

Winchester-Clark County, KY Entrepreneurial Academy

Apply to Launch Lab

Fall 2026 · Free · Clark County Teenagers Ages 13–18 · Up to 20 spots

Applications close when cohort is full · Sessions outside school hours · Cardinal Community Center, Winchester, KY

What Is Launch Lab?

Launch Lab is a free 9-session entrepreneurship program for Clark County teenagers ages 13 to 18. You take a business idea and turn it into a real business — with a real product or service, a real price, and real paying customers — across 9 sessions held outside school hours at Cardinal Community Center in Winchester.

No tuition. No fees. No cost of any kind. Ever.

How to Apply — Two Steps

Important: Both steps must be completed for your application to be reviewed. A written form without a video will not be considered. A video without a form will not be considered. Complete both.

STEP

1

Record Your Video

Record a 60 to 90 second video on your phone answering the three prompts below. Film in a quiet place. Hold your phone vertically or horizontally — either is fine. You do not need to edit it or make it look professional. We want to see the real you, not a production. One take is fine.

STEP

2

Submit Your Application

Upload your video to YouTube as an Unlisted video — this means only people with the link can see it. It will not appear in search results or on your channel. Then email John Chaney at john.chaney1970@icloud.com with your completed application form attached and your YouTube video link included in the email. The form is below — print and complete or type your answers.

The Three Video Prompts

Cover all three prompts in your 60 to 90 second video. You do not need to answer them in order. Just talk naturally.

Prompt 1 — Tell us who you are.

Your name, your age, your school, and one thing about yourself that has nothing to do with school.

Tip: Keep it short — 15 to 20 seconds. We just want to know who you are.

Prompt 2 — Tell us why you want to be in Launch Lab.

What made you apply? What do you want to get out of it?

Tip: Be honest. There is no wrong answer. 'I want to make money' is completely valid. So is 'I want to try something real and see if I can do it.'

Prompt 3 — Tell us about a business idea you are thinking about — OR a problem you have noticed that needs a solution.

You do not need a finished idea. A direction is enough. If you truly have nothing yet you can skip this prompt — but most people have at least one idea or one problem they keep noticing.

Tip: There is no wrong answer here either. 'I want to sell baked goods' and 'I noticed there is no good lawn care option in my neighborhood' are both great answers.

Who Can Apply?

You need to be:

- A Clark County resident OR Clark County school student
- Between ages 13 and 18
- Available for 9 sessions outside school hours
- Willing to participate in the Soft Launch Event

You do NOT need:

- A finished business idea
- Prior business experience
- Good grades or test scores
- Money to start
- Any special skills or background

→ Have a parent or guardian willing to sign enrollment forms

Application Form — Complete and Email to John Chaney

How to submit: Print this page, complete it, and email a photo or scan to john.chaney1970@icloud.com along with your YouTube video link. Or type your answers in an email and attach the video link. Either way is fine.

Full legal name	
Preferred name / nickname	
Age	
Date of birth	
Grade	
School	
Home address	
Student cell phone	
Student email	
Parent / guardian name	
Parent / guardian phone	
Parent / guardian email	
YouTube video link	
Clark County connection	<input type="checkbox"/> I live in Clark County <input type="checkbox"/> I attend a Clark County school <input type="checkbox"/> Clark County homeschool
How did you hear about Launch Lab?	<input type="checkbox"/> School counselor <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Friend / family <input type="checkbox"/> Social media <input type="checkbox"/> Community event <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Have you ever started a business or earned money from your own project? Yes No

If yes, briefly describe:

Describe your business idea in one or two sentences. It is okay if it is rough — that is what the program is for:

Why do you want to participate in Launch Lab? What are you hoping to get out of it?

Is there anything about your schedule, transportation, or situation we should know to support you well?

Student signature _____

Date _____

What happens next: John Chaney will review your application and video and notify you within one week of receiving it. Accepted students receive an enrollment packet. Your parent or guardian must sign and return all enrollment forms before your spot is confirmed. Submitting this application does not guarantee enrollment. Up to 20 students are accepted per cohort.