

# PRE COLLEGE MIAMI: A STARTUP IMMERSION FOR HIGH SCHOOL ENTREPRENEURS



A five-day immersion in Miami's startup ecosystem — designed for **high school students** who want to find out what it really takes to build a venture.

From ideation to investor pitch in five days. Learn from working founders, train alongside the people who teach Link Miami's founding undergraduate cohort, and leave with a startup of your own — and a network you'll keep for years.



**DURATION**

1 Week  
Mon – Fri



**LOCATION**

Coconut Grove  
Miami, FL



**WHEN**

Jan 11–15  
2027



**DESIGNED FOR**

High Schoolers  
Builder from all grades



**COHORT**

50 Students  
Per cohort

# WHAT IS THE LINK PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAM?

SECTION 01 — THE PROGRAM

**Pre-college programs teach you about entrepreneurship. Link teaches you to be an entrepreneur.**

For one week in January, fifty high school students from across the country spend their days inside Miami's startup ecosystem — sitting with working founders and investors, visiting a company's offices, building real ventures with Business Mentors, and pitching in front of a live judging panel. You will not be lectured at. You will be put to work, the way our undergraduates are.

The program runs Monday through Friday — full days, 8am to 8pm — and follows the full arc of building a venture: ideation, validation, marketing, prototyping, sales, and pitch. Thursday brings a polishing session with real VC experts; Friday is the live Pitch Presentation followed by an Award Ceremony.



*Future  
changemaker*

## THREE PILLARS. FIVE DAYS.

SECTION 02 — THE LINK METHOD

**FOUNDER  
MODE** **ON**



### HARD SKILLS BUSINESS TOOLS

Finance, marketing, AI, prototyping and sales — taught entirely by working market practitioners, never career academics. You'll get a focused workshop in each: idea validation & customer discovery, marketing for digital and social, AI basics for entrepreneurs, prototyping & sales, and a finance crash course: budget, balance sheet & valuation.

**Learn from entrepreneurs who have built, scaled, and led successful companies.**



### THE HUMAN LAYER PEOPLE SKILLS

Building a founder means building a human. Four dedicated People Skills sessions across the week train the human side: a Day-1 personality diagnostic, Knowing Yourself, verbal & non-verbal communication, dealing with feedback, and building your founder network. Plus a Friday keynote from Link's founder, Álvaro Schocair: Entrepreneurship as a Career.

**Resilience, clarity & stamina — trained.**



### WHERE DOTS CONNECT NEW VENTURES

Every day you work on your own startup with assigned Business Mentors — practitioners who've built and run real companies. Each evening, a Connecting the Dots session ties what you learned that day back to your venture. Thursday afternoon, real **VC Experts** polish your startup before Friday's pitch.


**Your venture, built in real time.**

**5**


**By Friday, the three pillars converge.** You pitch the venture you built — sharpened by VC experts on Thursday and judged live on Friday. This is the only place outside our undergraduate degree where you get all three.

