

**HIGH SCIENCE HIGH IMPACT**

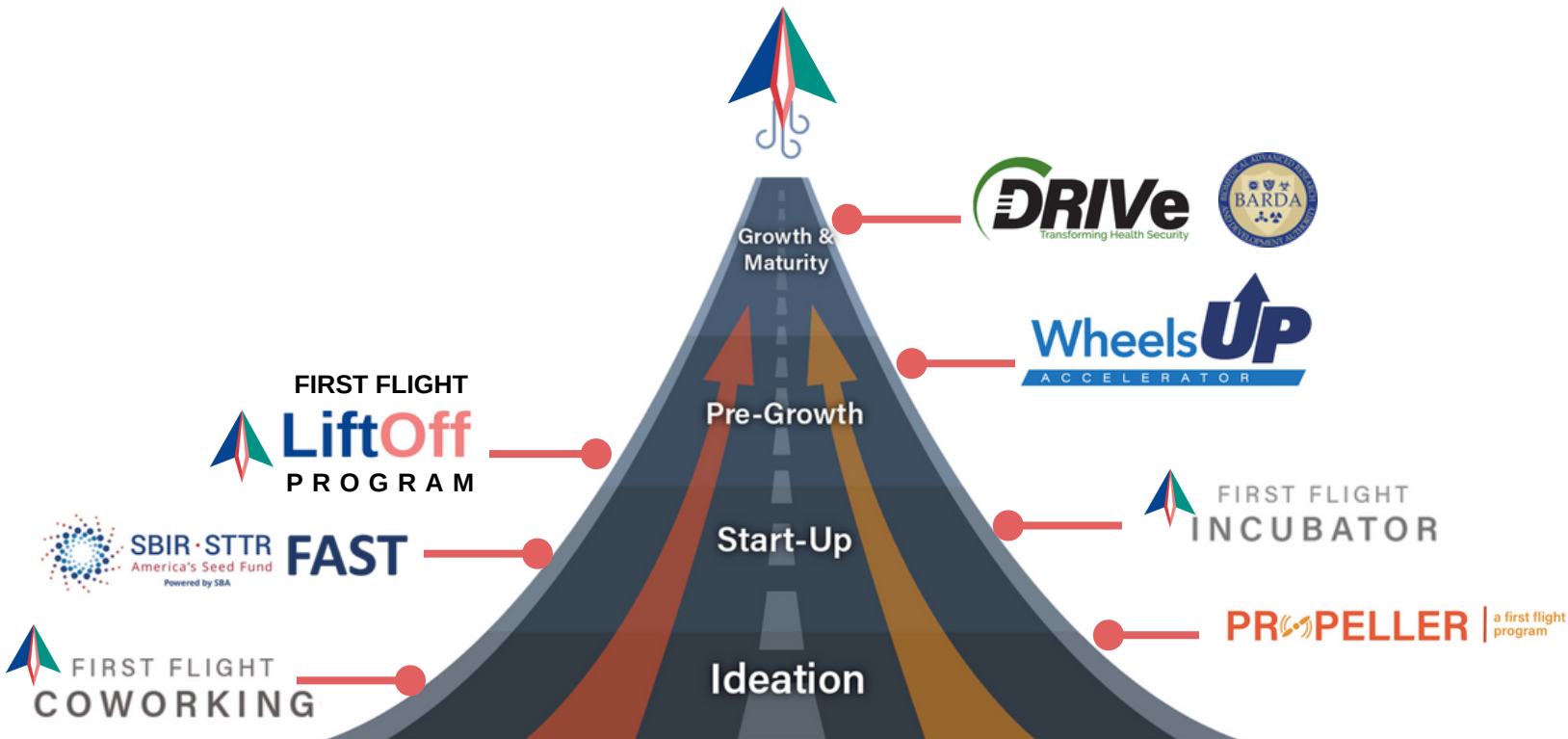
**North Carolina's Premier Science & Technology  
Business Innovation Hub**

- Nonprofit Science-Focused Business Incubator Serving Early-Stage Companies & Entrepreneurs.
- 35-40 Resident Companies at Any Given Time.
- Located in the Heart of Research Triangle Park, NC.
- 400+ Resident Company Graduates
- Wet Labs and Office Space Available.



