The Venture Catalyst START™ program provides the building blocks to equip UC Davis affiliated entrepreneurs with the tools, resources, and services they need to successfully form and grow robust startups.

LegalNet™ Partnerships
The LegalNet™ program offers startup incorporation and initial legal consultation through relationships with trusted legal partners that provide select services at no-cost, except for associated filing fees and out-of-pocket expenses, and no requirement of commitment to continue to use their services after incorporation. Standard services include selection of the appropriate form of business structure, assistance with setting up the initial pre-funding capital table, registration with appropriate authorities, standard legal documents and agreements, and preliminary review of IP position.

MICA™ Reports
Market Intelligence and Competitive Analysis (MICA™) reports are basic market research reports with information such as market size, market share, regional segmentation, and competitive landscape to help entrepreneurs better frame their business opportunity, articulate their commercial challenges, and provide key elements of pitch decks and proposals used for securing funding.

Grant Workshops
Venture Catalyst organizes multi-session SBIR and STTR grant writing and submission workshops and associated hands on, agency specific office hours that take participants through all the steps necessary to successfully file a well written grant application with specific focus on aspects such as crafting a well structured research and commercialization plan, developing a realistic budget, engaging with program officers, anticipating reviewer comments, and completing necessary registrations and paperwork.

Campus Collaboration
Venture Catalyst works in close collaboration with and supports initiatives managed by the Mike and Renee Child Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship with a focus on helping entrepreneurs gain the knowledge and networks needed to develop the commercial potential of their research and business ideas. The Institute offers several programs that prepare innovators for success, including general and thematically oriented entrepreneurship academies, mentoring programs, fellowships, and the Big Bang! Business Competition and Little Bang! Poster Competition.

TAP™ Program
The Talent Acquisition Partnership (TAP™) Program is a collaboration between UC Davis Venture Catalyst and the Internship & Career Center that offers startups participating in the START™ program access to participate in the Internship and Career Fairs as an employer at a discounted registration rate.

Meeting Space
Venture Catalyst provides access to reserve its Innovation Room with meeting space, videoconferencing equipment, and Zoom Room capabilities to enable student and faculty entrepreneurs to host business meetings and connect with potential partners and investors.

Pitch Coaching
Venture Catalyst offers multi-stage coaching and advising sessions to assist entrepreneurs in developing a strong pitch deck and effective messaging focused on attracting investment for their companies. The process includes interactive sessions with Venture Catalyst and feedback and advising sessions with investors and business leaders through the Angels on Campus program.

MentorNet™ Advisors
The MentorNet™ program provides access to a network of experienced professionals and business leaders that are available to act as mentors to help entrepreneurs address distinct business challenges and provide guidance on refining business plans, attracting investment, and growing their companies.
VentureNet™ Program
The VentureNet™ program connects entrepreneurs with providers of startup business and technical services offering special packages and preferred rates that are designed to support effective early-stage operations with options for banking, accounting, insurance, employee payroll, and other outsourced services.

DARTS™ Program
The Discounted Access to Research and Translational Services (DARTS™) program offers START™ program participants access to research and development services and state-of-the-art technology and equipment at partner Campus Core Facilities utilizing a discounted fee structure compared to standard for-profit, private industry rates. Partners include the Genome Center, Campus Mass Spectrometry Facility, Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Facility, Stem Cell Program, Center for Molecular and Genomic Imaging, Center for Nano-Micro Manufacturing, Interdisciplinary Center for Inductively-Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry, Mouse Biology Program, and others.

EEO™ Systems
The Venture Catalyst Economic Engagement and Community Outreach (EEO™) systems program facilitates connections between startups and the Northern California innovation and economic development ecosystems to support the successful integration of startups into the regional economy through engagement with government agencies, startup and business support organizations, the investment community, service providers, and industry associations.

DRIVE™ Network
The Distributed Research Incubation and Venture Engine (DRIVE™) program provides startups with access to a network of lean, thematically oriented business incubators with affordable, mixed office/lab spaces and integrated research and development equipment and instrumentation. Facilitated by Venture Catalyst, management and leasing of the facilities in the network is handled directly by the incubator.

About Venture Catalyst
UC Davis Venture Catalyst facilitates the translation of University research and technology by enabling the development of new ventures. Venture Catalyst engages with the Davis and Sacramento business, governmental and economic development community to highlight the development of technologies and ventures coming out of UC Davis that will drive tomorrow’s regional job creation. Working closely with these partners, Venture Catalyst is invigorating the technology-based entrepreneurial ecosystem of the entire region.