# WHAT A WEEK AT LINK LOOKS LIKE



MON JAN 11 - Welcome & Ideation	TUE JAN 12 - Validation & Marketing	WED JAN 13 - Company Visit & Build	THU JAN 14 - Finance & VC Polish	FRI JAN 15 - Pitch & Awards
8:00 - 8:30 AM Check-in	8:00 - 8:30 AM Check-in	8:00 - 8:30 AM Check-in	8:00 - 8:30 AM Check-in	8:00 - 8:30 AM Check-in
8:30 - 9:00 AM Welcome Coffee	8:30 - 9:00 AM Welcome Coffee	8:30 - 9:00 AM Welcome Coffee	8:30 - 9:00 AM Welcome Coffee	8:30 - 9:00 AM Welcome Coffee
9:00 - 9:30 AM Grand Opening	9:00 - 9:30 AM Master Talks			9:00 - 9:30 AM People Skills - Building your Network
9:30 - 10:00 AM Instructions, Week Planning			9:00 - 10:00 AM Finance - Budget, Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Valuation	9:30 - 10:00 AM Entrepreneurship as a Career
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Creating New Ventures — Ideation Exercise	9:30 - 11:30 AM Idea Validation - Problem Statement, Research and Customer Discovery	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM Company field trip		10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Final Rehearsal
	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Marketing: Digital, Content & Social Media Tools		10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Pitch Preparation	
12:30 - 2:00 PM Business Lunch	12:30 - 2:00 PM Business Lunch	12:30 - 2:00 PM Business Lunch	12:30 - 2:00 PM Business Lunch	12:30 - 2:00 PM Business Lunch
2:30 - 3:30 PM People Skills — Knowing Yourself, Personality Test and Group Division	2:00 - 4:00 PM Work on your Startup — Business Mentor Sessions	2:00 - 4:30 PM Prototyping and Sales	2:00 - 3:00 PM People Skills – Dealing with Feedback: Giving and Receiving	2:00 - 3:30 PM Pitch presentation to real investors
3:30 - 4:00 PM Master Talks				3:30 - 4:00 PM Networking Break
4:00 - 5:00 PM AI Basics for Entrepreneurs	4:00 - 5:00 PM People Skills - Communication Skills - Verbal and Non Verbal		3:00 - 5:30 PM Startup Polishing with VC Experts	4:00 - 5:00 PM Award ceremony 
5:00 - 6:30 PM Work on your Startup — Business Mentor Sessions	5:00 - 6:30 PM Escape the Ordinary Challenge	4:30 - 6:30 PM Work on your Startup — Business Mentor Sessions	5:30 - 6:00 PM Day 4 Connecting the Dots	5:00 - 5:30 PM Program Closing & Awards
6:30 - 7:00 AM Day 1 Connecting the Dots	6:30 - 7:00 PM Day 2 Connecting the Dots	6:30 - 7:00 PM Day 3 Connecting the Dots	6:00 - 7:00 PM It's Always a Family Business- Parent Session	
7:00 - 8:00 PM Decompression Moment	7:00 - 8:00 PM Decompression Moment	7:00 - 8:00 PM Decompression Moment	7:00 - 8:00 PM Decompression Moment	

- PEOPLE SKILLS
- BUSINESS TOOLS
- NEW VENTURES
- EXPERIENCES & MEALS




### THE COMPANY EXPERIENCE

A full-morning visit to TikTok's Miami offices — see how a global tech company operates from the inside.



### VC EXPERT POLISHING

Thursday afternoon, real VCs sit with your team — pressure-testing the venture and sharpening the pitch before Friday goes live.



### PITCH DAY & AWARDS

Friday: live Pitch Presentation, then Award Ceremony. Plus a morning keynote from Link's founder, **Álvaro Schocair**.

# WHAT YOU'LL LEAVE WITH

SECTION 04 — OUTCOMES & APPLY

## THE FOUNDERS COLLEGE

- Students leave with practical business skills, increased confidence, communication experience, and a deeper understanding of entrepreneurship as a career path.
- Built and pitched a real startup — solo work plus daily collaboration with assigned Business Mentors.
- Developed practical entrepreneurial skills including customer discovery, marketing, AI tools, prototyping, sales, and startup finance.
- Sat with real VC experts in a dedicated Thursday Polishing session and sharpened the pitch before going live.
- Visited a company's Miami offices and saw how a growing business actually operates from the inside.
- Trained the human side of founding — personality, communication, feedback, and networking — across four People Skills sessions.
- Built a network of ambitious peers, founders, mentors, and investors from across the entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- Stood in front of a live judging panel in Friday's Pitch Presentation and ended the week at the Award Ceremony.

### Is this program right for you?

Built for high school students — any grade, any background — who are curious about entrepreneurship and want to discover whether building a business is the right path for them. You don't need a business plan, straight A's, or to know what a balance sheet is.

You need to be curious, willing to be uncomfortable, and willing to ship something imperfect by Friday.

Curious

Builder Mindset

All Grades

No Experience Required

### A note for parents

Thursday, January 14, from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, we host "It's Always a FAMILY Business" — a Parent Session keynoted by Link's founder, **Álvaro Schocair** — in person or via livestream.

#### INVESTMENT

# \$3,500

Meals and experiences included.  
Housing not included for students residing outside the Miami area.

#### WHAT'S INCLUDED

Five days of programming, workshops & New Ventures sprints. All meals during program hours. Curated Miami experiences & site visits. Ground transportation between venues. Program kit, materials & certificate of completion.

#### NOT INCLUDED

Housing accommodations are not included. A curated list of recommended hotels and rental options will be provided upon admission. Travel to and from Miami and personal expenses outside program hours are the responsibility of the participant.

## FIVE DAYS. ONE VENTURE. A FOUNDER'S MINDSET.

The cohort is capped at fifty students. Applicants complete a short written application and a video introduction — decisions are made on a rolling basis until the cohort is full.



#### APPLY NOW

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