

Innovation & Entrepreneurship Initiative

University of Colorado Boulder research, technology transfer and entrepreneurial initiatives transform visionary concepts into practical solutions with local and global impact.

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🔗 colorado.edu/innovate

The **Innovation & Entrepreneurship Initiative** aligns and optimizes resources across the CU Boulder campus that support innovation and entrepreneurship—with an inclusive, multidisciplinary focus—to create opportunities for students, faculty and staff, facilitate collaboration, fuel achievement and build the university's reputation.



Programs and Resources for Every Venture Stage

Connect with resources and programs on and off campus to help you create the real-world impact you envision.



Beginning and Cultivating

Sharing ideas and meeting others with problem-solving mindsets



Conceiving and Exploring

Providing feedback on concepts and understanding market opportunities



Building and Testing

Turning ideas into ventures through business models and prototyping



Launching and Growing

Developing strategies to take businesses to market and preparing for expansion

Signature Programs

🏆 **New Venture Challenge (NVC)**

🏠 **Boulder Venture Club (BVC)**

📺 **Get Seed Funding**

📺 **Startups2Students (S2S)**

🌱 **Sustainability Hackathon**

👤 **Mentor Network**

Campus Hubs

CU Boulder has makerspaces and centers across campus for students, faculty and staff to use for prototyping, co-working, events and more.

- ▶ Assett Innovation Incubator
- ▶ ATLAS Institute
- ▶ Deming Center for Entrepreneurship
- ▶ Entrepreneurship Center for Music
- ▶ Idea Forge
- ▶ Integrated Teaching & Learning Program
- ▶ Silicon Flatirons Center
- ▶ Venture Partners at CU Boulder



CU Boulder's student **Boulder Venture Club** leads an entrepreneurial spirit on campus and in the Boulder community.

"This campus is starting to redefine what entrepreneurship looks like. It's not just about tech solutions, it's about creating equality and looking at culture and people."

— Rachel Sharpe (Engr'20)

Be Boulder.



University of Colorado **Boulder**

New Venture Challenge (NVC)

The **New Venture Challenge (NVC)**—a signature program of the **Innovation & Entrepreneurship Initiative**—is the CU Boulder's "flight simulator" for students and employees driven to create real-world impact through new startups, organizations and endeavors.

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General Competition



A multi-round, multi-event entrepreneurial competition where teams can win up to \$50,000 and pitch to a live audience at the Boulder Theater.



NVC is a year-round program that connects the CU Boulder campus with the Boulder community to develop and fund innovative and entrepreneurial ideas.

- ▶ **1,176** ventures launched
- ▶ **\$1.4 million** awarded
- ▶ **\$27.5 million** raised by competition alumni

Women Founders Competition



NVC and the Deming Center for Entrepreneurship host this competition for ventures founded by women, where teams can win up to \$5,000.

Deep Tech Competition



NVC and Venture Partners at CU Boulder host this competition for ventures built around a scientific or technological innovation and teams can win up to \$50,000.

High School New Venture Challenge



A new program focused on the next generation of entrepreneurs changing the world. With step-by-step guidance and the support of industry experts, high school students solve problems through collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication.

Supporting Success

Idea Builders

Where participants form teams, generate innovative solutions and present them to the group for a chance to win up to \$500 from the Get Seed Funding team.

Sustainability Hackathon

A campuswide event that's all about making positive changes in the world. Teams meet experienced mentors, build prototypes and turn their ideas into reality for prizes worth thousands of dollars.

Mentor Engagement

CU Boulder entrepreneurs at any stage of development—from idea to launch—need experienced professionals to help them on their journey. CU Boulder's entrepreneurial mentor network supports innovative activity on campus led by students, faculty and staff.