



RIVERSIDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

February 19, 2026

Rosibel Ochoa, PhD

Associate Vice Chancellor Technology Partnerships

Adjunct Faculty Chemical and Environmental

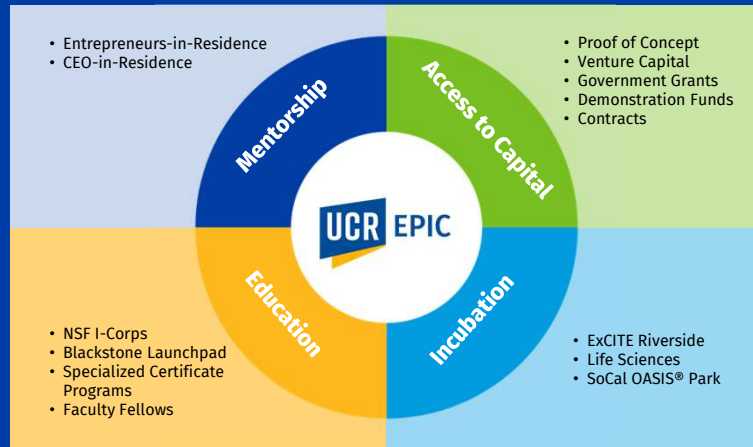
University of California



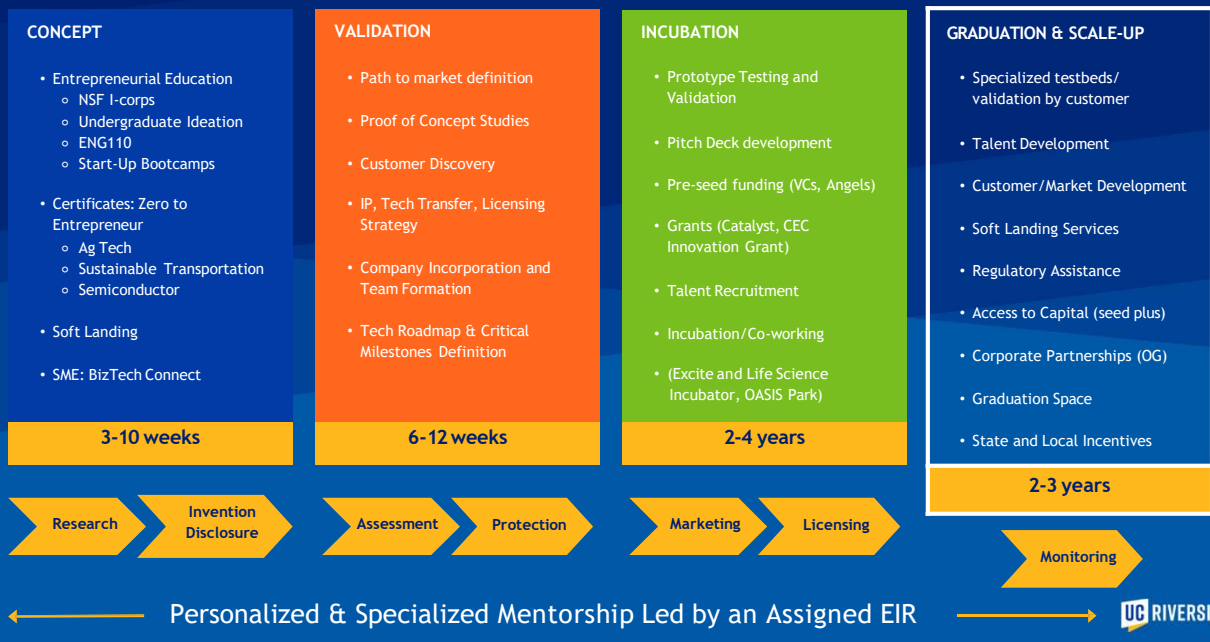
10 YEARS SUPPORTING INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE INLAND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



