COLUMBIA | Lab-to-Market Accelerator Network

Columbia Lab-to-Market Programs

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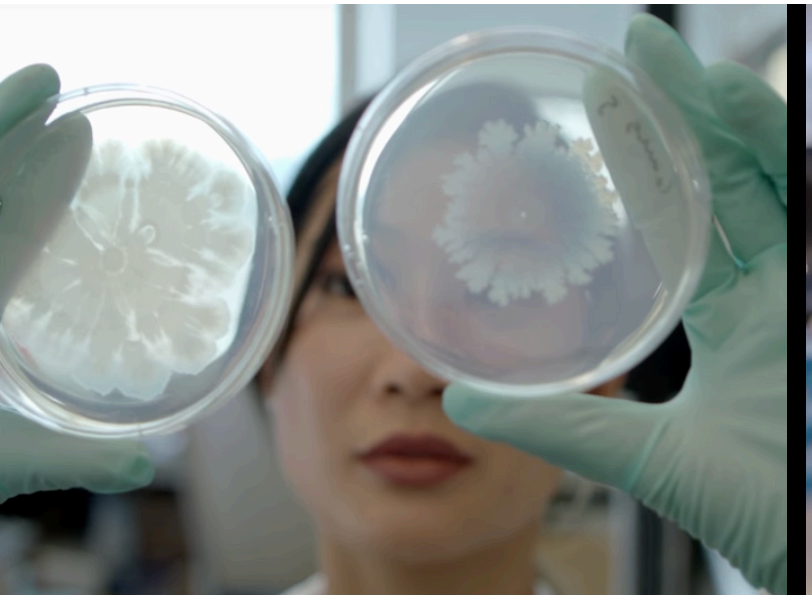
ABOUT L2M

The Columbia Lab-to-Market (L2M) Accelerator Network serves as a framework to successfully develop, launch, and execute initiatives that help commercialize academic research. Since 2008, Columbia University has founded or co-founded multiple accelerator programs encompassing medical (therapeutics, diagnostics, devices, etc.), clean energy, advanced materials, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, pathogen surveillance, blockchain, smart cities, and digital media technologies, providing **$51.5M to early stage deep-tech teams.**



PARTNERING WITH L2M

Lab-to-Market programs are made possible by the incredible support of our diverse pool of partners, sponsors, and mentors.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD PARTNER?

- Provides mentorship and general business guidance from leaders and domain experts to academic founders to help them validate, fund, and commercialize their innovations.
- Prioritizes fireside chats, office hours, and guest facilitator opportunities.
- Supports community and network building.
- Invests financially in early-stage accelerator teams.

WHY PARTNER?

- **Maximize your impact** through L2M's efficient approach to building programs and sharing resources.
- **Grow your reach** across campuses and institutions through L2M's robust programming while **staying connected** to cutting edge research.
- **Collaborate, network, and engage** scientific teams on the cusp of commercialization.

Join Today

L2M NETWORK AT A GLANCE

Program	Focus Areas	Target Scope
Accelerating Cancer Therapeutics (ACT)	Cancer-related Therapeutics	CU Faculty
Biomedical Engineering Technology Accelerator (BiomedX)	Biomedical Engineering	CU Faculty
Carbontech Development Initiative (CDI)	Carbon Capture	New York State
Corning Advanced Materials Prize	Advanced Materials	CU Faculty
Columbia - RTW Rare Diseases Alliance	Rare Diseases	New York City
Columbia - IBM Launch Accelerator	Deep Tech	New York City
CU - NYU - Takeda Alliance	Gastroenterology	CU / NYU Faculty
CU - SDP Oncology Research Alliance	Oncology	CU Faculty
Cyber NYC (I2F)	Cybersecurity	New York City
Hudson Heights Innovation	Therapeutics	CU Faculty
'Math Meets Bio' Columbia - AlleyCorp Collaboration	Computational Biology	New York City
Materialize New York	Manufacturing	New York City
NSF Engineering Research Center for Smart Streetscapes (CS3) VALIDATE Accelerator	Smart Cities	National
NYC Media Lab Combine	Emerging media tech	New York City
NYS Biodefense Commercialization Fund	Pandemic Preparedness	New York State
PowerBridgeNY	Clean Tech	New York State
PORTENT - POC Diagnostics Accelerator	Point-of-Care Diagnostics	National
Translational Therapeutics Accelerator (TRx)	Therapeutics	CU Faculty

672
Alumni Teams

$51.6M
Awarded to Teams

356
Cash Awards

LIFE SCIENCE PROGRAMS

2017 – Present

Funding: Mixed (NIH, CU)

ACCELERATING CANCER THERAPEUTICS

Accelerating Cancer Therapeutics (ACT) is an accelerator program designed to leverage Columbia's proficiency in drug discovery and provide access to entrepreneurs and the pharmaceutical industry to advance novel cancer therapeutics from the lab towards the path of commercialization and clinical implementation. The program provides education, mentorship and funding to help academic translational research projects move beyond the "valley of death" in therapeutic development and reach significant milestones.

