

<u>eMerge Americas</u> proudly presents the inaugural SALUTE! Veteran Pitch Competition, sponsored by <u>The Veteran Fund</u>. On January 22, 2025, eight exceptional startups will pitch live online to top investors and industry experts. The top two will advance to the exclusive Veteran Accelerator + Showcase at eMerge Americas in Miami on March 27–28, 2025.

## **WHAT'S AT STAKE**

- Showcase your startup for 2 days to nearly 20,000 attendees, receive Delta travel certificates, and enjoy more benefits worth over \$12,000...completely free!
- Chance to gain global visibility, connect with top investors, and accelerate your growth.

## PRIZES?

- 1st Place: Entry into the Veteran Accelerator + Showcase (valued at \$12K+) PLUS \$1,000 microgrant courtesy of IVMF-Bunker Labs
- 2nd Place: Entry into the Veteran Accelerator + Showcase (valued at \$12K+) PLUS \$500 in Delta travel certificates

## STARTUP CRITERIA

- Tech or tech-enabled startups with a service member, veteran, first responder, or military spouse on the leadership team
- Live MVP, paying customers, and a core team of at least 2 full-time employees
- May have raised capital (Pre-Seed to Seed rounds)
- Operating in one of the following sectors:
  - Aerospace and Defense
  - Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
  - Blockchain & Web3 Technologies
  - Climate Technology & Energy
  - Cybersecurity
  - Financial Technology (FinTech)
  - Frontier Technologies (Quantum Computing, Robotics)
  - Health Technology (BioTech, Digital Health, Services, Life Sciences, Medical Devices)
  - Semiconductors & Hardware

## REQUIREMENTS

Meet startup criteria above

2 Submit the SALUTE! Pitch Competition application

Submit Veteran Accelerator +
Showcase application

To be considered, both applications must be submitted by Monday, January 6, 2025, at 11:59 PM.