Runway to  
**SUCCESS**

Programs designed to meet entrepreneurs at various stages in their company's life cycle.



**PROGRAMS BELOW OFFERED AT ALL STAGES**



Thirsty Thursdays  
(Startup Community Building)

(Mentoring program)



## First Flight Programs Meet Startups Where They Are in the Business Development Life Cycle

**Test Flight:** Test Flight is pitch practice for companies in the First Flight Venture Center ecosystem. We will be inviting an audience to observe pitches from up to two companies. The audience will include our Navigators, angel investors, nondilutive funding groups, customers, and other relevant reviewers to ensure the companies get meaningful, impactful feedback so your pitches continue to get better!

[1st Tuesday of the month, 8:30 - 9:30am.]

**Itineraries:** Itineraries offers a chance for members of the First Flight community and broader innovation ecosystem to learn about the work of early-stage science-focused companies, network, and have some fun at the same time! An Itinerary is 'a planned route or journey' and this program gives companies often who are in residence at First Flight a forum in which to share where they are and where they plan to go.

[3rd Tuesday of the month, 12 - 1pm.]

**Talking Shop:** Talking Shop is a monthly lunchtime gathering, interactive open house to bring together committed experienced entrepreneurs with design and prototyping expertise with budding startups, entrepreneurs, or small manufacturers that are learning design and prototyping principles to "talk shop".

[2nd Tuesday of the month, 11:30am - 12:45pm.]

**Navigators:** First Flight Navigators are seasoned executives, entrepreneurs, and scientists with rich business experience. They have worked hard, achieved success, and now want to give back to the entrepreneurial community.

**First Flight Captain's Cricle::** Brings together small groups of non-competing entrepreneurs for monthly private discussions with peers, led by a professional facilitator. Structured topics designed to solve problems and share best practices include finance, investments, employee relations, legal considerations, operations, scalability, marketing, and sales.



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**Hangar6:** Serious tools for serious people: Hangar6 is the Research Triangle's premier advanced prototyping and design assistance space. Hangar6 enables the designing and building of prototypes using tools such as 3D printers, CO2 laser cutter, metal fiber laser, automated CNC mill, metal bending equipment, a woodshop and welding shop. Startups, entrepreneurs, corporations, design/engineering firms and other prototypers join Hangar6 through a monthly/annual/team membership model giving startups an easy and low cost way to prototype their idea.

**LiftOff:** First Flight's LiftOff program recruits high potential early-stage science-based companies, provides them with a nondilutive funding strategic plan, identifies funding opportunities and provides professionally written, competitive SBIR/STTR grant writing services at a significantly subsidized rate. Since 2016, LiftOff companies have won over \$16 million in SBIR/STTR grant funding.

**DRIVE Initiative:** First Flight has been selected by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as one of 13 national accelerators tasked with finding solutions to protect the world from health security threats, including sepsis and early notification of infectious diseases. This DRIVE (Division of Research, Innovation and Ventures) initiative is part of Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) and is designed to identify/fund companies who solve priority threats.

**"Propeller":** Helps founders and entrepreneurs determine whether there is sufficient value to pursue a product or service idea, identify potential markets, develop a path to market strategy, and learn how to communicate the value of the idea to early stakeholders and adopters. Propeller serves as a critical step – often the first – helping a science/technology innovator bridge the gap between a brilliant idea and the business value it represents.