37 Teams

23 Awards

$1.19M Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Cancer-related therapeutics projects
- Principal Investigators or teams of investigators from underrepresented groups
- Therapeutic strategies including small molecules, biologics, novel delivery approaches, gene therapy, and cell therapeutics

COLUMBIA | ACT
Accelerating Cancer Therapeutics

// LINK TO INTEREST FORM
// LINK TO PROGRAM HOMEPAGE

2011 - Present

Funding: Mixed (Philanthropic, CU)

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY ACCELERATOR

The BiomedX program aims to catalyze the advancement of Columbia biomedical technologies. The program provides funding, education, resources, and mentorship to teams of clinicians, engineers, and scientists to develop solutions for unmet clinical needs, with the ultimate goal of bringing innovative research out of the lab to benefit society. Participating teams will be eligible to submit a full proposal application for a one-year grant of up to $100,000 per project.

185 Teams

81 Awards

$6.09M Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Technologies that directly impact human health (medical devices, diagnostics, software, platform technologies, etc.)
- Translation to market within 3-5 years
- Remote medicine, patient experience, care coordination, leakage reduction, and provider efficiency and wellness

COLUMBIA | BIOMEDX
Biomedical Engineering Technology Accelerator

// LINK TO INTEREST FORM
// LINK TO PROGRAM HOMEPAGE

2019 - 2023

Funding: VC (Deerfield)

COLUMBIA | DEERFIELD: HUDSON HEIGHTS INNOVATIONS

Hudson Heights Innovations is a partnership between Columbia University and Deerfield Management aimed at transforming biomedical discoveries into novel treatments for enhanced quality of life and disease cures. Launched on June 5th, 2019, this collaboration was backed by an initial funding of up to $130 million over 10 years from Deerfield and its partners. In addition to funding, Deerfield lends development expertise to support innovative drug research.

5
Columbia Departments

58
Teams

$130M
Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Hard-to-treat and rare diseases
- High-need therapeutics
- Improving quality of life and treatment

HUDSON HEIGHTS INNOVATIONS

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// LINK TO PROGRAM HOMEPAGE

2019 - 2023

Funding: Corporate (Takeda)

COLUMBIA-NYU-TAKEDA ALLIANCE

Columbia University, New York University, and Takeda Pharmaceuticals have partnered to propel gastroenterology research and the development of new treatments for GI disorders. Leveraging Takeda's R&D capabilities and funding, the alliance aims to bridge the gap between the universities' early-stage technologies and commercialization. The collaboration will further innovative, high-risk concepts aligned with Takeda's GI Drug Discovery Unit's strategies. Sponsored research will be advanced institutionally, with award decisions made by a joint committee from Columbia, NYU, and Takeda.

2
Universities

13
Awards

$1.17M
Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Gut inflammation
- Liver disease
- Motility disorders
- Translational and clinical
- Cell and gene therapy
- Drug delivery

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2021 - Present

Funding: State (ESD)

NEW YORK STATE BIODEFENSE COMMERCIALIZATION FUND

The $40 million Biodefense Commercialization Fund aims to promote and expedite the development and commercialization of solutions for major infectious diseases, including COVID-19 and its variants. It supports the formation and growth of life science businesses. The Fund provides grants to startups and academic centers working on promising innovations in diagnostics, vaccines, therapeutics, pathogen surveillance tools to address infectious disease threats.

104 Teams

29 Awards

$27.2M Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Therapeutic, diagnostic, digital epidemiology, and pathogen surveillance & containment
- Small molecule therapeutics
- Novel platform diagnostics targeting COVID variants and other infectious diseases

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. | Empire State Development

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2023 - Present **Funding: Mixed (CU, Cornell)**

PORTENT ACCELERATOR

The Point-of-Care Technologies for Nutrition, Infection, and Cancer for Global Health (PORTENT) Center is a one-of-a-kind international network of clinical, training, and device development facilities with unique worldwide expertise in point-of-care diagnostics, their application and commercialization. The clinical core across 4 continents in New York City, Uganda, Ecuador, and India, can help validation of technologies on a broad range of populations, clinical samples, and with a unique set of users.

2 Universities

4 Awards

$176K Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Point-of-care technologies for nutrition, infection, and cancer for global health in locations where access to better diagnostics can have the largest worldwide impact

PORTENT
Point of care diagnostics for nutrition, infection, and cancer for global health

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2016 – Present

Funding: Mixed (NIH, CU)

TRANSLATIONAL THERAPEUTICS ACCELERATOR

The TRx program is a therapeutic development accelerator aimed at translating the outstanding discoveries at Columbia University into commercial therapeutics. Investigators in all therapeutic areas are encouraged to apply. Of interest are novel therapeutic targets or innovative ideas that have a clear path towards commercialization. Funding from this pilot award is intended to move projects forward to a value inflection point so that they are eligible to explore later stage funding opportunities through Government or Foundation grants and/or industry partnerships.

