

## 757 Accelerate Announces 2025 Cohort Launching April 21st

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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April 7, 2025

NORFOLK, VA - 757 Accelerate, a premier venture program of 757 Collab, is proud to unveil the six high-impact startups selected for its 2025 Cohort. This group was chosen from a nationwide pool of competitive applicants and will participate in a newly reimaged 9-week Investor Readiness Program launching April 21, 2025. Designed to sharpen each company's path to angel and seed-stage capital, this year's program spans industries including EdTech, AgTech, HealthTech, and SaaS - each tackling complex challenges with bold innovation and scalable solutions.

Each participating startup receives a \$20,000 non-dilutive grant, access to an array of discounted services through the Global Venture Network, and access to collaborative workspace at 757 Startup Studios within Norfolk's Assembly campus. The program also includes intensive mentorship, capital strategy, and culminating community and investor events.

*"This cohort reflects a bold, mission-driven approach to entrepreneurship," said Joseph D'Amelio, Senior Program Manager of 757 Accelerate. "Our team is excited to support these founders with the resources and network they need to scale their impact and grow right here in Hampton Roads."*

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### Meet the 2025 Cohort

The logo for Earnest, featuring the word "earnest" in a bold, lowercase, green sans-serif font. The letter "e" is stylized with a circular graphic element inside it.

#### **Earnest**

Earnest Agriculture

Revolutionizing Farming with Microbial Tech

Illinois-based Earnest Agriculture develops probiotic seed coatings that boost crop yields, improve soil health, and reduce the need for chemical inputs. Backed by IndieBioNY and AgriNovus, the company is poised to expand nationally, using this accelerator to grow its presence in Virginia and beyond.



## **Enrichly**

Enrichly

Building Self-Esteem at Scale

Enrichly is redefining self-esteem development with a scalable Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) used by organizations in education, workforce development, healthcare, and mental health. With global reach and partners like HUB71 and UHS, Enrichly delivers customizable content and analytics to improve outcomes across performance and well-being.



## **Healthy Hip Hop**

Healthy Hip Hop

The Urban Disney for Learning and Wellness

Healthy Hip Hop combines music, movement, and tech to enhance educational outcomes through culturally relevant content. With kid-safe platforms, original characters, and classroom resources, Healthy Hip Hop is transforming the learning experience for families and educators alike.



## **KnoNap**

KnoNap

Empowering Safety, One Napkin at a Time

KnoNap is committed to fighting drink spiking through innovation, education, and advocacy. Its patented product, Knope, is a portable, single-use test that detects up to 12 drink-spiking drugs in just one minute. Founder Danya Sherman, a Forbes 30 Under 30 honoree, leads the company's charge in creating safer social environments.



## **PopCheck Technologies**

Pop Check Technologies

Detecting Blood Clots Before They Become Deadly

Pop Check Technologies is tackling venous thromboembolism (VTE) with VenaCheck, a non-invasive wearable device that predicts and prevents blood clots. Founded by physician-entrepreneur Dr. Erika Dillard, Pop Check combines biosensor data with AI to transform early detection and patient safety.



## **VroomBrick**

VroomBrick

Simplifying Real Estate for Military Families

VroomBrick simplifies home buying and selling for military families and veterans with step-by-step software that empowers users to handle transactions on their own. By avoiding commissions and lowering closing costs, VroomBrick helps users save time and money while taking control of the process.

## About 757 Accelerate

757 Accelerate is a selective, mentor-driven startup accelerator that provides non-dilutive capital, expert coaching, and investor access to early-stage companies. A program of 757 Collab, it is dedicated to closing ecosystem gaps and supporting innovation-driven founders across southeastern Virginia and beyond. Since its inception in 2018, 757 Accelerate has helped dozens of startups scale their vision and secure strategic growth opportunities.

## About 757 Collab (“Collab”)

***757 Collab harnesses the power of 757 Angels powered by Venture South, 757 Accelerate, and 757 Startup Studios providing capital, programs, and place to high-growth-minded entrepreneurs in all stages of development.*** 757 Collab is located at the 757 Startup Studios within Assembly, an iconic campus for makers and creators in the heart of downtown Norfolk, VA. We are a vertically integrated community that together provides startup incubation, acceleration, and capital — a unique model for achieving success for the region’s entrepreneurial and startup ecosystem. 757 Collab stands on values that promote an interconnected, inclusive, and impactful ecosystem.

For more information, visit [757accelerate.org](http://757accelerate.org) or [757collab.org](http://757collab.org).

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