

CoMotion Labs provides a multi-industry incubator program for early-stage startups, with a preference given to UW spinoffs. From critical infrastructure to learning, mentoring, and networking, CoMotion Labs nurtures and enables success.

To maintain focus on early-stage startups which need affordable tailored space, knowledge, and skill development to grow, we outline below the conditions under which companies will be required to graduate from CoMotion Labs and move to a new space. The four main factors we review when determining whether a startup is ready for graduation are: funding, company size, participation in CoMotion Labs programs, and “zombie mode” status.

Overview of factors

Funding
Companies will eventually raise money from private capital and/or may realize revenue from operations. Because of CoMotion Labs’ commitment to keeping our costs low and passing that value on to our members, companies that raise substantial funding or realize recurring revenue from operations may be asked to graduate from the CoMotion Labs incubator.

Size of member company in both headcount and occupied square footage
CoMotion Labs recognizes that companies will likely grow during their tenure, which can include hiring employees and acquiring additional square footage/resources in our facilities. Because CoMotion Labs is an early-stage incubator facility with very limited space, the CoMotion Labs incubator manager will evaluate the growth of member companies on an annual basis. Members that are deemed to have outgrown CoMotion Labs will be asked to graduate from our program.

Member support of CoMotion-hosted events, roundtables, workshops, and other resources
The CoMotion Labs incubators provide significant value to its members through the culture created by the interactive and collaborative programs and workshops it offers. In accordance with the signed Participation Agreement, we expect CoMotion members to engage in this environment by speaking on occasion to visiting groups or working with interns/UW departments.

“Zombie mode”
"Zombie mode" describes a startup that has not gained traction, is failing to grow/scale, or is in a general, and perpetual, lull.
COMOTION LABS

Hardware Incubator at Fluke Hall
Graduation Conditions and Post-Graduation Membership Benefits

Funding
When a company raises a Series A round, the CoMotion Labs hardware incubator manager will send the member a letter that triggers a nine-month window ending with graduation from the Lab. Considerations will include size of funding round, availability of space in the incubator, length of the waitlist, and other issues.

Member company headcount and space
When a company hires their eighth full-time onsite member, they need to sign the "three-month notice" contract, which requires the company to provide 90-days' notice of departure. They will also receive notice that CoMotion Labs hardware incubator may limit the company to a total of eight desks and benches, depending on availability. Total employee headcount does not include interns.

Member support of CoMotion-hosted events, roundtables, workshops, and other resources
While the manner in which a member supports CoMotion Labs' culture may vary, our incubator may not be used simply as desk/lab space for companies or their employees who do not engage with our programs or cooperate with our requests. As such, members who do not participate in the broader CoMotion Labs community may be asked to find alternative space.

“Zombie mode” startups
Member companies that are deemed to be in "zombie mode" will be asked to find alternative space. Because the nature of the companies operating in the three different CoMotion Labs spaces varies, these considerations may be applied differently in each incubator.

Post-graduation membership ($115/month)
Virtual memberships are available for all graduating companies from the hardware incubator. Virtual memberships provide companies with the following benefits:

- Access to programming, mentor database
- Usage of conference rooms at $15 an hour
- Mailbox within Fluke Hall

Virtual memberships do not provide:

- Cost centers access
- Key card access
- Guaranteed use of shared equipment

Members are not allowed to hold desks, which is defined as paying to maintain membership or reserving desks for future use. However, member company needs for desks can be discussed with the CoMotion Labs hardware incubator manager at the beginning of each fiscal year to anticipate and then try to accommodate projected changes in member company needs for the coming year.