

# A HOTSPOT OF INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION FOR ENTREPRENEURS



## KEY STARTUP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE INCLUDE:

### MKE Tech Hub **mke tech**

Works to increase the tech talent in Milwaukee through leveraging the power of companies, entrepreneurs, educators and community organizations

### Wisconsin Technology Council

Connects the interests of tech companies, higher education, venture capital, research institutions and government with networking, education and policy development opportunities

## COWORKING SPACES

### StartingBlock (Madison) **STARTINGBLOCK** MADISON'S STARTUP HUB

Space for entrepreneurs and startups to collaborate, network, host events and participate in accelerators

### Urban Hub (Green Bay) **URBAN hub**

Serves entrepreneurs and remote workers as well as entrepreneurship support organizations and business development

### The Coven (Eau Claire)

A vibrant and energetic workspace with desks, private offices, conference rooms, and phone booths

### The Oasis (Milwaukee)

Provides a soft landing for water technology entrepreneurs from overseas. Technical assistance, potential research partnerships, and networking opportunities are all available within the building

### Forward BIOLABS (Madison)

A shared lab facility at the University Research Park that provides office and lab space and other supportive services for biotech startups, with a goal of lowering the barriers for entrepreneurs launching new ventures

## STATE SUPPORT

### Qualified New Business Venture (QNBV) Certification

Helps drive investment to innovative early-stage Wisconsin companies by allowing investors to claim a 25% tax credit on the amount they invest into a QNBV-certified business

### Technology Development Loan Program

Flexible lending program designed to assist high-tech startups and emerging growth companies in financing the development and launch of innovative products and services

### Wisconsin Investment Fund

Launched in 2023 with \$50 million in investible resources to provide venture capital investment through designated fund partners



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## ACCELERATORS AND INCUBATORS

offer opportunities for startup growth through education, training, mentorship, and funding.

### [Doyenne Group](#)

This nonprofit focuses on accelerating women founders' ventures. Through a comprehensive approach, Doyenne's membership provides access to coaching, resources, networking and pitch competitions.

### [gener8tor](#)

Accelerator programs for a variety of stages and industries around the country. Programs range from ideation to corporate programming and hardware technology to music and arts.

### [iCorps](#)

Helps move research ideas to commercialization. In partnership with the National Science Foundation, iCorps provides education and resources to researchers about entrepreneurship and business foundations.

### [Blueprint/YES](#)

Helps early-stage companies in tech, e-commerce and manufacturing in Milwaukee, Green Bay and (coming soon) Madison

## INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS

### [FaB Wisconsin](#)

Provides education, trainings, networking and support to emerging companies in the food and beverage industry through a membership model

### [The Water Council](#)

Offers various programs and resources for helping water technology innovators get connected worldwide and scale their ideas for impact

### [BioForward](#)

Facilitates partnerships among academia, government, and private industry to accelerate biohealth research and development; can connect companies into the Wisconsin Biohealth Tech Hub, with \$80 million in federal funding so far

## EVENTS

offer opportunities throughout the year for networking, collaboration, and learning.

### [Milwaukee Tech Week](#)

Developed by the Wisconsin Startup Coalition, this event in Milwaukee brings together entrepreneurs to collaborate, network, and learn.

### [Early Stage Symposium](#)

by the Wisconsin Technology Council

This networking and educational opportunity for earlystage companies in Wisconsin and investors to learn and collaborate is held each year in the fall.

### [Summerfest Tech](#)

An extension of the Summerfest music festival in Milwaukee, this event is aimed at technical ventures started and growing in Wisconsin.

## MARKETPLACE

### [Governor's Conference on Diverse Business Development](#)

Showcase your products and services to potential buyers nationwide; benefit from educational workshops and compile leads for growing your business.

### [Forward Fest](#)

This week-long celebration of entrepreneurship takes place in Madison. Opportunities for entrepreneurs to network, be inspired, learn and grow their ventures

### [Wisconsin Startup Week](#)

This week of coordinated events throughout the state educates and provides resources to Wisconsin startups.

### [Wisconsin Entrepreneurs](#)

Innovation Prospers With Our State's Support

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