



Ignition Programme SBIC Noordwijk 2026

General Terms and Conditions

1. Background and introduction

The Ignition Programme offers dedicated training with a core programme of 4 days (spread over 4 weeks), consisting of workshops and expert sessions, with an exciting pitch competition to close proceedings on the last day. The goal of the programme is to develop and strengthen promising ideas by guiding startups through the what, how and why of market validation. In 2026, there are two editions of the programme: one in Spring and one in Fall. (These are ESA-supported editions and take place prior to the ESA BIC Noordwijk selection deadlines.)

The programme aims to:

- facilitate startups to accelerate their market entry; and
- support startups with the application process for ESA BIC Noordwijk.

Our mission is to be the space hub for technology transfer. We support startups that use space technologies by offering access to an international network, tools, knowledge and finance.

The Ignition Programme is organised by Space Business Innovation Centre Noordwijk, Kapteynstraat 1, 2201 BB, Netherlands (hereinafter: "SBIC"). SBIC manages this pre-incubation programme in collaboration with several other parties.

These General Terms and Conditions relate to the Ignition Programme and operate for the benefit of SBIC Noordwijk, ESA BIC Noordwijk and ESA BIC Noordwijk partners who contribute to or are involved in the administration, operation and maintenance of the Ignition Programme.

Please read these General Terms and Conditions carefully. By submitting the entry via the online form to the Ignition Programme, the participant agrees to the applicability of these General Terms and Conditions and will fully comply with them.

2. Eligibility for the Ignition Programme

Participants can only enter the programme if they meet **one** of these three initial criteria:

- The applicant is a startup not older than 3 years with a product or service that is based on a transfer of space technology to and/or utilisation of a space system in a non-space environment; or
- The applicant is a startup not older than 3 years with a product or service that is based on exploitation of non-space technology in the space market (spin-in); or
- The applicant is a natural person with the intention to set up a space related startup.

And additionally meet **all** of the following criteria:

- The applicant is an EU citizen and must be a permanent resident of the Netherlands. In case the application is done by natural persons who are not EU citizens, these need a permanent working permit in the Netherlands.
- The applicant runs their startup at their own risk. In practice, this means that more than half of the shares are to be owned by the entrepreneur(s) that apply.
- A product–market fit and/or space connection needs to be validated.

The applicant cannot enter the programme if the participant has already been accepted into ESA BIC Noordwijk or another ESA BIC location or has participated in an ESA BIC in previous years.

Unless otherwise stated by SBIC, applicants and participants are responsible for all costs and expenses connected to their entry into the programme.

SBIC is at any time free to deviate from the above registration requirements and is free to accept applicants on other criteria.

3. Submitting an entry

- a. In order to submit a business proposal, the applicant must fill in all mandatory fields and answer all questions within the relevant application form.
- b. Entries must be submitted in English.

4. Timeline

An intensive, multiple-day programme brings the participant knowledge, resources, tools and the coaching a startup needs for success. Startups (“teams”) will be taught and guided by several experts during the workshops and individual meetings.

The programme will be run in accordance with the following indicative timeline. SBIC reserves the right to change any of the timeframes indicated on their programme website.

The **Ignition Programme 2026, Spring Edition** will be held on the (compulsory) core programme dates will be on the following days at SBIC (between 10:00 and 16:00) during Feb/Mar on the dates:

- Fri 20 Feb
- Fri 27 Feb
- Fri 6 Mar
- Tue 10 Mar

The **Ignition Programme 2026, Fall Edition** will be held on the (compulsory) core programme dates will be on the following days at SBIC (between 10:00 and 16:00) during Aug/Sep on the dates:

- Fri 21 Aug
- Fri 28 Aug
- Fri 4 Sep
- Fri 11 Sep

5. Venue of the Ignition Programme

The Ignition Programme generally takes place at:

Space Business Innovation Centre Noordwijk
Kapteynstraat 1, Suite 140
Meeting Space 01
2201 BB Noordwijk

If there are any (optional) sessions that may be held online, SBIC will inform participants in advance.

Important note:

When a participant accepts a spot in the programme, the participant agrees to these additional terms and conditions:

- Attendance and active participation on all compulsory dates of the programme (in person at SBIC and with at least one person per team and max. 4 persons per team).
- Willingness to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) by 20 Feb 2026 (Spring Edition) and 21 Aug 2026 (Fall Edition).

6. Selecting the teams

- a. SBIC will decide which entries best meets the assessment criteria.
- b. Decisions made by SBIC are final. There is no possibility to challenge this decision nor will SBIC respond to any correspondence about these decisions.
- c. Whenever SBIC needs to contact the participant regarding and/or during the programme, SBIC will use the contact information provided by the participant in the application form. We are not responsible for incomplete or incorrect contact information provided.

7. Attendance

Participants are expected to attend every session of the Ignition Programme, as full attendance is essential to make the most of the time and resources invested in the programme.

8. Intellectual property rights, information and publicity

- a. The participant confirms by entering the programme that, to the best of their knowledge, the participant owns all Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) subsisting in their entry to the programme and that their entry does not infringe any third party IPRs.
- b. The participant is responsible for obtaining any necessary permission from third parties to use their IPRs in the submission. SBIC reserves the right to disclose the identity of the participant to any third party claiming material posted or uploaded by the participant to the programme website constitutes a violation of their IPRs or their confidentiality/privacy rights.
- c. SBIC reserves the right to ask for additional evidence or documents to validate that all information the participant supply is true and complete.
- d. Subject to the terms of this clause 8, SBIC recognises the ownership of the participant of the IPRs subsisting in the entry of the participant to the programme.

9. Non-disclosure

- a. Parties to these General Terms and Conditions are not permitted to disclose or otherwise make available to third parties any information, data, ideas, teaching materials or any other form of confidential data relating to the Ignition Programme, except if Article 9b applies.
- b. SBIC is permitted to share the information submitted in the application form with trainers and experts of the Ignition Programme. The information will be used for the purpose of examining the participant's proposal, including the market potential and current competition and to provide information of the participant to trainers and experts of the Ignition Programme.
- c. The provisions of this article are applicable from the moment the application form is sent and do not end when the programme is finished.
- d. When the Ignition Programme has ended, the participants of the Ignition Programme must return any material provided by SBIC at the first request of SBIC.
- e. The participant is liable for all damages, both direct and consequential damage, suffered by the participant as a result of a failure in the performance of the obligations and/or any wrongful act or omission by the participant.

10. Changes and programme cancellation

- a. SBIC may cancel the programme or vary these General Terms and Conditions at any time at our discretion. SBIC will notify the participant of any changes to these General Terms and Conditions and post these on the website.
- b. SBIC reserves the right to suspend the programme at any time and to change the form and substance, dates for deadlines and events, locations or specification of the programme.

11. Personal data

- a. Unless stated otherwise, information (including personal information) submitted in any entry will be used by SBIC.
- b. By submitting the entry to the programme, the participant authorises SBIC to use the information provided by the participant in the entry and during the participation in the programme (including personal details, logos and photos uploaded by the participant and taken during events) for the purposes of administering and judging the programme, for any purpose connected to the programme and for promotional purposes. SBIC may share this information with anyone who is involved in the programme.

12. Liability

- a. Any liability on the part of SBIC for any reason or damage whatsoever is excluded.
- b. The participant indemnifies SBIC against all claims by third parties, including the costs of legal assistance, relating to or arising from participation in the Ignition Programme.

13. Questions

If you have further questions about the operation of the programme, please contact:

Space Business Innovation Centre Noordwijk

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