

## What is I-Corps-L?

The Innovation Corps for Learning (I-Corps-L) is a pilot initiative to propagate and scale educational innovations sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and Intel.

I-Corps-L is modeled on the NSF I-Corps program, which helps research scientists and engineers develop the enterprise skills needed to turn laboratory discoveries into commercial ventures.

In January 2014, nine teams embarked on the eight-week pilot program. Each team comprised three to four members, including a principal investigator, an entrepreneurial lead, and a mentor.

## Project Goals

- Give participant teams an experiential learning opportunity to help determine the readiness of their innovations for sustainable scalability.
- Enable teams to develop a clear “go/no go” decision regarding sustainable scalability of their innovations.
- Develop a transition plan and actionable tasks to move innovations forward to sustainable scalability, if teams decide to do so.

The Overarching goal of I-Corps-L is to foster an entrepreneurial mindset within the education community to impact the way innovations are designed and implemented.

## Program Overview

### 3-Day Kickoff Workshop

Teams are introduced to the Lean LaunchPad approach, the business model development and customer development process.

Teams meet with customers and present what they learned to the class.

### 5-Week Online Sessions

Teams “get out of the building” and test their business model assumptions.

Each of the five sessions includes team presentations and discussion of the weekly lecture.

### 2-Day Wrap-up Workshop

Teams present the lessons learned in their exploration of sustainable scalability.

## Pilot Cohort Teams

Mobile Hands-On STEM Pedagogy	Innovative approaches to learning enabled by Mobile Hands-On STEM pedagogy.
Concept Warehouse	Platform that improves teaching effectiveness by speeding the propagation of evidence-based instructional practices.
I-Tutor for Automation	Industrial automation tutor for instructors and learners.
Math Jam	Week-long school sponsored boot camp for the Math Placement Test and/or upcoming math course.
ELeVATE	Holistic transition program that supports veterans interested in engineering and technology careers.
Engineering Ambassador Network	Program to launch undergraduates into leaders.
Carpal Coding	Bridge the gap in algorithm development and syntax for novice makers to program microcontrollers.
Women in Computing	Institutionalizing successful project to benefit women and universities nationwide.
Increase the Impact	Providing NSF and PI ways to design educational development projects that are more likely to result in broader impacts.

## Why I-Corps-L?

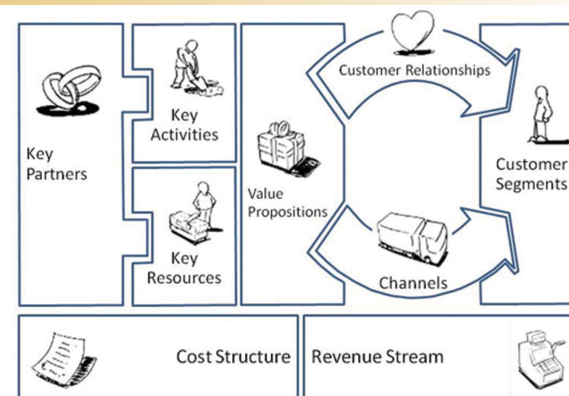
Participants say...

“I think the program’s ‘content elements,’ (i.e., a scientific approach to customer discovery framed within the construct of the business model canvas) provide a potentially transformative perspective to propagation of innovations.”

“The overall [BMC] experience is valuable. It is helpful to be forced out of one's comfort zone and to put much more emphasis on customers than how cool our ideas are.”

“What it has been impacting positively has been the perspective on taking on a couple of the elements of my job outside of this, including just treating the management of my project, the expansion of my project, and looking at it from a start-up perspective.”

## Business Model Canvas (BMC)



The Business Model Canvas is a strategic management and entrepreneurial tool that allows teams to describe, design, challenge, invent, and pivot their business model.

### Developers

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## I-Corps for Learning



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