95 Teams

42 Awards

$1.6M Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Rare diseases originating from precision medicine
- Pain and addiction (e.g., management & treatment)
- Unmet needs for diseases and public health concerns that disproportionately affect underserved communities
- Applications from Principal Investigators or teams of investigators from underrepresented groups

COLUMBIA | TRx
IRVING INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANLATIONAL RESEARCH

// LINK TO INTEREST FORM
// LINK TO PROGRAM HOMEPAGE

PHYSICAL SCIENCE PROGRAMS

2021 - Present

Funding: State (NYSERDA)

CARBONTECH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (CDI)

The Carbontech Development Initiative (CDI) is a large-scale market transformation grant-seeding and commercialization initiative for carbontech science and technology. CDI aims to position New York State as a global carbontech hub by supporting research and development, facilitating technology transfer, and commercializing innovation. By leveraging the deep bench of technical expertise at Columbia University and the entrepreneurial dynamism of New York State, CDI will promote the decarbonization solutions required to address the climate crisis and catalyze economic development.

5 Programs

3 Technology Areas

$10M Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- CO2 Capture Technology
- CO2-to-Building Materials
- CO2-to-Chemicals, Fuels, & Materials

CARBONTECH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

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2020 - 2022

Funding: Corporate (Corning)

COLUMBIA | CORNING ADVANCED MATERIALS PRIZE

The Columbia-Corning Advanced Materials Prize supported interdisciplinary Columbia-based teams developing innovative advanced materials technologies with the potential to transform industries. Accepted semi-finalist teams had access to top business and technical experts from Corning and the broader entrepreneurial community. Teams received funding for lab work as well as access to Corning materials, equipment, mentorship, and advice.

7	4	$106K
Teams	Awards	Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Materials, equipment and systems for life sciences
- Ceramic materials
- Materials for quantum computing
- To learn more about the prize's areas of focus, click here.
- Advanced coatings and paints
- Photonic and display technology
- Battery technologies

CORNING

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2018 - 2021

Funding: Corporate (IBM)

COLUMBIA | IBM LAUNCH ACCELERATOR

The Columbia-IBM Launch Accelerator was a non-dilutive program for building and scaling successful early-stage companies in big data and deep tech. The goal of the program was to help the best emerging ventures succeed through education, mentorship, and business model design. The program was a pillar of the Columbia IBM Center for Blockchain and Data Transparency.

13
Universities

27
Awards

$273K
Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Blockchain
- Data Transparency
- Artificial Intelligence
- Machine Learning
- Natural Language Processing
- Cybersecurity
- Deep Tech

The Columbia | IBM Launch Accelerator

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2019 - 2020

Funding: Corporate (Sumitomo)

COLUMBIA-SDP ONCOLOGY RESEARCH ALLIANCE

Columbia University and Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma Oncology (SDP Oncology) formed the Columbia-SDP Oncology Research Alliance. This collaboration aimed to accelerate research and development in oncology via projects initiated by Columbia investigators. The alliance funded translational research by three researchers from the Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center (HICCC). Winning proposals investigated novel cancer therapeutics with the potential to significantly influence cancer research.

Learn about the winning teams here.

3	3	$934K
Teams	Awards	Total Funding

Sumitomo Pharma

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2019 - 2020

Funding: Municipal (NYCEDC)

CYBER NYC INVENTORS TO FOUNDERS

Launched in 2019, Cyber NYC was a $100M public-private partnership driven by the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) to energize the cyber startup ecosystem. The Inventors to Founders (I2F) initiative was specifically aimed at fostering cybersecurity and data privacy startups from premier academic institutions. I2F served as an early-stage accelerator and talent network, providing tailored programs and financing to expedite the commercialization of innovative cybersecurity research from academia.

9
Universities

8
Teams

$750K
Total Funding

Components of the I2F Initiative

- "Pre-seed" Startup Accelerator
  - Connected startups with capital, talent, and networks
- Talent Matching Platform
  - Connected university technologists with operators

Inventors to Founders | CyberNYC Catalyzing Innovation. Creating Jobs.

// LINK TO ANNUAL REPORT
// LINK TO PROGRAM HOMEPAGE

2021 - 2022

Funding: VC (Alleycorp)

‘MATH MEETS BIO’ COLUMBIA-ALLEYCORP COLLABORATION

The 'Math Meets Bio’ collaboration between Columbia and AlleyCorp aimed to expedite the market transition of innovative technologies and boost startup activity at the intersection of mathematics and biology in the New York Life Science-Tech ecosystem. The strategic research alliance was a collaboration with New York based venture firm AlleyCorp to support new innovation in life sciences powered by computational biology.

