Brief description: This course is designed to provide an overview on the development and translation of medical devices. We will also address how researchers identify clinical need and novel technologies, improve existing medical devices and technologies, and plan and execute pre-clinical and clinical studies through licensing and commercialization. Participants will gain an understanding of the steps, rewards, and challenges inherent in device and diagnostic development, as well as knowledge of the differences between drugs and devices, and the associated regulatory implications. Additionally, the course provides a networking opportunity, introducing participants to local experts who reflect the diversity of career paths in this field.

Who is the target audience: Those with interest in medical device and/or diagnostic development, innovation, translation, and commercialization.

Date applications are due for applicants and endorsers: Monday, August 14, 2017 (applicants); Wednesday, August 16, 2017 (endorsers).

Date by which will be notified: Monday, August 21, 2017.

Selection process and criteria: Applicants are required at minimum to have at least an MD, PhD, MBA, or Master’s in science or engineering, or equivalent. Applicants must be able to commit to two full days of the course and be endorsed by their immediate supervisor.

Harvard Catalyst’s Education Program offers first priority to applicants who are current Harvard students, faculty, or current employees of Harvard University, its ten schools, and its seventeen Academic Healthcare Centers (AHC), or that of Boston College School of Nursing, MIT, or Harvard Pilgrim Health Care. A complete list of participating institutions can be found on the Harvard Catalyst website: http://catalyst.harvard.edu/about/.

The next level of priority is awarded to members of the national Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA) consortium. A complete list of participating institutions (CTSCs) can be found on the CTSA website: https://www.ctsacentral.org/institutions

Applicants who are external to the groups listed above are accepted for a fee when space is available.

Tuition/fee for external participants: Please contact us for more information.

The expectation is that by accepting a seat in one of the Education Program courses, the participant is agreeing to attend the entirety of the course. As part of the application process, a supervisor’s endorsement for course attendance, granting the applicant permission to be away from the lab or clinical duties for the duration of the course, will be automatically generated. If a participant must be absent for any portion of the course, it is the participant’s responsibility to
notify course coordinators, since attendance is taken at all sessions. If the participant cannot be reached, the coordinators will then be obliged to notify the endorsing supervisor of the unexplained absence. Since the Education Program courses are expensive to produce, but are offered to Harvard and CTSC affiliates free-of-charge, including meals and Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits, the only obligation of participants is fully to attend and participate.

Please also note that participants seeking CME credits must attend all course sessions and complete each daily evaluation. No partial CME credits are offered.

If you have any questions about the course or information above, please don’t hesitate to ask. The course coordinators can be reached at med_devices@catalyst.harvard.edu.