
BLACKTECHSTARTUP EDUCATION

Find Black Investors, Angels, VC Funds and Founder Networks

Build a verified capital network without confusing investor organizations, founder programs and firms that actually write checks; target thesis fit, earn warm paths and keep the entire market open.

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Do not use one giant “Black investor list”

The most common resource failure is mixing venture funds, angel groups, nonprofits, fellowship programs, pitch competitions and communities into one list and implying they all invest. They do not. Classify every organization as: DIRECT INVESTOR/FUND; ANGEL COLLECTIVE; INVESTOR-ECOSYSTEM/TRAINING; FOUNDER PROGRAM; or NETWORK/COMMUNITY. Then verify stage, sector, geography, check range if publicly stated, application/referral path and whether the organization is currently active.

This distinction protects founders from wasting scarce introduction capital. BLACK VC, for example, is an important nonprofit that equips Black investors; its Black Venture Institute provides access and community for Black operators looking to become angel, scout and venture investors. That makes it strategically valuable, but it is not the same thing as a VC fund receiving founder pitches.

Start with verified examples and label what they actually are

BAG Collective describes itself as a collective of angel investors focused on seed to Series A technology startups: that is an investor lane. Collab Capital states that it invests financial, human and network capital in businesses and its current Fund II focuses on Seed and Series A investments: that is

a direct fund lane. HBCUvc describes itself as a space for HBCU alumni investors and emerging angels to connect, learn and unlock funding; it reports capital influenced by its alumni: that is an investor ecosystem with community-investment activity, not a reason to assume every founder can submit a deck for a standard fund check. BLACK VC builds Black investor talent and community: ecosystem.

Maintain these labels next to every name. Organizations evolve, funds close, theses change and application forms come and go. Reverify the official site before outreach. If the organization publishes a “Who We Fund” or “Apply” page, read that before asking for an introduction.

Build a thesis-fit investor matrix, not a race-only target list

Black-led capital can increase network reach and founder access, but your company still has to fit investment strategy. For each potential investor record stage, sector, geography, business-model preference, typical ownership/check behavior if public, recent relevant deals, partner who led them and your reason for fit. Then include thesis-fit investors across the entire market. The objective is more doors, not a smaller room.

A Black founder building enterprise cybersecurity should not spend months pitching consumer funds merely because the partner is Black. A founder building a profitable service company may be a poor institutional-VC fit altogether. Use Guide 03 first and Guide 62 if venture financing is actually appropriate.

Use portfolio founders to get better intelligence and introductions

Before asking a partner for money, talk to two or three founders they have backed—especially founders with outcomes similar to yours. Ask how the investor behaved during a difficult quarter, whether follow-on support matched the pitch, how introductions worked, how fast decisions were made and whether there were surprises in governance. This is investor diligence and relationship building at the same time.

When requesting an introduction, send a forwardable 5–7 sentence note with company, buyer, traction, round, fit and link to a concise deck. Make it easy for the connector to forward without rewriting your life story.

Use HBCU networks as capital-network infrastructure

HBCUs produce founders, operators, alumni, executives and increasingly investors. HBCUvc's current effort explicitly focuses on HBCU alumni investors and emerging angels. HBCU Founders Initiative supports HBCU students and alumni building companies. Use alumni chapters, entrepreneurship centers, faculty commercialization contacts, investor events and founder cohorts to build repeated relationships rather than showing up only when a wire is needed.

Map your own university and regional network: alumni in venture/PE, corporate innovation leaders, successful founders, attorneys, accountants, procurement executives and angel investors. Capital often moves through trust networks long before a formal pitch.

Create a 100-relationship capital CRM

Segment 100 relationships into investors now, investors later, connectors, founder references and ecosystem builders. For each, track last interaction, fit, next action and value you can provide. Send meaningful updates every 4–8 weeks when fundraising is approaching: customer wins, product milestones, hiring, metrics and specific asks. Do not make every touch an ask for money.

The goal is to have 20–30 people who know the company before the formal raise starts. That compresses the trust-building period and reduces dependence on a single gatekeeper.

A current Black-capital verification checklist

Before adding an organization to your working list, verify: current website; active team; recent activity; actual investment/program type; stage; sector; geography; how founders engage; whether applications are open; and date verified. If you cannot verify a check size, write “not publicly stated” instead of copying an old database estimate. If the organization trains investors, say that. If it offers a prize, say prize. Precision is part of access.

Black Tech Startup should eventually maintain this as a living directory alongside the guide. The durable advantage is not publishing 100 names once; it is maintaining 100 accurate records that founders can trust.

Research behind this guide

Use the primary and authoritative sources below to verify current rules, prices, eligibility and program details before acting. Terms can change.

BLCK VC — Black Venture Institute



BAG Collective



HBCUvc — Alumni Angels



HBCUvc — About / Impact



Collab Capital — Who We Fund



Collab Capital — Fund II



HBCU Founders Initiative



SEC — Early-Stage Investors



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