The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) I-Corps Site, in close collaboration with the Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC) and the Entrepreneurship Community of Practice (ECop), fosters and accelerates the transition of customer-driven research into the commercial world. This Site contributes to a regional/national pool of professional mentors, trained entrepreneurs and innovators, and provides researchers with market validation that helps them propel their innovations out of UTEP’s labs and into regional and national commercial activities.

**Overview**

**Site Achievements**

UTEP I-Corps has completed a pilot cohort consisting of 9 student Teams from advanced capstone engineering projects. The second cohort was expanded to a regional program focused on 8 faculty Teams and 2 Teams advancing from the first student cohort.

**Broadening Participation**

UTEP I-Corps will further explore infusing I-Corps curriculum into the traditional flow of engineering senior capstone project classes amongst the different departments within the College of Engineering. Also, they will start recruiting efforts within UTEP’s College of Science.

- Teams have formed startups and are active in pursuing third-party funding to support emerging products and services.
- Teams are currently applying to the National I-Corps program for the opportunity to secure a $50,000 grant from NSF to engage in intense customer discovery and business model design.
- Teams have filed for and received full patents or have patents pending.
- Participants have engaged directly with UTEP I-Corps.
- Teams of students, postdocs, and faculty members.