

## MassNextGen

The MLSC is committed to a life sciences ecosystem that is diverse, inclusive, and equitable for all members of this industry. To ensure we continue to shift the paradigm, the Massachusetts Next Generation (MassNextGen) Initiative has expanded to support a larger and more diverse pool of entrepreneurs.

Awardees of the program will receive a year-long customized package of support, which includes non-dilutive grant funding, lab bench space at a sponsoring incubator, and access to a network of seasoned professionals from the life sciences ecosystem helping them to refine their business strategies and effectively raise capital.

## Customized Support

- Funding up to \$100,000 per awardee, which may include in-kind support from program sponsors
- Coaching from a network of seasoned entrepreneurs, executive coach, sponsors, and life sciences investors
- Community, connections, and peer-to-peer knowledge sharing
- A “pitch” showcase event for awardees to highlight their company to sponsors, awardees, and representatives of venture capital firms at the end of the program year and build relationships
- Visibility within the life sciences industry including press

## Who is Eligible

The MLSC and its MassNextGen sponsors invite applications from all life sciences entrepreneurs that identify as:

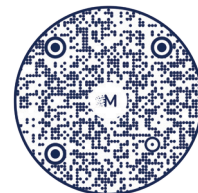
- Arab American, Middle Eastern and North African American
- Asian American, Pacific Islander, or Native Hawaiian
- Black, African American, or Afro Caribbean
- Female
- Hispanic, Hispanic American, or Latinx/Latin
- Indigenous, Native American, or First Nation
- LGBTQIA+
- Living with apparent or non-apparent disability
- Neurodiverse
- Refugee, Immigrant, or Migrant
- Socially disadvantaged
- Veteran

*This does not serve as an exhaustive list, as there are many others that would qualify for inclusion in MassNextGen.*

## Case Study

The CEO and Co-Founder of Phage Pro, worked on developing a bacteriophage product to combat household transmission of cholera during her thesis research. PhagePro was founded to both continue this work and develop phage products for emerging markets. Their initial target is cholera. By taking an oral product that offers immediate protection, families of patients infected with cholera will be able to take care of their loved ones without fear while also curbing outbreaks in the community. Since becoming a MassNextGen awardee, Dr. Yen has increased her full-time headcount to four employees, expanded her footprint at Tufts Launchpad, and raised \$3.4 million in funding.





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### Impact on the Ecosystem

In the first seven years, the MLSC deployed more than \$2.5 million in funding to women entrepreneurs and provided over 200 hours of coaching from the elite executive mentoring/coaching network.

Now with 35 companies in the MassNextGen portfolio, the MLSC funding combined with executive coaching and business mentorship have proven invaluable for these underrepresented entrepreneurs in building their teams and progressing forward with new opportunities. The program continues to see tremendous success from previous awardees, including:

- 17 companies have raised a seed or series A financing round
- Companies have raised nearly \$365 million in follow-on funding
- Companies employ in total 115 additional people
- There's been over 100 coaching sessions
- Sponsoring organizations have reviewed applications from over 184 early-stage women led companies with an opportunity for follow on discussion

Increasing the number of successful entrepreneurs is in the best interest of the entire life science industry, and as such, this initiative is a public-private partnership between the MLSC and our corporate sponsors.

A special thank you to our Anchor Platinum Sponsor, Takeda, and all our MassNextGen sponsors who are helping to create a diverse, inclusive, and equitable ecosystem including:



MassNextGen is an important tool to make sure that Massachusetts remains a global leader in the life sciences while also breaking down barriers to entry and opening the industry to those who have been historically left out. In Massachusetts, we know that our greatest resource is our people, and through the collaboration of public-private partnerships, we will harness our full potential and drive equitable growth in the innovation economy.

*Maura Healey,*  
Governor of Massachusetts

