

CHANCELLOR'S INNOVATION AWARDS

UC San Diego's innovators play an essential role in translating ideas into actions to improve the lives of others and address the grand challenges of our global society. The UC San Diego Chancellor's Innovation Awards recognizes truly exceptional innovators - faculty, students and recent alumni - for their success in launching new startup companies or other entities, or in developing technologies, social platforms or other social innovations through their research, program participation or activities across campus. The Chancellor's Innovation Awards recognize and celebrate the uniquely Triton innovative culture and entrepreneurial spirit that have become defining hallmarks of UC San Diego.

STARTUP OF THE YEAR

The Startup of the Year award recognizes a startup venture founded by a UC San Diego faculty member whose innovative startup has either made a measurable societal impact in the last year or exhibits great potential to make a significant societal impact in the near-term future.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Consider to what degree the Startup has:

- Created novel intellectual property (IP), preferably which UC San Diego licensed to their startup.
- Produced a breakthrough innovation as opposed to having made improvements to existing innovative technologies, products or services
- Achieved recognition of value through private investment, revenue and customer adoption
- Demonstrated capacity to produce return on investment (ROI) based on their goals
- Understood the competitive landscape and marketed/differentiated itself effectively
- Commitment to the UC San Diego Mission and Vision – manifesting the embodiment the spirit of UC San Diego.

This award is open to startups established by faculty, students, and staff from all academic majors, disciplines, or departments and who are in good academic and/or professional standing. The Startup must have created novel intellectual property with preference for UC San Diego licensed and managed IP.

CASH PRIZE

The Startup of the Year Award comes with a single, cash prize of \$50,000 to the winning Startup and which is reviewed by the IEC and selected by the Chancellor.

REVIEW PROCESS

The Chancellor's Innovation Awards Selection Committee members will independently review and provide a score for each Applicant based on an objective scoring rubric designed to evaluate the uniqueness of the innovation(s) and their potential economic and societal impact. The scoring rubric will include the criteria above, along with any additional metrics established by the IEC or Awards Committee.

WHO MAY APPLY and REQUIREMENTS

- Any member of the Triton community that meets the qualifications may apply
- A Startup of the Year Applicant must include an endorsement or Letter of Support from at least one Dean, Director of an Innovation Center, Member of the IDEAS Council or Council of Innovation Leadership.
 - IDEAS Council: [IDEAS Council \(ucsd.edu\)](https://ucsd.edu/ideas)
- OPTIONAL: A second Letter of Support is allowable from a key customer, market leader, or industry operator with relevant field experience to comment on the merit of the application.
- Applicant must submit a 2-minute introductory video that illuminates the novelty of their solution, the impact of the Startup, and why they are the best team to make it happen.
- Past award recipients are not eligible for the program. Past applicants who did not receive an award may apply again.
- Applicants do not need to exemplify all criteria. Applicants can focus on one or more than one of the key selection criteria.
- All application material and content must be non-confidential in nature.

GLOSSARY

Inclusive/Inclusion: An environment in which all individuals are treated fairly and respectfully; are valued for their distinctive skills, experiences, and perspectives; have equal access to resources and opportunities; and can contribute fully to the organization's success. More information: <https://diversity.ucsd.edu/initiatives/strategic-plan.html>

Equitable/Equity: Recognizes that some groups were (and are) disadvantaged in accessing educational, employment, or product access opportunities and are, therefore, underrepresented or marginalized in many organizations and institutions. More information: <https://diversity.ucsd.edu/>

Sustainable/Sustainability: Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. More information: <https://sustainability.ucsd.edu/about/principles.html>

Return on Investment (ROI): a performance measure used to evaluate the efficiency or profitability of an investment or compare the efficiency of a number of different investments. ROI tries to directly measure the amount of return on a particular investment, relative to the investment's cost. To calculate ROI, the benefit (or return) of an investment is divided by the cost of the investment. The result is expressed as a percentage or a ratio.

Breakthrough Innovation: based on new technologies or new ways of thinking and have a major or major potential impact on society. They are often disruptive to existing industries, ecosystems, or cultures - fundamentally changing the dynamics of a given market

Intellectual Property (IP): refers to creations of the mind, such as inventions; literary and artistic works; designs; and symbols, names and images used in commerce. IP is protected in law by, for example, patents, copyright, and trademarks, which enable people to earn recognition or financial benefit from what they invent or create. By striking the right balance between the interests of innovators and the

wider public interest, the IP system aims to foster an environment in which creativity and innovation can flourish. Types of IP include patents, copyright, and trademarks, trade secrets, geographic locations, and industrial designs.

Underrepresented Minorities/Underserved Populations: Underrepresented minorities, races or ethnicities whose representation in a given audience, customer base, or market is smaller than their representation in the U.S. population. This includes Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, and American Indians or Alaska Natives.

Historically, the University of California has classified as "underserved" from groups including African Americans, American Indians, and Chicano/Latinos (UCOP: Student Academic Services, 2003).

Underserved student populations may also include first-generation, low-income students, students from nontraditional ages and backgrounds, and students whose characteristics may be underrepresented in the university environment (Perna & Jones, 2013). With regard to technology and innovation in Startup companies, please also see the full list of California State protected classes.

- Race
- Color
- Religion (includes religious dress and grooming practices)
- Sex/gender (includes pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, and/or related medical conditions)
- Gender identity, gender expression
- Sexual orientation
- Marital status