The Arizona Furnace Technology Transfer Accelerator is a startup accelerator designed to launch new companies created from technologies and intellectual property licensed from Arizona’s premier research institutions. Arizona Furnace is the first accelerator in the world to offer the most commercial research and discoveries from universities and other research organizations to external entrepreneurs on a competitive basis. It is a public-private partnership among the Arizona Commerce Authority, BioAccel and the technology transfer offices of Arizona State University, Dignity Health Arizona, Northern Arizona University and the University of Arizona.

**Propelling ideas from lab to launch**

The Arizona Furnace Technology Transfer Accelerator is a startup accelerator designed to launch new companies created from technologies and intellectual property licensed from Arizona’s premier research institutions. Arizona Furnace is the first accelerator in the world to offer the most commercial research and discoveries from universities and other research organizations to external entrepreneurs on a competitive basis. It is a public-private partnership among the Arizona Commerce Authority, BioAccel and the technology transfer offices of Arizona State University, Dignity Health Arizona, Northern Arizona University and the University of Arizona.

**Transforming Knowledge**

Arizona Furnace gives entrepreneurs the opportunity to partner with researchers to form high-potential startup companies based on the top technologies from Arizona research institutions. Potential participants must go through a competitive application process in which they select a technology available for license, form a team and create a business proposal for a new company. These new companies must be based in Arizona in order to drive regional economic development and job creation.

Companies can be formed around one or more technologies from a single research institution or from several institutions. The hundreds of discoveries available for license include medical devices, diagnostic tools, education technology, advanced materials and security devices, among others. A complete list of technologies is available on the Arizona Furnace website at azfurnace.org.
Accelerating Commercialization

Companies accepted into Arizona Furnace participate in an intensive nine-month accelerator experience that includes initial seed funding, office space and access to top industry mentors. The companies receive a package of funding and services worth more than $100,000, including at least $25,000 in funding and nine months of incubation space at ASU SkySong; BioInspire, the BioAccel incubator space; or the Northern Arizona Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology, Northern Arizona University’s partner incubator.

The competition takes place in the fall each year, and the accelerator cycle runs from February through October. At the conclusion of the cycle, the companies participate in a demo day at which they pitch their products to an audience that includes angel investors and venture capitalists from around the country.

“For too long technologies created in universities and other research institutions have been lying dormant. Arizona Furnace is about telling the world about the potential for these technologies to be used to create new companies.”

Gordon McConnell
Assistant Vice President of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Venture Acceleration

WHO: Entrepreneurs, researchers, scientists, techies and business professionals are encouraged to apply for Arizona Furnace. Applicants are not required to have a prior affiliation with any of the participating research institutions.

WHEN: Applications are due in early November each year. The nine-month accelerator runs from February through October each year.

WHERE: Incubation space is available at ASU SkySong; BioInspire, the BioAccel incubator space; or the Northern Arizona Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology, Northern Arizona University’s partner incubator.

For more information about the Arizona Furnace Technology Transfer Accelerator, visit azfurnace.org.