



UNIVERSITY

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

CENTER DIRECTOR

Laura Frerichs, Director

CENTER LOCATION

EnterpriseWorks Incubator at the Research Park

CENTER SINCE 2012

CENTER ACTIVITIES

- Entrepreneurship Support
- Entrepreneur-in-Residence
- Technical Assistance
- Applied Research

CLIENTS

- Entrepreneurs and innovators
- Small businesses and start-ups
- Students and faculty
- Communities and institutions of higher education

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WEBSITE

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University of Illinois EDA University Center

The University of Illinois EDA University Center promotes and fosters entrepreneurship in Illinois south of Interstate 80. The Center's mission is to create a growing pipeline of long-term innovative and vibrant business activity within the region through entrepreneur education, startup and small business assistance, and incubation growth and support.

The University of Illinois EDA University Center's support and services include:

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

The Small Business Assistance program assists qualified entrepreneurs, startups, and small businesses with short-term projects related to branding, marketing, and communication. These free, creative and marketing services are provided by University of Illinois student interns who are hired and managed by the EnterpriseWorks Technology Incubator.

ENTREPRENEUR-IN-RESIDENCE

The EIR program contracts with experienced entrepreneurs and industry experts to provide hourly consulting to new startup ventures and prospective entrepreneurs. EIRs provide meaningful business development assistance, communication strategy counseling, and investor preparedness. EIRs also lead training events for entrepreneurs based on topics such as intellectual property basics, business development and sales, SBIR/STTR grant writing, and investor options and negotiations. The program serves early stage entrepreneurs, startups, and small businesses focused on agriculture, biomed, healthcare, or defense related innovation or technology.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical assistance is provided to communities seeking to strengthen or develop their entrepreneurial ecosystem and resources for startup companies and small businesses. Expertise is provided by leaders associated with the University of Illinois Department of Urban & Regional Planning, EnterpriseWorks Technology Incubator, Research Park, and Office of Technology Management. Assistance to communities includes site visits, sharing of best practices from other comparable communities, and feasibility planning for new programs.

I ILLINOIS EnterpriseWorks RESEARCH PARK

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INCUBATOR NETWORK