TURNING RESEARCHERS INTO SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEURS

https://www.cmu.edu/nsf-i-corps

OVERVIEW

The Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) I-Corps Site focuses on fusing technology and entrepreneurship. The CMU I-Corps program recruits exploratory business ventures started by faculty, staff, students and recent alumni, and trains up to 30 Site teams each academic year to accelerate business exploration and creation.

The curriculum focuses on agile innovation tied to customer discovery, and the program supplements the curriculum with intensive networking, expert guidance and financial support for projects.

SITE ACHIEVEMENTS

Since 2014, the CMU I-Corps Site has helped 139 teams across CMU's 7 schools and colleges explore their startup ideas. Teams have received $37 million in grants, investments, and venture capital funding to help translate their ideas and technology into the marketplace.

BROADENING PARTICIPATION

The CMU I-Corps Site has partnered with the CMU Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion to plan programming and events that will encourage diverse participation in the CMU innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Teams have formed active startup companies. Further, 14 Teams granted SBIR/STTR after participating in the NSF I-Corps Site program, and 20 Teams were accepted to nationally ranked accelerator programs.

Teams have participated in the National I-Corps program for the opportunity to secure $50,000 from NSF to engage in intense customer discovery and business model design.

$37M
Generated in commercialization grants and investment funding

458
Participants have engaged with CMU I-Corps

139
Teams of students, postdocs and faculty have formed since 2014