

Frequently asked questions - Participant Agreement for Evolve

Please read this document after you have looked at the Participant Agreement and the Summary of the Participant Agreement to see if this document answers your question. If you have a question that is not listed in this document, please feel free to reach out to the team. We're here to support you throughout your participation in the programme.

1. Why am I being asked to sign a Participant Agreement?

The Participant Agreement outlines the terms of your participation in the E&C programme. It ensures clarity on roles, responsibilities, and the support you will receive and your CoSTAR Host's commitment to you whilst you participate in the E&C programme.

2. What is the deadline for signing the Participant Agreement?

The first email sent to you confirming your successful application included a deadline for signing the Participant Agreement. Please ensure you sign the Participant Agreement by that date to secure your place. Failure to sign the Participant Agreement could result in a delay to your participation or your disqualification from the E&C programme.

3. What documents do I need to provide, and when?

Your CoSTAR Host will send a checklist and timeline to you listing all documents you will need to provide and the deadline for submitting each document. This will help you stay on track and ensure a smooth onboarding process.

4. What is the Application Bursary and the Access Bursary and how do I apply?

CoSTAR is committed to equality, inclusion and reducing barriers to access. CoSTAR's goal is to ensure that applying to and participating in any E&C programme is easy and accessible to all. Application Bursaries and Access Bursaries are available for anyone with a disability, health condition or other access need. You can find more information about the bursaries and how to apply for a bursary at <https://www.costarnetwork.co.uk/bursaries>.

5. How can I spend the Enterprise Development Award?

You may use the Enterprise Development Award to contribute towards any activity that you believe would help develop your business. For example, you might want to use the Enterprise Development Award to contribute towards buying advice from an expert. You may not use the Enterprise Development to pay for the disallowed costs that are listed in clause 3.2B.

6. Can I suggest changes to the Participant Agreement?

While we welcome feedback, the terms of the Participant Agreement cannot be changed to ensure consistency and fairness for all participants. All participants so far have signed the Participant Agreement without any changes. However, your input always helps and may be reflected in future versions of the Participant Agreement.

7. Does the Participant Agreement cover confidentiality?

Yes, it does. The relevant clauses are clause 4.5, clause 4.6, clause 5.1, clause 5.2, clause 5.3, clause 9.2A and clause 9.3.1 of the Participant Agreement. Each participant is protected by each other participant agreeing to these clauses.

8. Can I put in place an NDA with a collaborator or a subcontractor?

Yes. If you wish to enter into a non-disclosure agreement (an “NDA”) with any collaborator, subcontractor or other third party involved in your project, you are welcome to do so.

9. Will my CoSTAR Host and the Collaborators respect my privacy?

Yes. Your CoSTAR Host and every Collaborator has agreed to keep your personal data confidential as set out in the privacy notice mentioned in clause 7.2.

10. Will I own whatever I create during the E&C programme?

Yes. The relevant clause is clause 4.2.

11. Will anyone else have rights in whatever I create during the E&C programme?

No. The relevant clauses are clause 4.3, clause 4.4, clause 5.1, clause 5.2, clause 6.1, clause 9.2A and clause 9.3.1 of the Participant Agreement.

12. What should I do if I have a concern about anyone participating in the E&C programme or my CoSTAR Host?

If you have any concerns about the behaviour of anyone participating in the E&C programme, please contact your CoSTAR Host immediately. If you have any concerns about your CoSTAR Host, please contact the CoSTAR Legal Contact set out in your Participant Agreement immediately.

13. What can I do if another participant breaches confidentiality or uses my ideas inappropriately?

Please look at clause 4.6 and clause 11.9 in the Participant Agreement. If you believe another participant did not abide by the clauses, your company will need to sue the other participant.

14. Can my CoSTAR Host's liability be increased?

Your CoSTAR Host's liability cannot be increased because your CoSTAR Host is a publicly funded organisation and is providing the E&C programme to reflect your CoSTAR Host's charitable remit.

15. Can my CoSTAR Host provide an indemnity?

Your CoSTAR Host cannot provide an indemnity because your CoSTAR Host is a publicly funded organisation and is providing the E&C programme to reflect your CoSTAR Host's charitable remit.