Venture Partners at CU Boulder

Translating groundbreaking solutions into economic and social impact by building new ventures from world-leading research and creative works.

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As the commercialization arm of the CU Boulder, Denver (Physical Sciences) and Colorado Springs campuses, Venture Partners at CU Boulder prepares innovators to bring technologies to market through:

Intellectual Property Management

Create and implement an IP strategy for your research and creative works so you can understand your rights and obligations as you work with various collaborators, research sponsors and industry partners.

Entrepreneurial Training

Get the entrepreneurship tools and education you need through events and programs designed specifically for faculty, research staf, graduate students and other innovators.

Mentorship and Advising

We can pair you with exceptional serial entrepreneurs and high-impact leaders to form a highly functional team focused on accelerating your concept to market.

Funding

Explore funding opportunities and resources to take your innovation to the next level and partner with campus entities to help advance your path to market.

Licensing and Industry Partnerships

Our team can match your innovation with companies and industry experts, or connect you with an experienced entrepreneur to help you bring your innovation to the world.

"The university's role is to support our innovators. These are our creative faculty, graduate students and postdocs who are addressing important problems in their research. Commercialization increases CU's ability to translate promising discoveries and innovations into real-world solutions."

—**Bryn Rees**, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Innovation and Partnerships

Highlight Programs

NSF I-Corps™ Hub West

Programs designed to help reduce the time and risk associated with translating promising ideas and technologies from the laboratory to the marketplace.

Lab Venture Challenge (LVC)

Funding top innovations with grants of up to $125,000, LVC supports projects that address a commercial need, have a clear path to a compelling market and have strong scientific support.

Creative Futures Fellowship

Funding and support for researchers, inventors and creators in the arts, humanities and social science to transform new ideas, creative works and social innovations into positive impact beyond the university.

Our startups and technologies are poised to revolutionize their industries:

- Pathogen Diagnostics
- Single-Dose Vaccines
- Renewable Battery Energy
- Cancer Drug Therapies
- Carbon Composites
- Quantum Technologies

1,672+ **Inventions** Disclosed (Since 2014)

798+ **License and Option Agreements** Signed (Since 2014)

240+ **Startups** Spun Out of CU Technologies

$3.8B+ **Funding Raised** by Companies Built on CU Technologies (2021-25)

> *"Venture Partners has really helped lay out the roadmap of 'here are all the things you need to do, and all the sources of funding you can get. They stand out compared to what I've seen at other universities in terms of their professionalism and how good they are at what they do."*
>
> —**Jack Gugel**, CU Boulder Alum and CEO of Arkana Therapeutics

> *"Starting a company with Venture Partners feels like having the wind at your back."*
>
> —**Jonathan Teaford**, Co-Founder and CEO of Green Steel Environmental

Tapping into Colorado's Startup Community

Techstars Boulder

Connecting CU Boulder with Techstars' network of mentors, investors and partners—creating new pathways for innovators to build and scale companies that drive real-world impact.

Embark Deep Tech Startup Creator

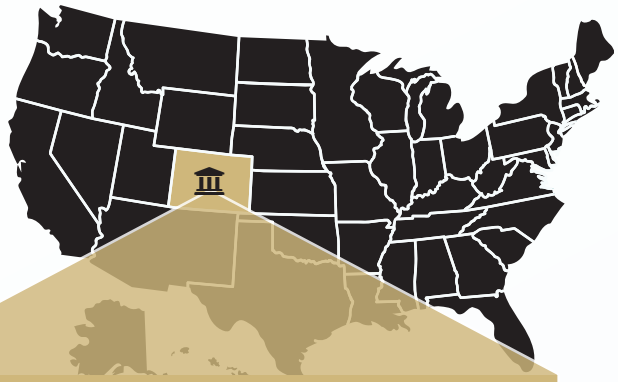
Matching entrepreneurs with breakthrough innovations. With myriad CU Boulder technologies available, Embark seeks motivated entrepreneurs ready to launch new companies. The program provides IP rights, salary support, grant funds and investor introductions.

Destination Startup

A collaboration among leading research universities and federal laboratories across the Intermountain West to showcase the best companies from our innovation ecosystem for hundreds of investors.

Licensing Opportunities

We manage a portfolio of over 1,000 inventions from CU's faculty, staff and students, and collaborate with companies of all sizes—from startups to the Fortune 500—to bring these inventions to market.



CU Boulder's Commercialization Impact

$8.7B **National** Economic Impact (2021-25)

$5.1B **Colorado** Economic Impact (2021-25)

$98M **Commercialization Revenue** to CU Boulder (2021-25)

33 OUT OF 55 **Patents** Commercially Partnered—60% (2025)

Be Boulder.

Venture Partners
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**