

Startup Resources in San Antonio

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Welcome to San Antonio's startup community! Here's a list of startup resources to get you started on your journey as an entrepreneur in San Antonio. If you prefer this as a PDF file, [download the guide here](#).

This page will be updated as San Antonio's ecosystem evolves, so if you see something missing, please reach out to us at editor@startupssanantonio.com.

More international founders are moving to San Antonio. Are you an immigrant who has moved to San Antonio and need help starting your business in the U.S.? Here's an [immigrant's guide to launching and funding your startup](#).

Looking for speakers?

Check out our:

- [Speaker List of San Antonio Women in Tech](#)
- [Speaker List of Black Entrepreneurs, Experts](#)

Helpful Articles for Startups

- [The 83\(b\) Election: What Startup Founders Need to Know](#)
- [Debunking Common Trademark Myths for Founders](#)
- [Anti-Dilution Provisions: Which One is Best for Founders?](#)
- [Look at Terms When Raising Money During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Free Tools and Resources for Startups](#)
- [Check Out These Four Business Grants To Fund Your Startup](#)
- [Your Startup Purpose Determines its Legal Structure](#)
- [Choosing the Best Legal Structure for Your Startup](#)
- [Watershed Idea Foundry 'One-Stop-Shop' Helps Biotech Startups Get Ideas to Market](#)
- [Beam Angel Network For Female-Owned Startups Launches Across Texas](#)
- [Crown Scientific — A Research Lab Space for Startups](#)

Startup Events

Check out the latest startup-related San Antonio events at the [SA Business Calendar](#). Their comprehensive calendar (started by this [San Antonio startup team](#)) lists business events in San Antonio, including startup, tech, cybersecurity, and bioscience-focused ones.

San Antonio Startups Listing

The [Alamo Angels](#) are a group of business leaders and corporate sponsors who invest in local business growth. [Alamo Angel's directory of San Antonio startups](#) has over 400 startup companies.

Geekdom also has an internal directory of its startup members developing their companies or operating them in their co-working space. Contact Geekdom for more information on member startups at info@geekdom.com.

Student STEM Education and Entrepreneurship Resources

There are many student entrepreneurship programs and resources. Below are some of those organizations focused on student STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education and entrepreneurship in San Antonio.

The landscape of STEM education programs and resources in San Antonio (luckily!) merits its own ecosystem map. The City of San Antonio is a [STEM Learning Ecosystem Initiative](#) city in which STEM learning stakeholders coordinate efforts to help students join the future STEM and STEAM (plus art) workforce. The group has a more comprehensive listing of STEM learning resources.

Below are some of the organizations focused on helping students become tech and science entrepreneurs:

Open to all students

- [Ghostwire Academy](#) (IT and cybersecurity-focused)
- [San Antonio CyberPatriot Center of Excellence](#)
- [SASTEMIC](#)
- [Students + Startups](#) is open to students nationwide.
- [The Social Innovation Lab](#) is an eight-week program for students from Alamo Colleges, St. Mary's University, Trinity University, University of Incarnate Word, and community members interested in launching a social enterprise.
- [VentureLab](#)
- [Youth Code Jam](#)

School-specific programs

- [CAST Tech High School mentoring program](#)
- [Hallmark Univ. Eastside Cyberforce Prime](#)
- [Northside School of Innovation, Technology, and Entrepreneurship \(NSITE\) High School Mentoring Program](#)
- [Reagan H.S. Business INCubator](#)
- [Trinity University Stumberg Venture Competition](#)
- [Trinity University summer accelerator program](#)
- [Trinity University Venture Mentoring Service](#)
- [UTSA-UT Health SA Joint Venture Mentoring Service](#)
- [UTSA's CITE technology entrepreneurship boot camp](#)
- [UTSA's CEO \(collegiate entrepreneurs organization\) incubator community](#)
- [UTSA Catalyst Lab](#)
- [UTSA Science and Technology Makerspace](#)

Startup Programs

San Antonio's growing list of boot camps, incubators, and accelerators is meeting the demand for specialized mentoring and resources.

Startup boot camps can be an entry into the startup community by teaching basic skills in entrepreneurship or by acting like highly compressed incubators. **An incubator** primarily aims to help the entrepreneur vet, validate, and refine their proposed solution. **An accelerator** generally takes a small percentage of equity in exchange for small amounts of capital and mentorship over the course of a coaching program ranging from three to six months.

San Antonio's startup incubators, accelerators, and other entrepreneurial programs include those listed below (and does **not** include entrepreneurial programs specifically designed for students).