8
Teams

3
Awards

$286K
Total Funding

ALLEYCORP

EINSTEIN
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

COLUMBIA
TECHNOLOGY
VENTURES

NYU

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Weill Cornell Medicine

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2023 - 2024

Funding: Private (Material Impact)

MATERIALIZE NEW YORK

The Materialize New York Accelerator aims to advance the development of novel technologies in the New York City area, facilitating the transition of technologies from academic labs to startup formation with a commitment to human impact. With programmatic support from L2M, the Material Impact team delivered the MaterializeNY Bootcamp where selected teams participated in interactive learning sessions and office hours. They were taught how to de-risk their innovations from a business perspective–addressing customer identification, product-market fit, market size, and feasible milestones across the product lifecycle.

3
Universities

11
Teams

Areas of Focus

- Biomanufacturing & Sustainable Products
- Robotics, AI, & Augmented Reality
- Sustainable Food & Water
- Transportation & Mobility
- Data Storage & Security
- Underrepresented Healthcare

material impact

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2023 - Present

Funding: Federal (NSF)

NSF ENGINEERING RESEARCH CENTER FOR SMART STREETSCAPES (CS3) VALIDATE ACCELERATOR

Led by Columbia in partnership with Florida Atlantic University, Rutgers University, University of Central Florida, and Lehman College, the NSF Engineering Research Center for Smart Streetscapes (CS3) VALIDATE Accelerator is the only federally funded large-scale research center focusing on smart city technologies and will focus on forging livable, safe, and inclusive communities through real-time, hyper-local streetscape applications built on advancements in edge-cloud technology, wireless-optical engineering, visual analytics, computer security, and social science.

6 Teams

3 Awards

$12K Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Road Safety & Efficiency
- Public Safety
- Assistive Technologies
- Future of Outdoor Work
- Hyper-Local Environmental Sensing

CENTER FOR SMART STREETSCAPES

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2015 – 2020

Funding: Municipal (NYCEDC)

NYC MEDIA LAB COMBINE

NYC Media Lab's Combine was a lean startup accelerator that promoted entrepreneurship in emerging media technology for university startups, corporate intrapreneurship programs, and executive education. It aimed to facilitate entrepreneurs and innovative companies to leverage NYC Media Lab's community and the city's robust technology ecosystem. The accelerator paired faculty and students developing new technologies with a lean process for customer discovery and business model generation.

48	45	$9.4M
Teams	Awards	Total Funding

Areas of Interest

- Emerging media technologies
- Artificial Intelligence
- Machine Learning
- Computer Vision
- Natural Language Processing
- Virtual & Augmented Reality
- Voice, Audio, and/or Neural Interfaces

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2013 - 2019

Funding: State (NYSERDA)

PowerBridgeNY

PowerBridgeNY was an accelerator program established in 2013 to expedite the commercialization of cleantech for scientists and entrepreneurs. It supported technologists in determining product-market fit, de-risking their technologies through prototype development, and validating their technology via customer and industry engagement. The program offered $150K for teams to conduct customer discovery interviews and develop prototypes or perform in-field testing, in addition to providing workshops, mentorship, and access to expertise in various fields using the NSF I-Corps/Lean LaunchPad Methodology.

81
Teams

51
Awards

$46M
Total Funding

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2021 - 2022

Funding: Foundation (RTWCF)

RTW CHARITABLE FOUNDATION ACCELERATOR

Administered by Columbia Technology Ventures, the accelerator was a strategic research alliance with the RTW Charitable Foundation and select New York-based academic institutions, aiming to accelerate translational research in ultra-rare and underfunded diseases. The RTW Charitable Foundation, created at the convergence of scientific advancements and humanitarian efforts, provides funding, leadership, and scientific expertise to support pioneers battling diseases that might lack commercial appeal but result in significant human suffering.

8
Teams

3
Awards

$375K
Total Funding

Areas of Focus

- Central Nervous System
- Cardiovascular
- Immunology/Autoimmune Diseases

RTW
Charitable Foundation

// **LINK TO PROGRAM HOMEPAGE**

GET INVOLVED & STAY IN TOUCH

Newsletter

To stay up to date on program announcements, updates from cohort teams, and award funding from across the Lab-to-Market landscape, please subscribe to our newsletter.

SUBSCRIBE HERE

Sponsor, Partner, Mentor

Each Lab-to-Market program is incredibly fortunate to engage incredible sponsors, partners, and mentors from across the early-stage entrepreneurial ecosystem. If you are interested in getting involved please fill out the 5-minute intake form below.

INTAKE FORM

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