

Cultivo® Virtual Academy is a unique opportunity for global scaleups preparing for their entry into the U.S. agriculture, food or bioscience market. The tuition-based program connects entrepreneurs and founders with Iowa leaders for networking, learning and exposure to U.S. financing, regulatory and market systems.

## What makes Cultivo unique?

Cultivo is the only program geared specifically to help global scaleup companies bring their innovations and ideas to the U.S. marketplace. By providing insights and connections to our premier U.S. location for food and agriculture innovation, research and production, we can help founders broaden adoption of their technology more quickly.

## How is the program structured?

During the six-week program, cohort members meet online for 2.5 hours each week with agricultural leaders, startup community members, researchers and farmers. Each weekly session features presentations, roundtable discussions and Q&A opportunities focused on a topic relevant to the U.S. agricultural marketplace, including regulatory requirements, customer perspectives, financing and employment.

Cohort members are also connected with Iowa business and research leaders in their company's area of focus for one-on-one conversations.

## How is Cultivo different than accelerator programs?

Cultivo Virtual Academy is a tuition-based program that provides targeted curriculum and resources for scaleup companies ready to enter the U.S. marketplace. For 2024, tuition is \$2,000 USD.

## At what stage should my company apply for the program?

Cultivo is designed for companies preparing for U.S. market entry in the next one-to-three years.

## How do I make connections in the program?

In addition to the Iowa business, university and government leaders who cohort members interact with during virtual sessions, each cohort member will be connected with a minimum of three individual researchers, company or organization leaders and others who have specific expertise or interest in the company's business or research focus. These individual phone or video conversations allow cohort members to dive deeper into topics that are relevant to their business and market entry activities.



## Why Iowa?

Iowa's leadership in agriculture, food and bioscience is unique and unmatched, making it the perfect host for a program that connects problem solvers with the tools they need to be successful. The combination of geographic location, abundant crop and livestock production and exports, along with leading companies, researchers and forward thinking farmers, make Iowa second to none for global agriculture.

The dominance of Iowa State University as a leading research university is another reason. The state's growing ecosystem to support and develop agriculture and bioscience startup companies also provides unmatched resources to companies looking to bring their innovations and technologies to the U.S. marketplace.



*"Cultivo is the first step to entering the U.S. market. It offered a high level of learning and education and I made connections internationally with companies both in the U.S. and Brazil."*

- **Dagon Riebiero,**  
Co-Founder, Biotecland  
Cultivo Graduate

## What is America's Cultivation Corridor?

America's Cultivation Corridor is the premier region for agricultural bioscience research, development and entrepreneurship thanks to world class innovation and global leadership of Iowa's individuals, organizations and companies.

Investors and partners in the Corridor are working together to accelerate the development of new technologies, strengthen Iowa's agriculture bioscience workforce, attract economic development and connect the state's leadership and resources with the world.

Stakeholder organizations of America's Cultivation Corridor include Iowa State University, Corteva Agriscience, Deere & Company, Greater Des Moines Partnership, Iowa Pork Producers Association, Kent Corporation, MidAmerican Energy, Ames Economic Development Corporation, Hy-Vee, Iowa Corn Promotion Board, ISG, Chevron Renewable Energy Group, Scoular, and Sukup Manufacturing Co.



## Apply Today

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.

Submit your interest form at:

[cultivationcorridor.org/cultivo-global](http://cultivationcorridor.org/cultivo-global)

## CONTACT US

America's Cultivation Corridor  
Billi Hunt, Executive Director

Phone: (515) 337-2387

Email: [bhunt@cultivationcorridor.org](mailto:bhunt@cultivationcorridor.org)

Website: [cultivationcorridor.org/cultivo-global](http://cultivationcorridor.org/cultivo-global)

