

# 2023/24

Innovation & Entrepreneurship

# Berkeley Research

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

## ACCELERATING DRUG DISCOVERIES

### Division of Molecular Therapeutics

Berkeley's new Division of Molecular Therapeutics ("MTx" for short) admitted its first cohort of students this fall. Led by Professor Michael Rapé, this new emphasis within the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology focuses on innovative approaches to treat diseases. The Division aims to accelerate the drug discovery process from idea to laboratory to clinic. Rapé is an accomplished researcher and entrepreneur with major discoveries and several successful companies to his name. According to Rapé, the shared commitment to public service and the deep level of faculty expertise make Berkeley an ideal location to develop this new program. Not only will the Division of Molecular Therapeutics strive to expand treatment options for major diseases, but the hope is that it will democratize the industry so brilliant researchers won't need luck and connections to develop cures.

Learn more: [Molecular Therapeutics](#)

## TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENGINEERS

### Breaking Ground on New Student Center



Berkeley Engineering offers students a transformative educational experience, one that focuses on innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusion, and collaboration. A new Engineering Student Center will add 35,500 square feet across two new floors above the existing Bechtel Engineering Center, with views of Memorial Glade and the Campanile. The new Center will serve as a hub for student groups and study partners from multiple disciplines and provide one-stop access to the programs that help students succeed — advising, career services, tutoring, academic and social events. The campus celebrated the groundbreaking in April 2023 and doors will open in early 2025.

### A Vibrant Ecosystem

In 2023, UC Berkeley's ecosystem of campus programs devoted to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship among students, faculty, and researchers continued to expand. As of summer 2023 the campus accelerator **SkyDeck** had supported over 1,500 start-up teams that had raised \$1.8B. Annually SkyDeck is accelerating some 280 startups. 126 companies had completed the **CITRIS Foundry** program raising more than \$220M in external funding. Launched in 2022, the **Bakar BioEngenuity Hub** has helped incubate 37 companies that have raised \$284M. More broadly the **QB3 incubator network** counted 270 current and alumni companies that had raised a combined \$11.6 billion in venture funding.

Learn more: [Entrepreneurship at Berkeley](#) and [Berkeley Gateway to Innovation](#)

## BEST IN CLASS

### Global Leader in Fostering Entrepreneurs

#### VC-Backed Entrepreneurs

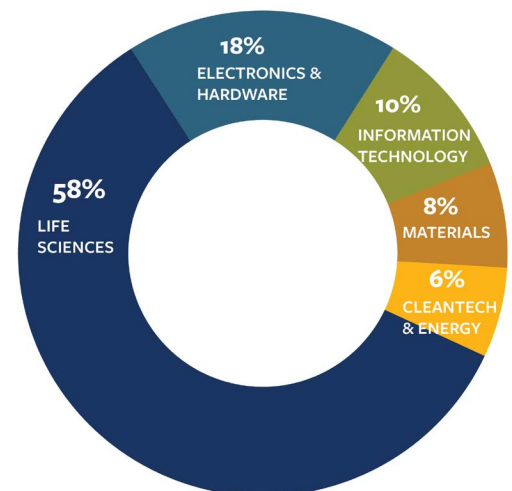
In 2023, [PitchBook](#) ranked UC Berkeley as the **#1 university worldwide** for the number of venture capital-backed companies founded by undergraduate alumni and students.

#### Successful Company Founders

In 2023, a [CrunchBase](#) survey ranked UC Berkeley **among the top three universities** from which the most successful company founders in the US had graduated.

### UC Berkeley Startups are Represented in Many Sectors

Over the last decades, close to **150 start-up companies** have been founded to commercialize IP rights under license from UC Berkeley.



September 2023

FLAGSHIP FACILITY

## Bakar BioEnginuity Hub



The Bakar BioEnginuity Hub is celebrating its second anniversary this fall. Located in a newly renovated building, Woo Hon Fai Hall, the Bakar BioEnginuity Hub supports researchers and innovators using biology to solve the most pressing challenges in health and climate facing society today. Its flagship incubator, [Bakar Labs](#), hosts 30 startups commercializing new technologies. During their short tenancy at Bakar Labs to date, these companies have created over 200 new jobs and attracted \$284 million in VC funding. The Bakar BioEnginuity Hub helps anchor Berkeley's booming bio-entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Learn more: [Bakar Bioenginuity Hub](#)

## Tech Transfer and Licensing



At UC Berkeley innovators and entrepreneurs are creating groundbreaking products, revolutionary companies, and entirely new industries. The University plays a critical role in California's economy. Last year the campus expanded the dynamic ecosystem that fosters novel approaches to research and its translation into real-world applications. As of September 15, 2023 UC Berkeley has:

Total License Inventions	Active License Agreements	Active US Patents	Active Foreign Patents
1,451	371	850	1,150

UC Berkeley accelerates the translation of ideas and inventions developed by faculty, researchers, and students into products and services that benefit society.

- As of September 15, 2023, companies under IP licenses from UC Berkeley have commercialized more than **792 products**.
- The [Berkeley Research Infrastructure Commons \(RIC\)](#) program enables early stage (pre-product sales) startup companies affiliated with UC Berkeley to temporarily conduct new product R&D in faculty labs - under certain conditions and rigorous oversight.
- The university holds an extensive **CRISPR-Cas9 gene-editing portfolio** in the United States with 55 US patents to date.

## UC Berkeley Company Founders

Steve Wozniak of Apple, Gordon Moore of Intel and Eric Schmidt of Google are among the many UC Berkeley alumni who have founded and run successful corporations. Other prominent companies founded by UC Berkeley affiliates include:

- 4D Molecular Therapeutics
- Apple
- Cadence Design
- Caribou Biosciences
- Catena Biosciences
- Chernin Entertainment
- Corelight
- Databricks
- Exelixis
- Gap
- Google Earth
- Intel
- Kaiser Permanente
- Marvell
- Mendel Biotech
- National Semiconductor
- OpenAI
- PowerBar
- Red Octane
- Renaissance Technologies
- Revolution Foods
- Rodarte
- SanDisk
- Sun Microsystems
- Tesla

## Success with Founders' Pledge

Over 510 company founders have used the Founders' Pledge to promise philanthropic support to the campus, and have collectively given more than \$80M to Berkeley.

Learn more: [Berkeley Founders' Pledge](#)

## Berkeley Changemakers

The *Berkeley Changemaker*<sup>™</sup> program codifies an essential part of what UC Berkeley has always stood for and provides a future-oriented narrative that the campus is rallying behind, humanists and scientists alike. Its suite of more than 25 courses activates students' passions and helps them develop a sharper sense of who they want to be and how to make that happen. This breadth plus-depth approach to harnessing Berkeley's intellectual creativity promotes a unique and much-needed integration of disciplines. The program is part of a wider, more inclusive vision for teaching entrepreneurship that features 50+ faculty from 30 academic departments and 11 schools and includes pre-college and executive education programs.

Learn more: [Berkeley Changemaker](#)