ONE INTEGRATED PLATFORM TO SUPPORT OUR REGION'S ENTREPRENEURS



SUPPORT FOR THE ENTREPRENEURIAL JOURNEY



SEASONED MENTORS THAT SUPPORT THE JOURNEY

• Steve Flaim	Life Sciences	• Galen Williams	Agriculture, Clean Tech
• Steve Sharp	Technology	• Doug Kollmyer	Clean Tech, Transportation
• Art Salyer	Cleantech, Entertainment	• Ken Gruys	Ag Biotech
• John Shearer	Department of Defense	• Mario Diez	Wireless Technology
• Philip Topham	Artificial Intelligence	• Mark Hatch	Energy Storage
• Isabelle Bart	Clean Tech, Marketing	• Scott Brovsky	Access to Capital
• Jay Gilberg	General	• Shomit Ghose	Data, AI
• Lada Rasochova	Life Sciences	• Tim Richardson	Access to Capital
• Gioia Messinger	Technology, IOT	• Kevin Meredith	Circular Economy
• Martin Kleckner	Life Sciences, SBIR/STTR	• Martin Sellers	Life Sciences
• Ben Raju	Access to Capital	• Todd Lorenz	Life Sciences
• Angelo Farooq	Small Business, Access to Capital	• Peter Ciulla	Clean Tech

620 STARTUPS
SUPPORTED SINCE 2016

2,000 Jobs
created or retained

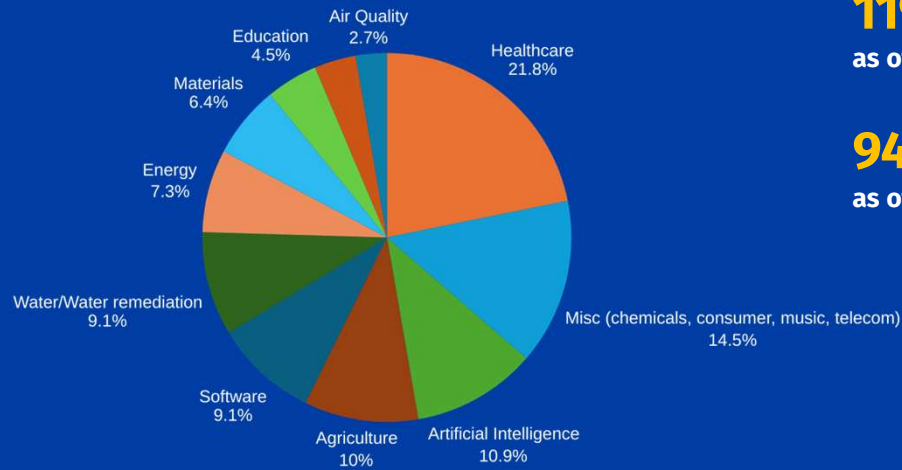
4,000=
engaged
Students
\$160 Million
in capital raised

\$72 Million
in SBIR/STTR (35% success rate)



Winners of the 2023 competition shown with judges at SoCal OASIS® Pitch Challenge Finals

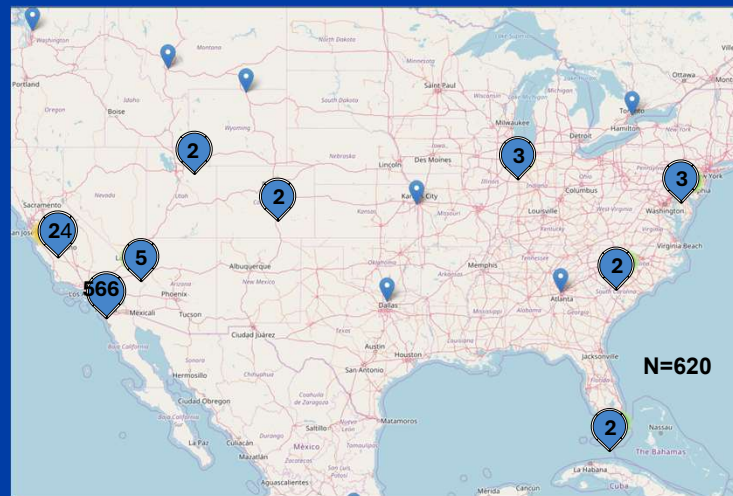
CURRENT PORTFOLIO OF STARTUPS



119 Startups
as of 2/1/2026

94 Applications
as of 2/1/2026

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF CLIENTS 2017-2025



INCUBATION FACILITIES SUPPORTED BY OTP PROGRAMS & MENTORSHIP



UCR Life Science Incubator



SoCal OASIS® Park

EPIC SBDC

INNOVAR

Build 2 Scale

Opportunity Gateway



ExCITE is a technology focused incubator that provides startups with:

- Affordable space to develop and prototype their technology products (substantially subsidized by ExCITE's partners)
- Offices range from \$300-\$700, coworking is \$100, and hot desks are \$150 monthly
- 12 private light industrial offices, space for 30 co-working companies, and 12 hot desks
- Training & event spaces, and shared conference & break rooms
- Technology and business mentorship through UCR's EPIC SBDC and scale-up support programs.



