protect and use 20 hours each week, including during assessment and examination periods? | Maximum 300 words

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Have you previously committed 20 or more hours per week to a project outside your normal studies or employment?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Describe the example and outcome. If no, describe the closest comparable commitment you have made. | Maximum 200 words

Click or tap here to enter your response.

What would you do if your first five business ideas failed? / *Maximum 200 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Which statement best describes you?

- ☐ I prefer certainty.
- ☐ I enjoy calculated risk.
- ☐ I actively seek difficult challenges.

Explain your choice using a real example. / *Maximum 200 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

8. Self-Assessment and Role Fit

Rate yourself from 1 to 10, where 1 means limited current evidence, 5 means developing competence and 10 means exceptional, repeatable performance. Scores of 9 or 10 must be supported by evidence.

Capability	Score (1-10)	Evidence required for a score of 9 or 10
Leadership	<i>Enter score</i>	<i>Enter evidence if applicable.</i>
Communication	<i>Enter score</i>	<i>Enter evidence if applicable.</i>
Sales	<i>Enter score</i>	<i>Enter evidence if applicable.</i>
Technical ability	<i>Enter score</i>	<i>Enter evidence if applicable.</i>
Creativity	<i>Enter score</i>	<i>Enter evidence if applicable.</i>
Problem solving	<i>Enter score</i>	<i>Enter evidence if applicable.</i>
Resilience	<i>Enter score</i>	<i>Enter evidence if applicable.</i>
Commercial awareness	<i>Enter score</i>	<i>Enter evidence if applicable.</i>
Learning speed	<i>Enter score</i>	<i>Enter evidence if applicable.</i>
Work ethic	<i>Enter score</i>	<i>Enter evidence if applicable.</i>

Preferred area of accountability

Select a first and second preference. These preferences will inform team formation but do not guarantee a particular role.

Role	Primary accountability	1st	2nd
Venture Lead	Strategy, operations and team performance.	☐	☐
Product and Technology Lead	Customer problem, product, technology and delivery.	☐	☐
Growth Lead	Customer discovery, marketing, partnerships and sales.	☐	☐
Commercial and Finance Lead	Business model, pricing, finance, investment and governance.	☐	☐

Explain your role preferences and the evidence that supports them. / *Maximum 250 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Describe a decision you made using data or other evidence. What information did you use, what conclusion did you reach and what happened? / *Maximum 250 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

9. Why Sky High Ventures?

Why should we choose you over hundreds of other applicants? / *Maximum 500 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

What unique value would you bring to a venture team? / *Maximum 250 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

If we could remember only one thing about you after reading this application, what should it be? / *Maximum 100 words*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Is there anything else you would like us to know? / *Maximum 250 words / Optional*

Click or tap here to enter your response.

Video Submission

Upload a video of no more than three minutes and provide an accessible link below. Test the link in a private browser window before submitting so reviewers can open it without requesting permission.

In your video, answer the following questions:

1. Who are you?
2. What are you exceptional at?
3. What have you achieved that proves it?
4. Why do you want to join Sky High Ventures?
5. Why should we select you?

Video URL

Insert accessible URL.

Applicant Declaration

Please confirm each statement, then sign and date the application.

- ☐ I understand that the programme runs for six months.
- ☐ I understand that sessions are delivered in Birmingham and attendance is expected throughout the programme.
- ☐ I will participate in Induction Day.
- ☐ I will present at two public Progress Days.
- ☐ I understand that the programme focuses on building ventures with the potential to scale beyond £100 million.
- ☐ If accepted, I agree in principle to provide 20% equity in the venture in return for participation and support.
- ☐ I agree to the declarations above.

Applicant name	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>
Signature	<i>Sign electronically or by hand.</i>
Date	<i>DD / MM / YYYY</i>