

# Mastercard Foundation EdTech fellowship to uplift startups

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**A**pplications are now open for the Mastercard Foundation EdTech Fellowship (Uganda), a flagship initiative designed to accelerate growth-stage education technology ventures that are reshaping learning outcomes across the country.

The fellowship comes at a critical time when Uganda's education sector is increasingly embracing digital solutions to address access, quality, and relevance in learning.

The programme targets Ugandan EdTech startups that have moved beyond the

idea stage and are ready to scale their impact. Successful applicants stand to receive up to \$70,000 (about sh249m) in equity-free funding, providing much-needed capital to expand product development, strengthen operations, and reach new markets without giving up ownership. For many founders, this funding represents a rare opportunity to grow sustainably while retaining full control of their enterprises.

Beyond financial support, the fellowship offers comprehensive, hands-on mentorship tailored to the needs of each venture. Fellows will receive technical

assistance in areas such as business strategy, product-market fit, governance, and financial management. A core focus of the fellowship is supporting innovations that tackle Uganda's most pressing education challenges. Priority is given to solutions that improve access to education, enhance the quality and relevance of learning, and promote inclusion, particularly for underserved and marginalised communities. EdTech products that strengthen teacher effectiveness, expand digital learning opportunities, and equip young people with future-ready skills are

FOR A START  
**\$70,000**



especially encouraged.

Participants will undertake an intensive fellowship journey that includes business diagnostics, user-centred design support, and product refinement.

Through investor

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readiness training, startups will be prepared to engage with potential funders and strategic partners. Curated partnerships with education stakeholders also provide opportunities to pilot solutions in real learning

environments, enabling founders to validate and scale their innovations.

The fellowship further connects Ugandan startups to regional and global EdTech networks supported by the Mastercard Foundation.

Applications are open until February 5, 2026. Growth-stage EdTech ventures operating in Uganda are encouraged to apply.

More details on eligibility criteria and the application process are available through the official Mastercard Foundation EdTech Fellowship platform at <https://wp.me/p23f03-ik2>