

Decarbon8-US Request for Proposal
Summer 2021: Decarbonizing Transportation
[Apply online](#) by June 21 for priority consideration;
last applications accepted July 9.

E8, an angel investor community committed to cleantech, **invites a new round of applications for Decarbon8-US Fund**. Our fund and process leverage philanthropic and personal capital to support early-stage companies whose technologies and business models address climate change. Managed by E8 advisors, we make **equity and debt investments** (not grants) **in companies offering market-ready decarbonization solutions for transportation**, the **leading source of greenhouse gases** in the United States.



For entrepreneurs, the E8 and Decarbon8-US opportunity includes:

- **Investment capital** for your next stage of growth. Our successful 2020 Decarbon8-US round, including co-investment from angel investors, yielded nearly **\$1M across 3 companies** ([Xeal](#), [Steelhead Composites](#), [Earthly Labs](#)). Decarbon8-US flexed to accommodate their fundraising needs and timelines.
- **Investors for future rounds**: existing and new investors have already accelerated future fundraising for 2020 investees, with follow-on investments from E8 members and others.
- **Engagement and support from cleantech investment specialists**: E8's subject-matter expertise and dedicated national and international cleantech networks provide knowledge and social capital along with our financial investment.
- **Visibility and advocacy for your enterprise**, with member engagement, PR and other benefits from successfully receiving Decarbon8-US support.

E8 partner, Craft3, will offer finalists a consultation with its cleantech lending team with advice for current or future debt financing. **Decarbon8-US Fund investments will be announced in early September**, followed by presentations on September 16 to attract co-investment by angel investors and others.

Learn more about the Decarbon8-US Fund's principles and operations from the Fund Brief (www.decarbon8-us.org).

Applicant Eligibility

The Decarbon8-US Fund seeks to reduce climate change by investing in enterprises that reduce or remove greenhouse gas emissions, and that create equitable access to the benefits of their products and services. **This round of Decarbon8-US focuses on early-stage companies working on carbon reduction and removal in the transportation sector.** To be eligible for funding an enterprise should:

1. **Serve the transportation sector and its supply chain.** The transportation sector supports the movement of people, animals or goods by **air, land, or sea**. If your company helps decarbonize any aspect of the transportation sector, we hope you will apply.
2. Have generated **some revenue**, not exceeding \$1.5M, in 2020. Our goal is to accelerate early-stage solutions that are in the market, or very close to it; pre-revenue **pilots** with revenue expected in 2021 may be considered.
3. Be **incorporated as a for-profit entity** in the United States or Canada.

Decarbon8-US supports various types of investments and will **accommodate the fundraising plans and timelines** of successful applicants. Please note: **E8 portfolio companies** that fit the eligibility criteria above are welcome to apply.

Evaluation Criteria

An Investment Committee with expertise in clean tech investing, transportation, and carbon mitigation technologies will review the applications ([see Fund Brief](#)). Novel and potential impact in the form of carbon emissions reduction is the overriding criterion for investment. Applicants are encouraged to quantify emissions reduction and/or removal potential from scaling the commercialization of their technology and to explain how the solution offers an outsized impact.

Applications should provide information on the following:

1. The problem
2. The solution and use case, including an estimate of greenhouse gas emission reduction
3. Target market and size
4. Competition, intellectual property, and sustainable competitive advantage
5. Revenue model
6. Sales and marketing strategy
7. Leadership and management team
8. Financial projections
9. Fundraising goals (with deal terms or plans if available)
10. Exit strategy

Selection Timeline

- **June 21, 2021, 6pm Pacific Time:** Applications receive **priority consideration**. Later applications will be accepted through **July 9**
- **Mid-July:** semi-finalist notifications; pitch screening.
- **July – August:** finalist notifications; due diligence conducted on finalists
- **Early September:** Investment selection
- **September 16, 2021:** Investment celebration and pitch opportunity to full E8 membership for additional co-investment

To Apply

Apply to the Decarbon8-US Fund by visiting E8's website. Application will prompt creation of a deal page in **ProSeeder, E8's secure deal management platform**.

<https://www.e8angels.com/apply-for-funding>

The application form for the Decarbon8-US Fund and E8's standard angel investment process is the same. Companies meeting the criteria for the Decarbon8-US Fund will be considered for that opportunity upon receipt of their applications. Decarbon8-US Fund applicants of interest to the Investment Committee will be asked to provide additional information to support due diligence.

Companies that do not advance to the final rounds of the Decarbon8-US process may still receive consideration as part of E8's standard funding [process](#), which runs from August to May and is not limited to companies focused on decarbonization.

Due to the large number of applications, we regret that we are not able to respond to all applicants regarding application status.

For more information contact: decarbon8@e8angels.com