

TERMS AND CONDITIONS – FALLING WALLS VENTURE *(As of February 2024)*

Who can participate?

- I. Presenting at Falling Walls Venture is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Therefore, participation is allowed only once. By applying, the candidate confirms that she/he/they, nor anyone else representing their start-up, has never participated in the Falling Walls Venture Pitches **as a presenter on stage** before.
- II. By the time of application, the applicants must be of full age according to their domestic legislation or older, however, no less than 18 years old.
- III. Falling Walls Venture is open to start-ups based on scientific research. Applications are open to all scientific disciplines.
- IV. Each start-up applying for Falling Walls Venture must be endorsed by a nominating institution. This can be, for example, a university or research institute.
- V. All participating start-ups must have been already founded as company (incorporated). Companies founded on 1 January 2019 or after are eligible to apply.

Process

- VI. Corporate partners of Falling Walls Venture have access to the application documents (data the applicant provides, including the pitch deck and pitch video) of each applicant. Likewise, members of the pre-selection committee (Advisory Board) and jury members of Falling Walls Venture have access to the full application documents. In case a nominating institution hosts a selection event, the respective jury members and corporate partners (if any) have access to the application documents. There is no legal right to participation. Application materials will be archived. Personal data must not be disclosed to unauthorised other parties.
- VII. Applicants will be informed of the success of their application following the respective application deadline. All decisions made by the pre-selection committee are final and there is no right of appeal. Physical participation in the Falling Walls Venture Pitches on 7 November 2024 in Berlin is obligatory for all selected start-ups. Should the designated representative of a start-up (presenter), for cause, not be able to participate in the Falling Walls Venture Pitches, she/he/they must inform the Falling Walls Foundation in a timely manner – at least 7 days before the event – and provide a replacement from within the start-up. In case the latter is not possible, the Falling Walls Foundation has the right to invite other start-ups (applicants) as a substitute.
- VIII. Applicants are aware and agree that, during the Falling Walls Venture Pitches on 7 November 2024, video and photo footage will be made to be published on the Falling Walls website, the website of sponsoring partners and be made available for media. Moreover, Falling Walls receives a non-exclusive license to use the presented material in whole or in part, provided that the name of the presenter is stated in the context of the use. Such photos and video footage and presented material may be used in various media (i.e. social media, internet/website, press releases, newsletters, brochures, and printed materials).
- IX. The Falling Walls Foundation will send you emails on events and activities of Falling Walls. You can at any time unsubscribe without charges either through written response or opt-out.
- X. The selection of the Falling Walls Science Breakthrough of the Year 2024 Science Start-Ups is subject to the jury. The jury shall make a decision at its own discretion; all decisions are final and there is no right of appeal.
- XI. Participants in the Falling Walls Venture Pitches are encouraged to share yearly updates on the participant's development with respect to investment rounds, financing, and valuations. These yearly updates serve the further development and improvement of Falling Walls Venture's value proposition to science-based start-ups, especially in terms of access to finance and the building of a larger network of investors and partners accessible to participants. This information can be shared with Corporate partners of Falling Walls Venture and used for publicity materials.

Falling Walls Venture Pitches, 7 November 2024

- XII. The candidates selected by the Advisory Board will be asked to pitch their start-up on stage and in person at the Falling Walls Venture Pitches, a physical event held in Berlin on 7 November 2024 as part of the Falling Walls Science Summit. Groups are not allowed to present at the Falling Walls Venture Pitches. Only a single person can represent the start-up.
- XIII. The selected candidates agree to give a five-minute presentation. The language of the event is English.
- XIV. The presentation shall not include indecent or unlawful content. Comments violating the free and democratic basic order (*freiheitlich demokratische Grundordnung*) may not be made public through the presentation or distributed in any other forum of the Falling Walls Foundation (including all social media channels). The presenter is not allowed to give a talk with an inflammatory political or religious agenda.
- XV. Each presenter's talk must be in compliance with law, especially design, patent, trademark and copyright law. Presenters must clear any third-party material before their presentation at the Falling Walls Venture Pitches. The Falling Walls Foundation cannot be held responsible for a presenter's violation of the law and cannot assist with this process or act as a consultant.
- XVI. The Falling Walls Foundation reserves the right to disqualify candidates from the event for cause. Such cause shall exist in particular in the event of breach of the candidates' obligations pursuant to sections XIV and XV or the eligibility criteria (I to V).
- XVII. **Entering Germany:** Successful applicants must hold a valid passport and apply for any required visa to Germany right after receiving the letter of acceptance to the Falling Walls Venture Pitches. The Falling Walls Foundation can provide an official invitation but cannot be of any further assistance in the visa application process. Moreover, the participants are obliged to inform the Falling Walls Foundation immediately if the visa application was rejected.
- XVIII. **Travel:** Travel stipends will be available to cover the travel cost of the start-up presenter (single person who presents the start-up on stage at the Falling Walls Venture Pitches in Berlin). The stipend includes a fixed allowance for travel costs (to be used for an economy class flight or 2nd class train journey). If travel costs exceed the allowance, participants will have to cover the surplus amount themselves. The Falling Walls Foundation cannot cover travel or accommodation cost for a representative of the nominating institution.
- XIX. **Accommodation:** The Falling Walls Foundation will cover accommodation cost for the start-up presenter's stay in Berlin for 4 nights from 6-10 November 2024 at its partner hotel. Any additional nights of accommodation must be covered by the participants or a third party (sponsor or partner).

Liability

- XX. At the event, the organiser assumes liability pursuant to statutory conditions. Arrival and departure are excluded from the event. No further liability shall exist. Liability is assumed by the participant in cases of damage to property or personal injury caused by the participant.

By ticking the respective box on the Falling Walls website's application form, I confirm that I have read, understood and accept the above listed terms and conditions.