So you have the idea, you have the dedication and the determination. Now, how do you get your business from a piece of paper to making paper?

The Ohio University Innovation Center offers your early stage company a complete support system to reduce risk and assist you in developing sustainable business practices. But, the process is competitive. To meet the minimum requirements, you must have a technology-based idea, a product with growth potential and/or be an early stage startup company.

Rather than spending hours filling out paperwork, the Innovation Center encourages the process to begin with a conversation. A client services coordinator can be reached at 740-593-9401 or at mcculll1@ohio.edu for more information on taking steps to becoming a client.

The next step will be a meeting where the client services coordinator and EIR will assess your needs and make a recommendation as to what resources your startup needs to become successful, even if it doesn’t mean that the Innovation Center itself is the right fit for your business.

If the Innovation Center services and space is something from which you could benefit, you will be invited to submit a full application. The application will ask about your product, market, team, value proposition, resources needed and several basic building blocks necessary for success.

The Director and Associate Director will review your application and schedule an interview with you to determine your qualifications. In order to get the most out of your time with the Innovation Center, a set of requirements has been put into place that lays the foundation for positive outcomes including:

• being coachable by showing your willingness to put forth effort toward growing your business
• being open to working with Innovation Center staff
• establishing sound business practices such as an accounting system, an online presence and plans for building out a strong team
• commitment to reaching assistance from the IC staff on a monthly or quarterly basis

Finally, if selected, you will meet with the Innovation Center’s administrative staff to complete a lease and service agreement along with other necessary paperwork.

Your business may be the next Diagnostic Hybrids Inc., Imgur or just the next big thing in general. The first steps can be taken with the Ohio University Innovation Center.
The Athens Messenger

Progress Edition 2015

The Innovation Center

filling goals for three decades

The Innovation Center has provided a place where businesses can come together to create a culture of innovation and technologyCAPITALIZE. The center provides a venue for local businesses and organizations to work on projects, share ideas, and collaborate. It is a hub for networking and professional development, with opportunities for workshops, seminars, and events. The center is supported by the university and the community, and it has been instrumental in fostering innovation and growth in the region.

The Innovation Center

The Innovation Center was established in 2015 as a partnership between Ohio University and the Athens Chamber of Commerce. The center’s mission is to provide resources, support, and a physical space for businesses and entrepreneurs to develop their ideas and grow their ventures. The center offers a variety of services, including incubation, acceleration, and mentoring, to help start-ups and established businesses thrive.

The Innovation Center

The Innovation Center is a key driver of growth and innovation in the Athens region. It has become a destination for businesses and entrepreneurs looking to start or scale their ventures. The center has helped to create a vibrant ecosystem of innovation and technology, with an emphasis on supporting businesses that are part of the “cultural tech” sector.

The Innovation Center

The Innovation Center has been instrumental in helping businesses to grow and prosper. The center has provided a range of services and resources, including incubation, acceleration, and mentoring, to help entrepreneurs and start-up businesses get off the ground and succeed. The center has helped to create a vibrant ecosystem of innovation and technology, with an emphasis on supporting businesses that are part of the “cultural tech” sector.

The Innovation Center

The Innovation Center is the place to be if you want to be part of the innovation and technology scene in Athens. Whether you are a start-up looking to get off the ground or an established business looking to scale your operations, the center can help you achieve your goals. The center has a range of services and resources to help you succeed, including incubation, acceleration, and mentoring. So, if you are looking for a place to grow and prosper, look no further than the Innovation Center.

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ON THE MOVE

Ecolibrium Solar moves on to new Athens location

The solar installation company, a client since 2011, has experienced significant growth in the last few years. It reports $7 million in sales per quarter and employs 22 staff members, with six jobs available.

On Monday, Ecolibrium Solar, along with its sister company Diagnostic Hybrids Inc., will be headquartered at the OUIC and will now commence operations at a new Athens location.

Ecolibrium Solar...
CALLING ALL ENTREPRENEURS, DEVELOPERS, DESIGNERS, ENGINEERS AND BUSINESS EXPERTS!

March 13-15, 2015
Ohio University Innovation Center
340 W State St., Athens, OH

REGISTER NOW for the Best Weekend of Your Life.

Startup Weekend follows a basic model: any attendee is welcome to pitch their startup idea. Teams organically form around the top ideas (as determined by popular vote) and then it’s a 54 hour frenzy of business model creation, coding, designing, and market validation. The weekends culminate with presentations in front of local entrepreneur leaders. Whether entrepreneurs found companies, find a cofounder, meet someone new, or learn a skill far outside their usual 9-to-5, everyone is guaranteed to leave the event better prepared to navigate the chaotic but fun world of startups

Registration Fee: $99  Students W/ID: $49
Early Bird: $75  Students W/ID: $45
Early bird registration special ends Friday, March 6. On-site registration will not be permitted. All meals included. For information and to register go to http://www.up.co/communities/usa/athens-oh/startup-weekend/5699

SPEAKER
Jeff Doose
Executive in Residence, TechGROWTH Ohio

EVENT JUDGES
Michelle Ferrier
Associate Dean for Innovation, Research/Creativity Activities and Graduate Studies, Ohio University
Bob Silva
Director, Tech Transfer Office, Ohio University
Jesus Pagan
Assistant Professor, Engineering Technology and Management, Ohio University
Vic Matta
Associate Professor, College of Business, Ohio University

COACHES AND MENTORS
John Bowditch
Director, The Game Research and Immersive Design (GRID) Lab at Ohio University
Nathaniel Berger
Operations Coordinator, Create space, College of Fine Arts at Ohio University
Christopher Keesey
Director, Design and Technology at Lexis Nexis
Sam Patt
Co Founder, Aryvent
Paul Benedict
Faculty, Professional MBA Program at Ohio University

GRAND PRIZES:
1st Place Prize Pack valued at $3,635:
• Six-month membership/lease of YOUR VERY OWN private office at the Innovation Center.
• One-year Athens Chamber of Commerce membership.
• Logo development by CreMedia Productions.
• Semester Flex membership at AthenaWorks.
• Special feature in our newsletter and on social media.

2nd Place Prize Pack valued at $1,920:
• Six-month membership/lease to Digital Media Incubator at the Innovation Center.
• One month of promotions on WOUB radio and TV.
• A year subscription to Basecamp.
• Full membership for your Team for one semester at Athens Works.

3rd Place Prize Pack valued at $670:
• FREE conference room usage at Athens Works.
• $100 in printing at the Innovation Center.
• One month of promotions on WOUB radio and TV.