



# UNCG + NCAT National Science Foundation Greensboro I-Corps Site

I-Corps Information Session



# Overview

- What is LaunchUNCG?
- What is NSF I-Corps?
- What is Lean Launchpad?
- Overview of Greensboro I-Corps
- Benefits of I-Corps
- Upcoming I-Corps Cohorts
- Questions & More Info



# What is LAUNCHUNCG

### We Help You Start Something Remarkable!

- Entrepreneurship Events & Initiative
- One-on-One Consulting
- Innovation Development & Management Incubator Space
- Intellectual Property & Agreements
- Technology Transfer & Commercialization

- Industry Partnership
- University Spinouts
- Regional Connections
- National Science Foundation I–Corp Site
- Launch.UNCG.edu



# Overview of NSF I-Corps

- Out of the Lab, Classroom & Off Campus
- Real Commercial Application & Opportunity
- Learn Entrepreneurial Skills
- Better Research, Prepare for Grants
- Nationwide Network 8 Nodes, 90+ Sites
- Cohort-based, Site & National Program
- UNCG NSF I-Corps Grant



## Overview of Lean LaunchPad

- Developed by Successful Entrepreneurs
- Focused on business model development through the Scientific Method
- Business Model Canvas
- Talking with customers to validate/invalidate business hypothesis
- Agile development, fail fast and pivot
- Evidence-based, empathy-based, not just your opinion



# **Short-Course Cohort Program**

- Virtual Model
- Team-based Open to all UNCG + NCAT Students, Faculty, Staff & Alumni
- Three 6-week Cohorts Fall, Spring, Summer
- 8 12 teams each
- Meet 2 3 hours per week
- 20 30 Customer Discovery interviews
- Develop clear value proposition & customer segment
- Go or No-Go Decision
- Pre-cohort videos
- Required Attendance of Student Entrepreneur Lead
- Up to \$3,000 in mini-grant funding



# Eligible vs. Ineligible Submissions

### **Eligible Submissions**

- Novel, Innovative, Scalable
- Lab research with potential commercial application
- Something with potential intellectual property
- Software, app or tech idea
- Innovative non-profit
- JUST ASK!

### **Ineligible Submissions**

- Lifestyle businesses, not scalable
- Fashion, Restaurants, Reselling
- Brick and Mortar
- Consulting
- JUST ASK!



# Benefits of I-Corps

- Seed Funding, Mini-Grants up to \$3,000
- Membership to HQ Greensboro + Forge
- Improved Innovation and Idea Concepts
- Improved Grant Applications
- "90% Increased Chance of Obtaining SBIR/STTR Funding"
- Identify Industry Partners for Funding, Sponsorships and Partnerships
- Identify Best Application of Research or Idea
- Greater Understanding of how your Innovation or Idea can Impact Society

- Designated as NSF-Funded Project, Gain NSF Lineage
- Nationally Recognized & Certified Program
- Guidance from Established Entrepreneurs
- Assistance with Intellectual Property
- Savings in Time and Money through Accelerated Understanding
- Enhanced Entrepreneurial Mindset
- Greater Self-Confidence, and Better
   Presentation/Interpersonal skills, in a Business Setting
- Broadened Professional Network



# Upcoming I-Corps Opportunities

### **I-Corps Cohort 12**

- July August 2021
- Email jiszelko@uncg.edu or sseyedin@uncg.edu

### **I-Corps Cohort 13**

- October November 2021
- Email jiszelko@uncg.edu or sseyedin@uncg.edu

### **I-Corps Cohort 14**

- February March 2022
- Email jiszelko@uncg.edu or sseyedin@uncg.edu



# Questions, Comments, Concerns

icorps.uncg.edu

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