Seedorina

StarNav

SuperFoam

Annual Partner Support in 2025

**City of
Riverside**

\$25K

Direct Financial
Support



**County of
Riverside**

\$75K

Direct Financial
Support



**UC
Riverside**

\$155k

Direct Financial Support,
Mentorship through EPIC SBDC,
and Incubator Management



ExCITE by the Numbers since 2015

43

Companies
Supported

\$58.8M*

Capital
Received

*reported by 19
companies

260+

Jobs
Supported

5

Company
Graduates

3,328

Hours of
mentorship



Globe Biomedical



Farmsense



Blue Social



Kids that Code

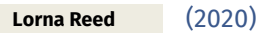


ExCITE Companies 2025

Offices



Co-working



Hot Desk



(Year company joined ExCITE)



Case Study: StarNav



Company Milestones

UCR OTP Support

Nov 2020 – 3 co-founders joined ExCITE as a coworking company	2020	Joined EPIC SBDC
Received \$1.39+M Grants, moved into 1st office space	2021	31.5hrs EPIC SBDC Mentorship
1 st prototype of SNAIR test flight and received \$2.9M in Grants, added 2nd office space , hired 3 additional engineers	2022	120 hrs EPIC SBDC Mentorship
SNAIR successfully tested on T-38C jet at Edward Airforce Base, added 3rd office space , hired 5 more employees .	2023	23 hrs EPIC SBDC Mentorship
Received \$900k in sales, \$4M in DoD/Air Force grant awards	2024	40 hrs EPIC SBDC Mentorship + Build 2 Scale
Signed major non-DoD customer, added 2 new employees , added 4th office to support scaling of manufacturing	2025	39 hrs EPIC SBDC Mentorship + Build to Scale + Opportunity Gateway
Path to graduation, looking to expand locally.	2026	8 hrs EPIC Mentorship, Build 2 Scale + Opportunity Gateway

CURIOUS ABOUT OUR IMPACT? CHECK OUT OUR 10-YEAR REPORT

SCAN TO READ OUR REPORT

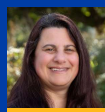


techpartnerships.ucr.edu

THE OTP TEAM



Dr. Rosibel Ochoa
Associate Vice Chancellor of
Technology Partnerships



Judy Swineford
Executive Analyst &
Assistant to AVC OTP



Jessica Pacheco
Assistant Director of Program
Finance & Operations



Aimee Knudson
Principal Grant Finance
Administrator



Nelson Rivera
IP Analyst



Luke Kannike
Senior Corporate
Engagement Officer



Nilesh Gupta
Senior Corporate
Engagement Officer



Hristy Madro
Director of Corporate
Research and Engagement



Jennifer Ytarralde
Director of Outreach and
Incubation Activities



Aileen Laib
Assistant Director of Special
Programs and Outreach



Maricela Argueta
Life Sciences Incubator
Laboratory Manager



Brian Suh
Senior Executive Director of
Technology Partnerships



Tammy Whetter
Principal Contracts &
Grants Officer



Dr. Francisca Reyes
Director of Entrepreneurial
Education & Blackstone
LaunchPad



Dr. Jay Gilbert
Instructor and
Entrepreneur-in-Residence



Kalista Combs
Program Training
Coordinator



Grace Yee
Assistant Director of
Technology Commercialization



Joyce Patrone
Licensing Officer



Reisha Chanola
Senior Licensing Officer



Venkata Krishnamurthy
Senior Licensing Officer



Dr. Martin Klockner
Director of EPIC SBDC



Scott Brovsky
Associate Director of
Regional Engagement



Nicole Cleary
Social QASD®
Project Manager



Ken Grays
Senior Advisor