

Privacy Notice: KAUST Scale-X

Applicability: KAUST Scale-X applicants, participants, former applicants, and former participants

This privacy notice ("Notice") applies to current and former applicants and participants in the KAUST Scale-X soft landing program. The purpose of this Notice is to inform you of how KAUST processes your Personal Data. This Notice does not form part of any contract.

For the purpose of applicable data protection legislation, the entity which is responsible for your Personal Data is King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Thuwal 23955-6900, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ("KAUST", "we", "us", "our").

This Notice replaces and supersedes any previous notices addressing the same or similar issues, whether formal or informal. KAUST reserves the right to alter, amend, or replace this Notice in whole or in part. The latest version of this Notice can be found here. You should always check that you are referring to the latest version of this Notice if you have previously downloaded hard copies of this Notice. For a copy of a previous version of this privacy notice, please contact DPO@KAUST.edu.sa.

1. What Personal Data does KAUST Scale-X collect?

Depending on your level of participation in the program, the following types of Personal Data may be collected:

- Personal details such as name, date of birth, gender, nationality, country and city of residence
- Contact information such as email, phone number, LinkedIn page, and WhatsApp number
- Professional information such as previous educational and professional experiences, job title, organization or startup affiliation, business email address, CV, and English proficiency
- Information about your emergency contacts
- Passport number and expiry, Saudi visa status, copy of Saudi visa, special visa requests or notes
- Signed agreements
- Information related to flight or accommodation bookings or other program logistics (i.e., workspace allocation, provision of food or transport)
- Photos and videos
- Communications
- Information voluntarily shared by participants

2. What sensitive Personal Data is being collected?

We may also collect, store and use the following sensitive personal information, when applicable:

- Information about your religion, limited to whether you are Muslim / Non-Muslim
- Dietary restrictions
- Accessibility needs

3. Where do we get your Personal Data?

Most Personal Data is collected from the information you enter into the application, and, if applicable, information you provide in the acceptance form and include in communications.

We may also obtain information about you from individuals who refer you to our program or that you publish online, for example, in your LinkedIn profile or on social media accounts. We may also obtain publicly available information about you from online resources.

KAUST may receive information about you that you provide to our KAUST Scale-X collaborators, including third party evaluators, to make a decision on enrollment and to support the operation and administration of the program.

KAUST may receive information about you from our third party service providers such as confirmed travel and accommodation bookings and confirmations related to special meals, accessibility requests, or other special requests.

For participants carrying a visa issued by KAUST, KAUST is able to access visa details on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' portal. For participants requesting a visa extension, KAUST has access to relevant information (nationality, passport details, border entry number, and visa expiry date) about you on the Ministry of Interior portal related to the visa extension application.

4. Why do we collect your Personal Data?

KAUST processes your Personal Data to make a decision on your application to the KAUST Scale-X soft landing program and to administer the program, including to support with the logistics of visiting and working in Saudi Arabia. Your Personal Data collected by KAUST will not be processed later in a manner inconsistent with this purpose, except as provided or required by law.

5. Do I need to provide all of the information requested?

Optional content is marked on the application and acceptance forms.

6. Why are we able to process your Personal Data?

We may process your Personal Data with your consent.

7. Does the processing involve profiling and/or any automated decision-making?

No, KAUST does not rely on any automated decision-making or conduct any profiling in this process.

8. Who do we share your Personal Data with, and how do they process the Personal Data?

Within KAUST, we may share relevant information with specific individuals to review and evaluate your application, to decide upon a request or issue, or to provide you with support as a participant in the program.

Below is a list of external entities and individuals with whom we may share your information:

Entities and individuals	Information we may share (when applicable) and why
AlHarbi & Associates Law Firm	<p>Basic personal information contained in portfolios, including names, emails, locations, job titles, and startup names are shared with AlHarbi & Associates Law Firm, so they may contact you regarding their legal services, as part of the program.</p> <p>If your company agrees to use AlHarbi & Associates' legal services, personal information contained in documents that would support the registration and incorporation process may be shared with the law firm. AlHarbi & Associates provides legal services to guide you through the company registration and incorporation process in Saudi Arabia, including legal entity setup; to advise on local regulatory compliance, ownership structures, and commercial licensing; to help with documentation review and contract formation, to address case-specific legal matters; and provide post-registration legal services required for business operations in KSA (e.g., opening a bank account and opening accounts / obtaining certificates with relevant governmental entities).</p>
Emergency contact and/or emergency responder	KAUST may disclose relevant information to an emergency contact and emergency responders in emergency cases, i.e., suspected/confirmed death, urgent hospital admission for a serious health reason, loss of consciousness and unresponsiveness, serious physical injury or mental health crisis, a student reported missing, or for other serious welfare concerns.
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	KAUST may send relevant information to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to request a visa approval letter, including your name, nationality, birth date, passport number, and passport expiry.
Ministry of Interior	When applicable, KAUST may share information required to support a request for a business visa extension.
Program reviewers, including representatives from Open Startup International (OST), Capital K, Brutally Honest Startup, Ex Intel Germany, Ministry on Investment, and SAB	Application details are shared with program reviewers to make a decision on program admission and enrollment status.
Operations Team (Representatives from OST, Ministry of Investment, and SAB)	Completed acceptance forms will be shared with OST to support program operation. Names, job titles, startup names, contact information, passport details, country of residence, gender, religion (Muslim/non-Muslim), nationality, country of residence, arrival and departure dates are shared with the Ministry of Investment to support with program onboarding, allocation of

	work space, and support the incorporation process; and with SAB to provide access to SAB facilities and facilitate participation in events.
Logistics service providers	Relevant information such as name, job title, company name, contact information, nationality, passport details, and any dietary restrictions or preferences may be shared with logistics service providers to book flights, accommodation, transportation, and provide meals.
Jade by Passion Agency	Personal details needed for booking flights, including passport information, may be shared to facilitate travel within KSA.
Social media and websites	Photos, videos, recordings, and testimonials may be shared for marketing, media and communication materials with your consent.
Software providers	Information you submit in your application and in any acceptance form are processed using software, including F6S , AirTable , and M365 . Please review their respective privacy notices for more information.
Stella Stays Hotel	Personal details, passport information, and booking details may be shared with Stella Stays Hotel to support your accommodation in KSA.
Survey providers	To collect feedback related to the program, we may share basic details (names and email address) with a survey provider to send out surveys and collect responses
Videographers / Photographers	Names, job titles, and company information may be shared when you are photographed by and/or create videos with a videographer or photographer.

We never sell Personal Data to third parties.

9. How long do we keep your Personal Data?

Unsuccessful applications will be retained for a maximum of three years, then securely destroyed. Personal information will be securely destroyed once no longer needed to achieve the purposes for which such data was collected, unless a longer retention is permitted or required under law.

Please see KAUST's Privacy Notice [main page](#) and [Privacy Notice for Business Visitors](#) for more information about how KAUST handles your personal data.

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