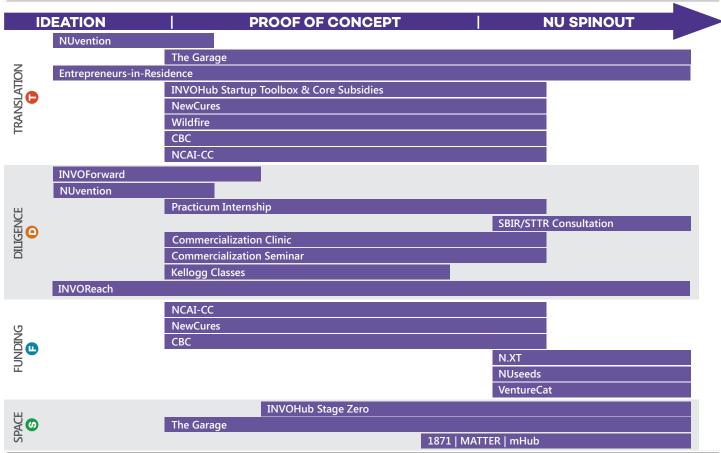
Northwestern | INVO

Innovation and New Ventures

COMMERCIALIZATION RESOURCES at NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Translating innovative technologies from the lab to the market takes time and resources. It's an arduous and complex but necessary journey. The majority of advanced technologies out of the university, including computer software, electronics, medical devices and nanotechnology, requires research, market validation, testing, and much more to reach the public's hands. INVO and Northwestern University at large support the commercialization of technologies throughout the earlier ideation and proof of concept stages as well as the initial phases of new company formation. Resources spanning translation, diligence, and access to funding and physical space are outlined here.



Chicago Accelerators / Incubators



- 1871, located at the Merchandise Mart, supports Chicago's digital startup community with space, programming, events, incubators, and accelerators.
- MATTER, also located at the Merchandise Mart, supports Chicago's healthcare innovators with space, programming and events.
- mHub, located in Chicago's Tech Triangle, offers space for hardware entrepreneurs and makers, focusing more on the commercialization of electronic and IoT devices.

CBC – Chicago Biomedical Consortium Awards

As a member of the Chicago Biomedical Consortium, a Searle Fund-supported collaboration among Chicago's preeminent medical institutions, Northwestern teams may apply for funding in pursuit of innovative discoveries aimed at transforming biomedical research and improving human health.

Commercialization Clinics

The INVO Commercialization Clinic is a consulting service offered to all members of Northwestern who have questions about how to commercialize an idea. Each commercialization clinic typically focuses on a specific sector (e.g. Medical Devices, Sensor-Based Medical Devices and IT/Software). Participants have the opportunity to receive feedback from a panel of external experts, including lawyers, investors, and experts on FDA regulations, commercialization, and licensing. Attendees are invited to listen to other faculty presentations if a confidentiality agreement is signed.

Commercialization Seminars

Commercialization seminars are offered periodically on both Evanston and Chicago campuses. Previous topics have included: Funding Opportunities for Startups; Early Stage Legal Issues for Startups; Intellectual Property Basics; and Licensing Technology from an Academic Institution.

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Entrepreneurs-in-Residence



This program brings experienced entrepreneurs to the University to advise and assist faculty and students as they explore commercializing their research or launching a startup.

The Garage





The Garage is Northwestern's hub for student entrepreneurship and innovation, bringing together a cross-disciplinary community of students, faculty, staff and alumni who all share a passion for building new ideas. The 11,000 square foot space, is currently home to approximately 60 student-founded startups per academic quarter and offers conference rooms, a prototyping lab, an AV/VR lab, office hours and events open to the Northwestern community.



Modeled after the NIH's I-Corps program, and University of Michigan's FFMI's initiative, INVOForward aims to accelerate biomedical commercialization—medical devices, therapeutics, and health IT—by supporting entrepreneurs in the customer discovery process. Later this year, the first INVOForward cohort, a group focused on medical devices, will begin working with subject matter experts on assessing market need, defining prospective customers, overcoming regulatory hurdles, and building a sound financial framework.

INVOHub - Stage Zero Resources





INVOHub is a Northwestern incubator program that was established to increase Northwestern's pipeline of research-based startups. INVOHub's Stage Zero resources helps early-stage ventures conquer commercialization's common pain points. Through different components of the program, the University provides subsidies for a portion of startup costs in critical areas such as law and finance, subsidies for use of University Core Facilities, and access to space on campus.

INVOReach



INVOReach is an initiative by Northwestern's Innovation and New Ventures Office (INVO), focuses on developing resources that improve the diversity of inventorship and entrepreneurship at Northwestern University. INVOReach seeks to increase innovation diversity in a variety of ways, for example through gender representation, level of previous entrepreneurial experience, and areas of

Kellogg Class: New Business Development and Commercialization D



This Kellogg course offers student an opportunity develop a new business from concept to potential commercialization based on INVO-selected Northwestern technologies.

NCAI-CC Partnership

The NIH Center for Accelerated Innovations at Cleveland Clinic offers funding to promising emerging technologies in the clinical domains of heart, lung, blood, and sleep disorders. The NIH translational grant is open to technologies, such as therapeutics (e.g., drugs and biologics), diagnostics, diagnostic systems, devices, and tools.



NewCures is a Northwestern initiative that focuses on accelerating biomedical research from early discovery stages to more advanced clinical stages or commercialization for the benefit of the patients.

NUSeeds



NUseeds is Northwestern's \$4M pre-seed/seed investment fund. The funding comes from philanthropic donations to Northwestern, and is intended to accelerate the successful launch of innovations from NU students and finance the most promising early-stage student ventures. We look for teams who have an outsized vision and would benefit materially from incremental financial support. NUseeds writes checks in the \$10,000 - \$100,000 range in exchange for equity.

NUvention is offered through McCormick's Farley Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. It is their flagship interdisciplinary course drawing students from Northwestern's various schools. The program is designed to expose students to the entire innovation and entrepreneurial life cycle and help them understand how innovations can become a viable business in the real world.



The N.XT fund is Northwestern's \$10M fund designed to foster and support Northwestern's early stage innovations. N.XT's purpose is to provide proof of concept resources for product validation, prototyping, and market identification, with the goal of de-risking Northwestern's assets and propelling them to the N.XT stage of commercial development. N.XT is a self-sustaining fund and seeks opportunities that have high potential to impact society through translational innovation and research.

The Practicum

The INVO Practicum is an unpaid internship program open to all Northwestern students and post-docs who are interested in learning more about the technology transfer process as well as being exposed to the vast areas of innovation at Northwestern. The interns will gain hands-on experience in evaluating Northwestern technologies for patentability, marketability and commercialization readiness.

SBIR/STTR Consultation

INVO offers teams who are commercializing Northwestern technologies, access to one free hour of SBIR/STTR consultation. Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) offer non-dilutive funding in the form of contracts or grants. Consultants help with better understanding the application process and answering any guestions regarding the Phase I or II applications for most US agencies. They are not grant writers.



VentureCat is a day-long showcase and celebration of Northwestern's most promising student-founded startups. The event culminates with a pitch competition, in which over \$100,000 in prize money will be distributed to student ventures.

Wildfire • •

Wildfire is The Garage's Summer Pre-Accelerator Program, which aims to develop students as both leaders and founders by introducing new ways of thinking and problem-solving. It seeks to accelerate student teams between two milestones by giving them additional resources and coaching. Wildfire culminates at the end of the summer with a Demo Day/Shark Tank experience where students will present their proposal and gain feedback from established judges. This is a program designed to help early stage ventures learn and grow.