

CLIMB Accelerator Bootcamp

Creative Leaders Innovating for Market and Business Growth



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Amh chomhchaitiú ag
an Aontas Eorpach
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Tionól Réigiúnach
an Tuaiscirt & an Iarthair
Northern & Western
Regional Assembly



Enterprise
Ireland



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Weekend 1	25 - 27 Sept 2026 (At CREW)
Online weeks	1 Oct - 5 Nov 2026 (Thursday evenings 17:00 - 20:00)
Mentorship week	19 - 25 Oct 2026 (Week 5 - online, structured sessions)
Weekend 2	13 - 15 Nov 2026 (At CREW)
Cohort size	Approx. 8 participants
Participant cost	€900 The programme is being offered to eligible companies at 20% of the market rate, with the remaining 80% supported by Enterprise Ireland Smart Region scheme. The full programme is valued at €4,500. To avail of this discounted rate, all applicants are asked to confirm that they have the appropriate De Minimis balance to accept the support. More information on De Minimis State Aid can be found here: State Aid Enterprise Ireland
Accreditation	Open Badges digital badge



Programme Overview

The CLIMB Accelerator Bootcamp is an 8-week intensive programme for scaling creative and digital creative businesses. It combines two in-person weekends at CREW, five online evening sessions, and a dedicated mid-programme mentorship week — giving founders the strategic tools, expert knowledge, and peer network to grow sustainably and enter EU and international markets.

The programme is built around the reality of creative micro-enterprises & SME's: founders often take on the majority of the workload themselves, time is limited, and every hour invested needs to produce practical, usable output. The CLIMB Accelerator Bootcamp is expert-led, focused, and designed so that the work done inside the programme is the work that needs doing in the business.

The programme is centred on three core themes:

- **Theme 1 Market Expansion & IP for Creative Businesses:**
Preparing for international market entry, regulatory navigation, IP protection and commercialisation.
- **Theme 2 Investment & Funding:**
Building a diversified funding strategy, investment readiness, investor relationship-building, EU and public funding.
- **Theme 3 Leadership & Team Development:**
The transition from founder to CEO, team structures for scale and recruitment planning.
- **Additional operational foundation:**
Systems, strategy, and reducing founder dependency.

Who This Programme Is For

CLIMB is for founders and business leaders in the creative and digital creative sectors who are ready to scale.

Ideal Participant

- A trading creative or digital creative business already generating revenue.
- Clear ambitions to expand either into new markets, with new revenue streams, or with a growing team.
- Ready to invest time in strategic thinking and peer learning.

Sectors Welcomed

- Film, animation, documentary and screen content.
- Games development and interactive media.
- Design, branding and visual communication.
- Music, audio and sound.
- Creative technology and digital product businesses.
- IP-led or content-led businesses in any creative sub-sector.



Milestones & Deliverables

Participants complete a minimum of three milestone deliverables across the programme: an operational audit, one theme deliverable (chosen from three options), and a final implementation report.

Choosing a theme deliverable

- Participants select 1 of the 3 theme deliverables (M2A, M2B, M2C) based on their most pressing business priority. They are welcome to complete more if they wish to.
- The choice is made during Weekend 1.
- Milestone 3 (Implementation Report) should reflect on the chosen deliverable(s) and how they were applied in the business.



Ref	Due	Theme	What Participants Produce	Format
M1	Mid-Oct	Operational Foundation	Operational Scale Audit + 90-Day Scaling Plan An audit of current systems, team structures, and operational bottlenecks, plus a 90-day plan for reducing founder dependency and building for scale.	Max 4 pages
M2 (choose 1 of 3)	Early Nov	Theme 1 Market Expansion & IP (A)	Market Expansion/Entry & IP Strategy Market expansion and/or entry strategy for one target market or an IP audit for your business.	Strategy doc (4-6 pages) or IP Audit
	Early Nov	Theme 2 Investment & Funding (B)	Funding Strategy & Investor Brief A diversified funding strategy identifying relevant funding streams, plus a one-page investor brief communicating scalability and market demand.	Strategy doc (4-5 pages) + 1-page brief
	Early Nov	Theme 3 Team & Leadership (C)	Talent & Team Growth Plan A people plan to cover team structure for scale, key roles needed, recruitment strategy, and leadership development commitment.	Max 6 pages
M3	Early Dec	All Themes	Implementation Report + Growth Plan A reflective report documenting implementation of the chosen deliverables in the business during the programme, evidence of impact or progress, and overall plans for growth going forward.	Max 4 pages

Programme Calendar

Wk	Dates	Phase	Theme/Focus	Format
1	25 - 27 Sept	Foundation	Programme launch — operational foundation + all 3 themes introduced, with special focus on Investment Readiness	In-person Weekend 1 (At CREW)
2	1 Oct	Market Expansion & IP	Creative Strategy: Positioning for Growth & Expansion	Online evening, 17:00 - 20:00
3	8 Oct	Market Expansion & IP	IP, Copyright & Legal Frameworks	Online evening, 17:00 - 20:00
			<i>Milestone 1 due</i>	<i>Async — submitted to CREW</i>
4	15 Oct	Team Development & Leadership	Talent Strategy & Team Development	Online evening, 17:00 - 20:00
5	22 Oct	Mentorship	Mentorship Week — 1:1s, group session + Milestone 1 feedback	Online, structured sessions
6	29 Oct	Investment & Funding	Funding Strategy for Scaling (founder panel)(1.5 hours), followed by a peer learning session (1.5 hours)	Online evening, 17:00 - 20:00
7	5 Nov	Market & IP, Investment & Funding	Founder/experts session on IP & on Investment (1 hour each), followed by a peer-led Presentation Prep session (1 hour)	Online evening, 17:00 - 20:00
			<i>Milestone 2 due</i>	<i>Async — submitted to CREW</i>
8	13 - 15 Nov	Presentations	Leadership Intensive + Business Presentations to Panel	In-person Weekend 2 (At CREW)
	<i>15 Dec</i>		<i>Milestone 3 due</i>	<i>Async — submitted to CREW</i>

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