

## **Ibom Ignite Entrepreneurship & Innovation Grant Guide For Applicants**

To apply for Ibom Ignite Entrepreneurship & Innovation grant, you must be an Akwa Ibomite or resident in Akwa Ibom with a business idea or existing business not older than two years, and apply online via [www.thegathering.ng](http://www.thegathering.ng) during the application window.

The application requires a detailed business concept, an understanding of its market, and commitment to the program's mentorship and training.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

- **Applicant Domiciliation:** You must be an Akwa Ibomite or a resident in Akwa Ibom.
- **Ibom Ignite Alumni:** You must have attended any Ibom Ignite Conferences.
- **Business Stage:** Your business must be a new idea or an existing company with a registration of no more than five years.
- **Business Type:** Your proposed business must be for-profit.
- **Location:** The business must be registered and operating in Akwa Ibom.
- **Originality:** The business idea must be your original work.
- **Single Application:** You may only apply with one business idea.

### **How to Apply**

1. **Visit the Portal:** Go to the Ibom Ignite website, [www.thegathering.ng](http://www.thegathering.ng).
2. **Register and Complete the Form:** Register your profile and fill out the mandatory application form, providing accurate responses and details about your business idea or existing business.
3. **Submit Application:** Submit the completed form before the deadline.

### **Key Application Components**

- **Ibom Ignite Platform:** Applications are submitted through the dedicated online platform.
- **Application Window:** The portal is open from September 13 – September 22, 2025.
- **Business Idea:** You need a scalable business idea with potential market opportunity and feasibility.
- **Commitment:** Successful applicants receive training, mentorship, and networking, and must be committed to the program.

**Existing Business**

Please be informed that if your business is operational, you will be required to upload supporting documents. In order to speed up the application process, prepare these documents before you start your application.

*Required documents are:*

- ✓ Valid Government-issued Identification
- ✓ CAC Registration Certificate
- ✓ Official Evidence of Business Ownership/ CAC Form CO2 & C07
- ✓ Official Evidence of Directors
- ✓ Official Consent by Partners to apply
- ✓ Tax Identification Number
- ✓ Passport Photograph (2x2)

**Start Up/ Business Idea**

If all you have is a business idea you can still apply. You will not be required to submit these documents, except the following:

- ✓ Valid Government-issued Identification
- ✓ Passport Photograph (2x2)

All applications will be reviewed and selected applicants for Ibom Ignite Entrepreneurship & Innovation Grant will be notified accordingly.