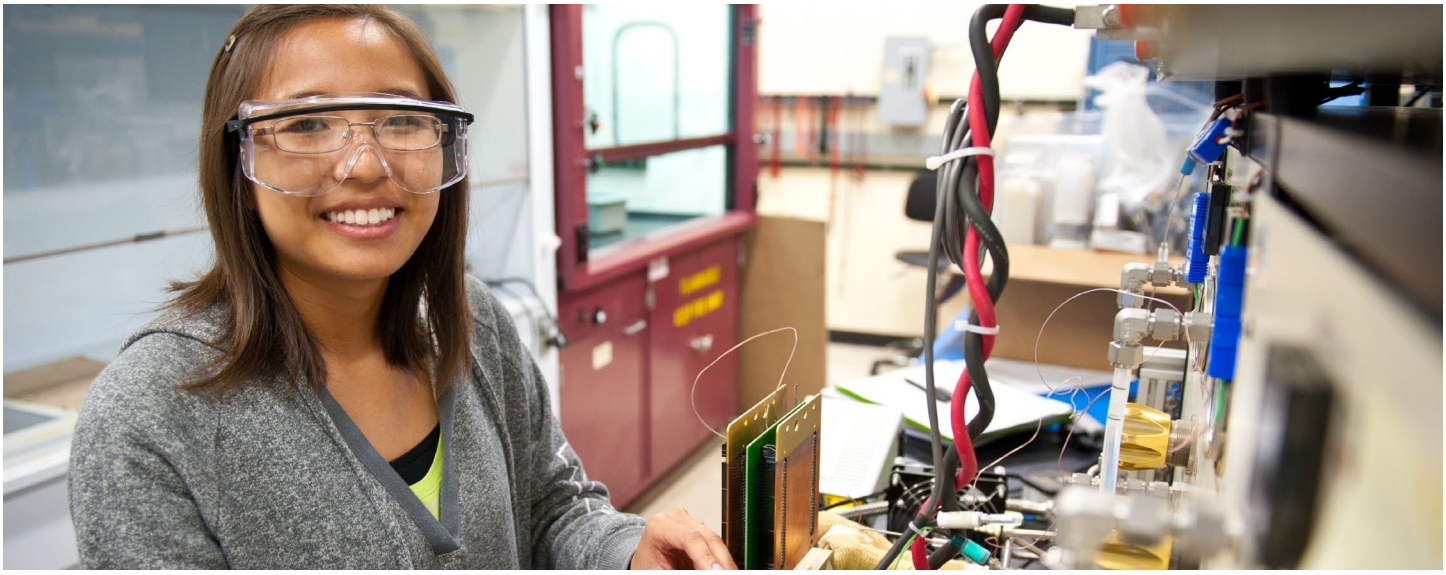
chevron studio



Researchers at NREL are advancing their understanding of hydrogen fuels. Photo by Dennis Schroeder/NREL

what is chevron studio?

Chevron Studio is a one-of-a-kind program designed to help entrepreneurs build companies by linking them with world-class, early-stage technologies developed at national labs and universities.

The program provides assistance to participating entrepreneurs in their efforts to scale up and commercialize these technologies.

Chevron Studio is focused on technologies in the following areas of interest:

- Carbon utilization
- Hydrogen and renewable energy
- Energy storage systems
- Solutions for a circular economy
- Wireless power
- Robotics

Developed as a partnership between Chevron Technology Ventures (CTV) and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Chevron Studio brings together industry, education and research institutions, and government to collaborate and enable affordable, reliable, and lower-carbon energy for all.

how does chevron studio work?

Phase 1: Discovery
Duration: 3 Months

Entrepreneurs apply to participate in Chevron Studio and choose from a curated list of technologies available from approved Technology Partners, which include NREL, other national labs, and universities.

Selected entrepreneurs receive financial and technical assistance to evaluate their technologies and develop commercialization plans. The program is not designed for entrepreneurs to bring their own intellectual property into the program or use Discovery Phase funds to advance an existing business.

Commercialization plans should include a proto-startup team that considers product, market, financing, and team structure.

The Discovery Phase concludes with a pitch to the Chevron Studio Joint Steering Committee, which then selects entrepreneurs to move on to the Scale-Up Phase.

Phase 2: Scale-Up
Duration: 12-24 Months

Entrepreneurs selected after completion of the Discovery Phase will form companies and work with their Technology Partner institutions to scale up and demonstrate these technologies at a minimum viable commercial scale.

Supplementary funding is provided in the form of a Simple Agreement for Future Equity (SAFE) to support the required scale-up activities, while Technology Partners and the IP inventors provide technical assistance.

At the end of this phase, a final report will be delivered detailing the actions taken, technical competitiveness, commercial viability, and intended next steps. The companies are also expected to raise additional external financing.

Phase 3: Field Trial
Duration: 12-24 Months

Selected companies that graduate from Scale-up may be offered an opportunity to conduct field trials at a Chevron or related facility to demonstrate the scalability of their respective innovations and value propositions.

contact us

Did you develop an early-stage technology at a university or national lab that you think would be a good fit for Chevron Studio?

Contact NREL Chevron Studio Program Manager Steven.Yackel@nrel.gov.

Do you have questions about the application process?

Contact NREL Chevron Studio Program Manager Steven.Yackel@nrel.gov.

Do you have general questions about Chevron Studio?

Contact us at chevronstudio@nrel.gov or visit our website at chevronstudio.com.

Apply for an upcoming cohort

Cohort 7 applications are expected to open on August 1, 2025.

To apply, visit chevronstudio.com/apply.

To view available IP, visit https://chevronstudio.com/browse-ip/.

connecting to the world of innovation

Chevron Studio presents entrepreneurs with the opportunity to:

- Work with leading scientists and technologists from national labs and universities to identify solutions that will advance a lower-carbon future
- Hone their entrepreneurial skills by evaluating and de-risking cutting-edge technologies and developing business acumen
- Demonstrate their ability to scale up and commercialize technologies
- Develop a wide network of technical and commercial subject matter experts within the innovation ecosystem