



The Judd Leighton  
Foundation Inc.

**elevate**  
ventures

PROVIDING ACCESS TO CAPITAL FOR ENTREPRENEURS  
WITHIN THE STARTUP SOUTH BEND-ELKHART REGION



# LEAD Fund

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The Leighton Elevate Angel Development (LEAD) Fund is a \$1M evergreen co-investment fund formed by the Judd Leighton Foundation and managed by Elevate Ventures.

The LEAD Fund invests anywhere from \$50K-\$200K on a co-investment basis with other investors into high-potential, high-growth early-stage startups.

Companies should have ties to Elkhart, Marshall, or St. Joseph counties, but opportunities from across Indiana may be considered.

The primary objective of this fund is to provide entrepreneurs within the Startup South Bend-Elkhart region access to capital.

## FUND SUMMARY

QUALIFYING COMPANIES MUST BE IN ONE OF THESE COUNTIES:

**Elkhart | Marshall | St. Joseph**

TARGET  
DEAL SIZE:  
**\$50K-  
\$200K**

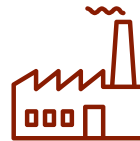
TARGET DEAL STAGE:  
**Seed-stage venture-  
potential opportunities  
raising less than \$1M**

**CO-INVESTMENT: All opportunities  
must have no less than a 1:1 co-  
investment with other investors**

## SECTOR FOCUS



Advanced  
Food &  
Agriculture



Advanced  
Manufacturing/  
Defense/  
Aerospace



Drug  
Development/  
Life Science/  
Medical Device



Technology-  
Enabled  
Products &  
Services/  
Security

Visit [ElevateVentures.com](https://ElevateVentures.com) for more information!

## PROCESS

- 1 CONNECT WITH NICHOLAS KUHN, ENTREPRENEUR-IN-RESIDENCE AT ELEVATE VENTURES AND SUBMIT APPLICATION WITH COMPANY PITCH DECK, INDIANA BUSINESS REGISTRATION AND CAPITALIZATION TABLE
- 2 VETTING BY THE ENTREPRENEUR-IN-RESIDENCE
- 3 PRESENTATION TO LEAD FUND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE
- 4 DUE DILIGENCE BY ELEVATE VENTURES
- 5 LEAD FUND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE FINAL REVIEW
- 6 CLOSING
- 7 QUARTERLY REPORTING TO ELEVATE VENTURES



Scan the QR code or visit  
[ElevateVentures.com/LEAD](https://ElevateVentures.com/LEAD)  
to apply!

## ESTIMATED TIMELINE

6-10 weeks from initial deck submission to closing. The timeline may be substantially extended if the deck needs to go through multiple rounds of revisions or if due diligence information is not provided in a timely manner.

Contact Nicholas Kuhn at [nkuhn@elevateventures.com](mailto:nkuhn@elevateventures.com) to learn more.



## **CONTACT ELEVATE VENTURES**

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