2022 Application Guide

This application guide contains the information applicants to the Global Solvers Accelerator will have to provide as part of their application form.

Because the application form is fairly comprehensive and will take some time to complete, we recommend to draft the responses offline and ahead of time to then submit them using the designated application form by the application deadline on 31 March 2022: https://meltonfoundation.typeform.com/GlobalSolvers22

THE APPLICATION FORM AT ONE GLANCE

Section 1: Introduction

WELCOME TO THE GLOBAL SOLVERS ACCELERATOR!

Congratulations, you're about to apply to our eight months peer-focused, project-based, and collaborative impact program. This application is an important step towards embarking on an exciting acceleration journey soon.

If selected, you will connect, converge, and work together with approximately 15 other community practitioners from around the world on transforming sustainable development from the grassroots level up. Together, you will collaborate on refining your community development projects while pivoting skills, capacity, and connections to tap into the fullest transformative potential of your SDG work. Collectively, we will strive towards you becoming the catalyst for disruptive solutions to cut across barriers of place, identity, and paradigms.

A Melton Foundation core program, the Global Solvers Accelerator is deeply intertwined with our unique community of global citizenship practice. It is one of two entry points into our lifelong Fellowship.

In other words, this application could be your ticket to a transformative and impactful ride that goes way beyond your participation in the Global Solvers Accelerator.

Before we get fully started, however, let's do a quick entry-level check:
In this application, every click is intentional. If you're not sure or need to refresh your memory, follow this link to review the must-know details online.

- I confirm that I have read through your website and confirm that I understand and meet the eligibility criteria for this program.

USEFUL TIPS AS YOU FILL IN THE APPLICATION

https://meltonfoundation.org/global-solvers-accelerator/
As you're moving forward with this application, please be prepared to share about yourself, your passions, the community development projects you aspire to accelerate as part of this program, and how you see yourself contributing to a collaborative learning and working environment.

Some questions invite you to shine and outline the great work you do - others invite you to take a more reflective stance. Both can be challenging, and yet we invite you to fill them in with dedication and care. The perfect application is the one that provides us with deep(er) insights into you and the work you do.

Take the time to develop your responses and make sure to submit them using this form by 31 March 2022. And don't worry, your information is safe with us. We treat your data with the utmost care as outlined in our Privacy Policy.

The application form is fairly comprehensive and will take some time to complete. We highly recommend you draft your responses offline and then submit them through this application form.

An application guide containing the information you'll be asked to provide is available for download here. Please feel free to use it to develop your responses offline before submitting them. Also, you may also want to revisit the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals as you're developing your application.

IMPORTANT: All questions must be answered in English and should not exceed the maximum word limit indicated with each question. To avoid last-minute technical problems, please aim to complete and submit your application ahead of the deadline.

We do not accept applications that are incomplete or submitted after the deadline.

For questions, doubts, or clarifications visit the Global Solvers Accelerator webpage or contact us directly.

Section 2: Personal Information

"Stepping onto a brand-new path is difficult, but not more difficult than remaining in a situation, which is not nurturing to the whole woman." - Maya Angelou

As you’re about to encompass this brand-new Global Solvers pathway, we would like to get to know you a little better. So be prepared, the first section is all about you :) 

- Email: 
  Please indicate your current, working email address
- Salutation: 
  -- Mr. - Mrs. - Other - Prefer not to disclose
  If OTHER, please specify
- First (Given) Name: 
- Last (Family) Name: 
- Full Name in your native language: 
  If different from English or the Latin alphabet.
- Date of Birth: 
- Phone Number:

https://meltonfoundation.org/global-solvers-accelerator/
• This phone number belongs to a:
  -- Cell Phone - Landline - Other)
• Alternative Contact:
  *Please provide an alternative contact in case your email or phone is out of reach so that we can still reach you for important updates.*
• Nationality(s):
  *If you hold more than one nationality, please list them all.*
• Current Residence:
  *Where do you currently live? Please state the name of the city, state/region, and country.*
• Your Background:
  -- Working Professional, Student (or similar), Independent, Other
• Place and Field of Work
  *Please state the organization you’re currently working with, along with your professional field.*
  *If you’re a university student (or similar), please identify the university and the field of your studies.*
• Languages
  *Please share which language(s) you speak and at what level (beginner, intermediate, advanced, native/native-like)*
• Please write a short autobiography (400 words max)
  *We want to meet you - the human being behind this application. As you’re opening a window into your life for us, feel free to share some more about your background, hobbies, engagement, what drives you, your achievements, as well as hopes and dreams for your future.*
• What is your favorite quote or inspirational phrase?
  *Please share with us and feel free to add why it means what it means to you.*

**Section 3: Education**

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”* - Nelson Mandela

At the Melton Foundation, we understand learning as a continued, multi-faceted process. Delivered in a non-formal educational setting (meaning not at school, college, or university), the Global Solvers Accelerator is designed to be such a space of learning - and a pivotal one, we hope.

Please indulge us with a little more about your educational journey till now.

