I-Corps @ UMass Amherst

Training + Experience + Funding for STEM faculty and students considering or undertaking research commercialization and startup efforts

**Why**
Gain exposure to NSF’s approach to early steps in research commercialization and startup development.

Open the door to additional funding:
- Prepare for national NSF I-Corps Teams project ($50K over 6 months)
- Qualify for new PFI opportunities ($250K over 18-24 months)
- Improve the odds of NSF SBIR success

Add new capabilities and perspective to enhance competitiveness.

**What**
Learn about and practice the Lean LaunchPad methodology. Prepare for the national NSF I-Corps Teams program.

Attend training sessions and conduct 30 customer discovery interviews.

Receive up to $2,500 to support project activities ($500 for training program plus up to $2,000 for reimbursable expenses upon completion).

**Who**
Faculty, students, postdoctoral fellows, and recent alumni interested in transferring technology out of the university and into products or services.

**How**
Identify a **project focus** based on ideas and technologies within an area normally supported by the NSF. It can be based on student work, faculty-led research (funded or unfunded), institutional or industrial projects. Intellectual property may be owned by either the university or the team.

Form a **team** including an entrepreneurial lead (typically a student or postdoctoral fellow), a technical/academic lead (typically a faculty member familiar with the technology) and, an I-Corps team mentor (typically someone close by with experience transitioning technology out of academic labs, working in startups, or working in a relevant industry). A mentor is not required to apply; the I-Corps @ UMass team will help you to find one.

**I-Corps @ UMass Amherst is available to help** with team formation, defining the project, finding a mentor, and timing decisions.

**When**
The I-Corps @ UMass Amherst program is offered once per semester.

**Apply**
Join the mailing list to receive the next call for applications and announcements for information sessions, speakers, and program updates: [https://www.umass.edu/tto/sign-i-corps-mailing-list](https://www.umass.edu/tto/sign-i-corps-mailing-list)

**Links**
I-Corps @ UMass Amherst: [https://www.umass.edu/icorps](https://www.umass.edu/icorps)

I-Corps @ UMass Team
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