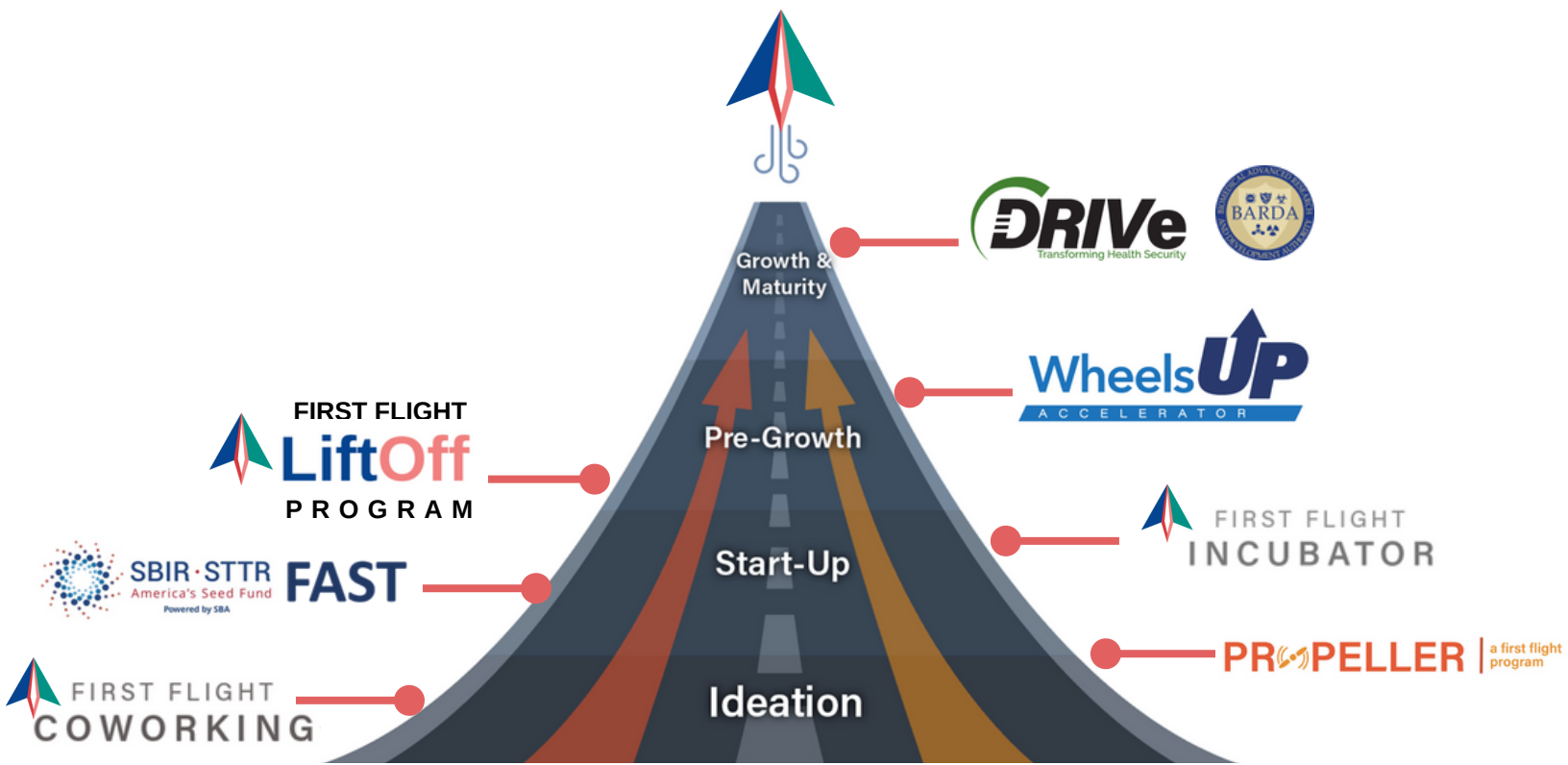
**Wheels UP:** Proposed for 2022 to further catalyze innovation, First Flight is creating Wheels UP, a comprehensive science-focused accelerator. Wheels UP will marshal the resources and assets of our region to meet the entrepreneur at their company's stage of development with skilled mentorship, technical and business training. The overall strategy for Wheels UP is to work collaboratively with companies to target their needs through new product innovation.

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