

McDermott Rise



McDERMOTT IS COMMITTED TO CREATING GREATER EQUITY IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

We launched McDermott Rise in 2020 to combat inequality and promote fairness while helping level the playing field for founders of color. The program provides a set of free legal and business services to 20 entrepreneurs each year to help them launch and scale their endeavors with every expectation of success.

ABOUT McDERMOTT RISE

We work with both early-stage and emerging companies that have an innovative plan and are solving an important problem, but could use a boost from a top-ranked international law firm. McDermott Rise is led by a dedicated team of McDermott lawyers with substantial experience handling issues vital to the success of growing businesses, including:

- Formation
- Capitalization
- Equity compensation
- Intellectual property protection
- Employment matters
- Other areas pertinent to business growth

In addition to providing a set of free legal services, we will tap into our best-in-class global network and resources to connect our McDermott Rise members with venture capital firms, private equity funds, incubators, accelerators and management consultancy firms. We will also offer complimentary event attendance, bootcamps, access to a suite of legal forms, and other exclusive McDermott Rise benefits. And as these ventures grow and flourish, we'll offer flexible-fee arrangements to continue our support into the future.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

The program is open to entrepreneurs in any industry whose company is early-stage or emerging and whose core leadership team is comprised of at least 50% people of color.

Elements of a strong application may include the following:

- Well developed business plan
- Dynamic and deeply engaged management team
- Disruptive business model that solves an important problem
- Intellectual property or technology
- Well-researched product market or audience

Applications will be reviewed by the McDermott Rise leadership committee. This diverse team comprises eight McDermott partners from various practice groups, including a member of the Firm's executive committee.

FULL DETAILS AND APPLY

To view full program details, visit our website at mwe.com/McDermottRise.

McDermott
Will & Emery