



INNOVATE FACTS
SINCE 2015

194
TOTAL
PARTICIPANTS

60
BUSINESSES
CURRENTLY
ENROLLED

40
PROGRAM
GRADUATES

100%
GRADUATES
STILL IN
BUSINESS

FUNDING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL
ECOSYSTEM IN NORTH DAKOTA

Innovate ND provides entrepreneurs access to venture tools, resources and mentorship. Some of the benefits include:

- Access to a certified entrepreneurial center
- Assistance on the Business Model Canvas, including value proposition and customer identification
- Business planning tools
- Prototype development
- Access to the statewide entrepreneurial ecosystem

ENTREPRENEUR
CENTERS

These centers have dedicated staff to support and mentor entrepreneurs through the Business Model Canvas:

Center for Technology and Business (Bismarck)	Jamestown Regional Entrepreneur Center (Jamestown)
NDSU Research and Technology Park (Fargo)	UND Center for Innovation (Grand Forks)

PROGRAM PHASES

Effective July 1, 2019

Phases	Entry Fee	Dollar Award	Match Cash or In-Kind	Phase Length
1 - Voucher	\$250	\$2,000	Equal to 25% of award dollars reimbursed. Minimum of \$5,000 by end of Phase 3	3 Months
2 - Voucher		\$6,000		6 Months
3 - Voucher		\$12,000		6 Months
4 - Grant		\$20,000	\$5,000	12 Months
TOTAL	\$250	\$40,000	\$10,000	27 Months

EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM ENTREPRENEURS

Black Bison Organics — Helps people grow a better world from the ground down by educating people on the value of soil and crafting products that improve soil for the benefit of plants and the people who love them. There are two simple principles needed to increase yields:

1. Increase soil's ability to store moisture and nutrients
2. Make those resources available to plants when they need them.

(Graduated)



IsightRPV — A local UAS company focused on research in unmanned air systems and the development of regulatory guidance as it relates to the new UAS industry. It has used the program in order to grow their business and reach new customers across the United States. (Graduated)



Muskie Bacon Lures — Grand Forks resident, Jeff Sprecher, has developed his own line of fishing lures, which has expanded to include a different variation of such. Jeff is originally an artist but has recently taken his passion for fishing to the next level. He is selling lures through a distributor to Gander Outdoors and Mills Fleet Farm. He hopes to turn his business into online retail in order to better control his product and customer experiences. (Market Ready)

OmniByte Technology — Ray Berry developed a software and services company that offers solutions and technology to provide mobile, web and automation solutions and services for field service organization that are focused on efficiency, reducing costs, increasing revenue, customer service and employee satisfaction. (Graduated)



Project Phoenix — Anthony Molzahn developed the commercial drone platform AegisFlow. It used program funds to attend trade shows where it launched its software's beta campaign, partnered with key industry leaders, and connected with clients that directly impacted its revenue stream. (Graduated)



Pulse Oils LLC — The company in Bowman, North Dakota, cold presses safflower seed to produce safflower oil for cooking and safflower meal for livestock feed. The oil in bottles is in 20 stores in North Dakota sold under the name 17 Thistles safflower oil. Production is running at 100% 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and there are plans for an expansion. (Graduated)

