

New programme for biotech start-ups with opportunity for £10,000 award • DATA accelerator programme launches for data-enabled drug discovery, genomics and advanced therapies start-ups • Introductions to investors, plus mentoring, skills training and networking • £10,000 award for the start-up with the best pitch

Stevenage Bioscience Catalyst (SBC) has launched an accelerator programme to give start-ups working on data-enabled drug discovery, genomics and advanced therapies the skills they need to get potential new drugs and therapies to market more quickly.

The programme, which is offered at no cost, runs from May and is aimed at supporting start-up companies working to discover new drugs and therapies. Those selected will take part in an 18-week programme giving them the opportunity to network and learn from experts in the pharmaceutical and biotech industries. Start-ups will be able to build their expertise in structuring deals, accessing data, intellectual property and attracting funding. At the end of the programme, founders will have the chance to pitch their idea in front of leading investors and pharmaceutical experts.

Dr Sally Ann Forsyth OBE, CEO at SBC, said, “At Stevenage Bioscience Catalyst, we are committed to enabling life science companies to connect, grow and succeed at every stage of their development. We are absolutely delighted to launch this programme which will help start-ups build their expertise, supporting them to establish the funding and relationships they need to move to the next level. In addition, the start-up with the best pitch at the end of the programme will be awarded £10,000 to continue their development.”

SBC first launched the DATA accelerator programme in 2021. 15 start-ups were selected to take part.

Dr Noor Shaker, CEO and Founder of Glamorous AI, commented, “Before being acquired by X-Chem, Glamorous AI took part in SBC’s DATA accelerator programme. Through the programme we have been able to expand our network and attend expert talks by thought leaders in the pharma and biotech industry.”

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