The University of California requests $25M for UC campuses to fuel the innovation powerhouse to advance economic growth and social mobility.

The UC moves groundbreaking discoveries out of the research laboratory and into the marketplace. Through AB 2664 (2016), 10 UC campuses received $2.2 million each in one-time funding to expand entrepreneurship infrastructure and education programs.

UC campuses raised matching funds and in-kind services to achieve a 14x+ return on investment. There are now more than 60 incubators, accelerators, entrepreneur boot camps, academies, and pitch competitions systemwide that propel startups, businesses, and social entrepreneurs across disciplines.

Additional investment is necessary to strengthen campuses to serve as regional I&E hubs to develop entrepreneurial pipelines, launch startups, and nurture UC and community talent for sustained economic growth and social mobility. Faculty and alumni startup founders tend to locate their companies close to their campuses, which amplifies “the importance of UC’s campuses to long-term job and business growth in the regions where they are located.”

Programs created by follow-on funding will democratize innovation by channeling funding to smaller campuses and serve women, underrepresented minorities, first-generation students, and the Central Valley and Inland regions. Students will also be empowered through micro-grants and credit-granting entrepreneurship courses to build academic skills and support career advancement.

UC ALUMNI-FOUNDED COMPANIES (by region)

- Proof-of-concept funds for innovation-based startups to demonstrate functional viability
- Expand programs for women, underrepresented minorities, and communities in the Central Valley and Inland regions
- Meet growing industry demands for highly skilled entrepreneurial talent
- Non-STEM disciplines, such as the arts and humanities, to benefit from training and resources
- Industry and VC partnerships for investment, mentorship, and recruitment pipelines
- Digital transformation to leverage technologies to accelerate businesses that improve our quality of life and foster inclusion and social mobility
- Training to prepare students to thrive academically and professionally

UC-affiliated companies add $20.1 billion to the state economy in total economic activity and over 38,000 jobs.*

*Bay Area Economic Council Entrepreneurs, Startups and Innovation at the University of California Report, bayareaeconomy.org
About UC Innovation & Entrepreneurship (I&E)
The I&E unit builds programs and resources to connect the UC system and industry, investors, philanthropists, and government entities to move groundbreaking research, discovery, and innovation into the marketplace. Visit www.ucop.edu/innovation-entrepreneurship.

To learn more, contact UC’s Office of State Government Relations at (916) 445-9924.