• Please indicate your highest degree or level of educational attainment:
  -- Primary Education, Secondary Education, Professional / Diploma Education, Graduate Degree (Bachelor’s or similar), Post-Graduate Degree, Other (please specify)
• Are you currently enrolled in an educational program?
  -- Yes (please elaborate), No

[https://meltonfoundation.org/global-solvers-accelerator/](https://meltonfoundation.org/global-solvers-accelerator/)
• Major field(s) of study:
  
  If you have studied multiple subjects, please identify them in your answer along with the intensity of study (e.g. minor/major studies, or similar)

• Have you ever received government financial aid, merit scholarships, or other financial support to pursue your education?
  -- Yes, No

• Please share a brief reflection on your education to date (400 words max)
  
  Education is about learning, and learning happens through repetition and reflection. We are curious to hear some of the insights and reflections about your education - how you learn best, what you have learned, what you haven't learned, what you may want to explore further, etc. is what we're after, and there is no right or wrong answer :)

Section 4: Community Development Project

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

At the Global Solvers Accelerator, we aspire to pivot (a) capacity at the personal level, (b) transformative potential at the project level, and (c) networks for social change at the collective level. Over the 8-month collaborative learning journey, you and your global peers will work together on positioning your SDG projects for disruptive, transformative change at the local to the global level and back again.

In the following section, we invite you to shed more light on the project you are looking to accelerate as part of the program and how you see yourself contributing to an enriching learning journey for all.

• Project Name

• Project Summary and Reference
  
  In no more than two sentences, describe the overarching purpose and goal(s) of the project. If available, please also provide web references to the project (e.g. a website, a page on social media)

• WHAT ... is it about? (200 words max)
  
  Please outline the core elements and/or aspects of your project. You may furthermore deliberate on what your project is about and/or what it aspires to do.

• WHY ... is it important? (200 words max)
  
  Please discuss why the project matters - to your community and to the world. Feel free to provide data points and/or trends to support your narrative.

• WHO ... are the stakeholders? (200 words max)
  
  Please identify the most relevant audiences and/or stakeholders affected by your work. Unless discussed in the following section ‘HOW’, you may address how your target group(s) can benefit from the project.

• HOW ... does it work? (200 words max)
Please describe how the project works. You may also elaborate on technical or organizational details, if applicable and relevant.

- IMPACT ... you expect to yield (200 words max)
  Please summarize the impact your project is having. You may elaborate on how you define success for the project and how you track and/or measure it.

- SDG Relevance ... of your work:
  Which of the Sustainable Development Goals is your project connected to. Please choose up to three SDGs that your project caters to the most.

- Your Role ... in the project (200 words max)
  Please elaborate on your role and the responsibilities you have in the project. You should also discuss what opportunities and challenges you see when looking to affect change in the project (as a result of the acceleration journey).

- Your Aspirations ... from the program (200 words max)
  Please outline how you see the Global Solvers Accelerator benefit your project and your work there? What does success look like for your participation in the program?

- Your Contribution ... to the learning journey (200 words max)
  How do you see yourself contributing to the program? What experiences, capacity, resources, etc. can you bring to create an enriching peer-learning experience for all.

Section 5: Commitment and Engagement

“A goal without a plan is just a wish.” - Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

The Global Solvers Accelerator is thriving if everyone contributes - you, your global peers, our facilitators, and so on. In the following, we want to make sure you (a) are well aware and (b) can commit to the core program expectations.

- Ability to commit to active program participation?
  The Global Solvers Accelerator is an engaging, collaborative, peer-learning program unfolding between May - December. Participants are expected to contribute regularly, connect in bi-weekly meetings, and handle asynchronous assignments with an anticipated time commitment of 3 hours per week on average. If feasible, the program may also entail a (voluntary) co-sponsored 4-5 day in-person retreat.
  Please consider this time commitment carefully before you indicate your ability.
  --Yes, No

- Ability to commit to active project contribution
  The program is project-based and builds on participants’ (a) willingness to open their (own) experience, know-how, energy, resources, networks, resources, etc. up for others to access, and (b) eagerness to intersect the project you’re bringing to the program with the contents tackled during the program. (c) ownership (or authority) to introduce changes at the project level (as a result of the acceleration process)
Please consider these aspects carefully before you indicate your ability.

--Yes, No

- Ability to commit to raising the program fees
  At the Global Solvers Accelerator, everyone contributes - also financially, with a program fee of 250 USD.
  The program fee will subsidize the program activities, which may include an in-person retreat if feasible and responsible. Selected participants must settle the program fee within one month after being accepted into the program (scholarships of up to 80% are available, please see the following sub-set of questions for details).
  Please consider these aspects carefully before you indicate your ability.
  --Yes, No

- If selected into the program, I will require a scholarship to co-finance my program fee.
  --Yes, No
  o If YES, please indicate the type of scholarship you would require.
    -- 20% - 50% - 80% of the program fee
  o To support my request for a scholarship, I will provide the following documentation upon my selection into the program:
    (a) a personal statement outlining the need for support, along with
    (b) an endorsement letter from your supervisor or co-leader at my project to support your appeal (alternatively the letter can also be from a project supporter or collaborator).

Section 6: Final Considerations and Next Steps

- Previous Melton Foundation Exposure
  Please choose the option that best describes your current exposure to the Melton Foundation. Please note: previous exposure is not a requirement for this program.
  -- I have no previous exposure to the organization, I participated in one of the foundation's programs (please specify), I am connected through a Melton Foundation Hub region (please specify), I form part of a change community/network that Melton Foundation belongs to (please specify), I am a Melton Fellow, I am following the Melton Foundation's social media

- How did you hear about the Global Solvers Accelerator?
  Choose as many answer options as apply
  -- Referral, Melton Foundation Website, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Online Search, Advertisement, Mailing list or Newsletter, Other

“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.” - Harriet Tubman

Congratulations, you’re now ready to submit your application form. What’s left to say at this point are two things: thank you for your application and best of success!!

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