Overview of IPIRA

The Office of Intellectual Property and Industry Research Alliances (IPIRA) has the mission of enhancing the research enterprise of the Berkeley campus by establishing multifaceted collaborations and corresponding agreements with companies. These activities include sponsored research collaborations and intellectual property licensing. IPIRA reports to the Vice Chancellor for Research and consists of two peer divisions: the Office of Technology Licensing (OTL), and the Industry Alliances Office (IAO).

Engage with our office if you are interested in:
- Seeking industry research partnerships
- Conducting corporate-sponsored research
- Disclosing patentable inventions or copyrightable software
- Patenting new inventions
- Licensing intellectual property rights
- Commercializing technology developed on campus
- Requesting and transferring materials, data, or research software
- Applying for SBIR/STTR funds and grants

IPIRA Success Stories

Berkeley is ranked as one of the top 5 universities for industry collaborations.

IPIRA has negotiated agreements with over 1,300 industry partners since 2004.

IPIRA has helped researchers secure over $1B in research funding.

IPIRA has brought in over $260M in IP licensing revenue to Berkeley. Over $60M was distributed to inventors and authors.

Companies with IP licenses from IPIRA have commercialized well over 600 products and services - and hundreds more are in R&D pipelines.

Over 217 startup companies were founded to commercialize inventions and copyrights under licenses from IPIRA.

In 2015, 66 of Berkeley’s startups employ 1,543 Californians and generate $195M in annual revenue.

Between 2005-2013, Berkeley startups have attracted $1.6B in venture funding.

IPIRA received the inaugural Patents for Humanity Award from the US Patent & Trademark Office.
In its role of establishing license and research agreements with companies, IPIRA is inherently a core resource of Berkeley's vast innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

The Industry Alliances Office (IAO) supports researchers who are collaborating with small companies by helping them apply for SBIR grants. Contact the IAO if you have questions about applying or contracting for these grants.

In collaboration with the NSF I-CORPS Program, IPIRA has launched an NSF SBIR workshop that helps startups increase the likelihood that companies will successfully draft grants to obtain NSF SBIR funds. Contact IPIRA if you want to participate in these workshops because they fill quickly.

To help entrepreneurs become familiar with the licensing process, IPIRA also provides template licensing agreements.

To learn more about numerous resources to help start and grow your UC Berkeley spin-out, go to ipira.berkeley.edu/entrepreneurs .