

Maryland Momentum Fund



In an effort to increase commercialization of its leading-edge research and support the growth of promising companies, the **UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND (USM)** is launching a new \$25 million early-stage investment fund, the Maryland Momentum Fund. The fund is focused on filling gaps in the funding continuum to propel USM's most promising and innovative ideas into the marketplace.

The USM has committed \$10 million to this fund and is partnering with UM Ventures to secure an additional \$15 million from area venture capitalists and angel investors to be co-invested along with USM funds. The Maryland Momentum Fund will leverage this financial support across the USM ecosystem to:

- Accelerate the success and profitability of USM start ups
- Attract promising entrepreneurs/innovators to USM institutions
- Commercialize valuable USM intellectual property
- Generate long-term financial returns to be reinvested in future USM affiliated start-ups

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible companies must be located in Maryland and affiliated with a USM institution in one of the following ways:

- Based on USM-owned intellectual property
- Founded by USM faculty, students, or alumni
- Located in USM incubators, research parks, or RISE Zones

INVESTMENTS

- Investment opportunities will be sought from all USM institutions. Investments are broken down into the following classifications:
 - Up to \$50,000: Seed funding for student-led or very early stage companies as an initial investment
 - \$50,000 - \$500,000: Seed/Series A round funding with co-investor participation for companies that have raised less than \$2 million to date
 - \$200,000- \$500,000: Second-round funding with co-investor participation in limited instances for significant impact/opportunity investments
- Co-investor participation is required for all investments over \$50,000

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT USM'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES:

Visit WWW.USMD.EDU/USM/ECONOMIC-DEVELOPMENT.

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The University System of Maryland (USM) is the state's public higher education system, comprising 12 institutions and 2 regional centers. A leader in both education and research, USM generates commercially relevant research and intellectual property that supports government and industry clients.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND

- USM generates more than \$1.3 billion in external grants and contracts annually, supporting research in a wide array of high-impact fields, including the life sciences, engineering, and computer science. This research has led to over 300 invention disclosures and 60 technology licenses per year.
- Since 2011, USM institutions have founded 502 new companies, which are either based on USM-owned inventions; located in USM incubators and research parks; or recipients of extensive business assistance from USM institutions.
- Since 2014, the University of Maryland, Baltimore and the University of Maryland, College Park under UM Ventures have invested \$500,000 in startup companies based on USM institution owned technologies. These Maryland-based companies have raised over \$24 million in additional funding.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Complete the online application and prepare supporting documentation at <https://gust.com/organizations/maryland-momentum-fund>
- Work with the Maryland Momentum Fund staff to complete due diligence
- Approved companies will present to successful early-stage investors and entrepreneurs serving on the USM External Investment Board
- All companies that apply for funding will receive feedback regardless of the investment decision

For Further Information

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