- [Art Zip](#) is a startup program for artists looking to launch and build tech-driven artistic enterprises.
- [Break Fast & Launch](#) is the first culinary startup accelerator in the U.S.
- [BuildSec Foundry](#) is an incubator for cybersecurity startups based at Port San Antonio.
- [Bunker Labs](#) offers military members, veterans, and their families entrepreneurial resources and programs.
- [CivTechSA offers residencies for startups working to address civic challenges](#) for the City of San Antonio.
- [Crown Scientific](#) offers bioscience incubator and accelerator support as well as wet lab resources for biomedical entrepreneurs.
- [EPIcenter Energy Incubator and Accelerator Program](#) for energy startups launched in 2018.
- [InCube Labs biotech incubator](#) works with promising bioscience startup companies.
- [Geekdom's pre-accelerator program](#) launched in April 2018, while its [incubator program](#) launched in March 2020.
- [LaunchSA](#) partners with LiftFund and the San Antonio Economic Development Department to offer programs and mentorship.
- [LiftFund Women's Business Center](#) has many programs only for female entrepreneurs.
- [LiftFund Women's Business Accelerator](#) is designed for female-run businesses.
- [Maestro Entrepreneur Center](#) offers a mentored accelerated program for entrepreneurs.
- [One Million Cups](#) provides networking and support for entrepreneurs.
- [RealCo 15-month accelerator program](#) is headquartered out of Geekdom with a second location in Colorado.
- [Scaleworks](#) is an aggregator, investor, and accelerator for business-to-business SaaS (software-as-a-service) startups.
- [SCORE \(San Antonio chapter\)](#) is a source of mentoring for small business owners.
- [TMCx medical tech innovation program](#) (based in Houston but open to San Antonio founders) is tailored to healthcare entrepreneurs with access to specialized mentors.
- UT Health San Antonio [Tech Novum](#) accelerator is designed for researcher faculty to commercialize bioscience advances for the market.
- [UTSA New Venture Incubator](#) is run by the University of Texas at San Antonio.
- [UTSA Small Business Development Center](#) offers programs for entrepreneurs, not just their students.
- [VelocityTX](#) has a BioGlobal Accelerator program for bioscience entrepreneurs.
- [Venture for America](#) is a two-year fellowship program for recent grads who want to work at a startup and create jobs in American cities.

- [Watershed Idea Foundry](#) offers bioscience incubator and accelerator support as well as wet lab resources for biomedical entrepreneurs.

Industry Education and Training

- [Codebound](#) (coding program)
- [Coder Dojo](#) (free training offered twice monthly)
- [Codeup](#) (coding and data science programs)
- [DC Industries](#) (IT and cyber training for veterans)
- [Digital Creative Institute](#) (specializes in digital marketing programs)
- [Dynamic Advancement](#) (IT and cybersecurity-focused training)
- [Hallmark University Eastside Cyberforce](#) (cybersecurity training program)
- [Rackspace Cloud Academy](#) (program based at Rackspace headquarters)
- [Microsoft Software and Systems Academy](#) (cybersecurity and IT training program for military members)
- [Project Quest](#) (cyber and coding workforce development training programs)
- [Red Cell](#) (nonprofit cybersecurity/IT training, workforce development, and placement)
- [Red Knight](#) (cybersecurity training for Red Cell students)
- [root9b](#) (a cybersecurity company that offers cyber training)
- [Rosie Chapter](#) (entrepreneurship programs for military spouses)
- [San Antonio Coding Academy](#) (coding program)
- [San Antonio Museum of Science and Technology \(SAMSAT\) Tech Training Hub](#) (tech careers training programs)
- [Tech Talent South](#) (coding and web development classes for adults and children)
- [The District](#) (a six-week recurring entrepreneurship program)
- [UTSA Coding Boot Camp](#) (24-week coding program)

San Antonio Startup Spaces

San Antonio has a variety of spaces for all types of startups that suit a founder's needs for location, access, budget, benefits, and vibe. It's no longer just about co-working!

Co-working spaces offer startups the opportunity to work in a shared working environment. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the nature of co-working for now. Many smaller companies not belonging to the same organization typically share the space, offering an affordable option for those first starting a company. Many co-working spaces provide added benefits such as working alongside other members of a startup community, conference meeting spaces, mailboxes, and event space.

The rise over the past couple of years of specialized spaces for other industries means founders can now rent space in **commercial kitchens**, **film and video studios**, **bioscience wet lab and manufacturing**, and **makerspaces** across San Antonio.

Here are the startup spaces currently available in San Antonio:

- [500 SIXTH](#)—a collaborative working environment in midtown San Antonio at 500 Sixth Street
- [10BitWorks](#)—a makerspace on the South Side
- [Alamo City Studios](#)—film and video production studio

- [Alamo Kitchens](#)—a culinary kitchen co-working space and rentable commercial kitchen
- [Co-Op Kitchen](#)—a culinary kitchen co-working space and rentable commercial kitchen opening in late summer/fall 2020
- [Crown Scientific](#)—offers specialized bioscience wet lab resources for biomedical entrepreneurs
- [Cubes at the Quonset](#)—casual, pet-friendly, techie co-working near the Pearl
- [Geekdom](#)—a downtown technology startup hub and co-working community
- [The Impact Guild](#)—co-working focused on social entrepreneurship and nonprofits
- [Key Coworking](#)—a co-working space near Olmos Basin
- [Legacy Office Centers](#)—executive suites and virtual offices at I-10 West and Loop 410
- [Legendary Business Center](#)—co-working space in northwest San Antonio
- [LiftOff](#)—small co-working spaces supported by the microlender [LiftFund](#) to help small businesses get started
- [Maestro Entrepreneur Center](#)—offers office space, a professional kitchen, industrial, and warehouse space for entrepreneurs
- [Moade Center](#)—coworking and office suites near the airport and in Fair Oaks
- [Office Box](#)—co-working located in Boerne
- [Office Evolution](#)—co-working located in North San Antonio in Stone Oak
- [Paradox](#)—co-working located near the San Antonio airport
- [Parish](#)—an artists' community on the near Westside
- [Regus](#)—class-A executive suites and meeting spaces at multiple locations around town
- [San Antonio Area Foundation](#)—meeting and event space for nonprofits
- [San Antonio Technology Center](#)—office spaces for companies, startups, and nonprofits in the Medical Center area
- [VenturePoint](#)—flexible offices in four locations across San Antonio
- [Venture X](#)—entrepreneur and professional offices in the Stone Oak area
- [Watershed Idea Foundry](#)— offers specialized bioscience wet lab resources for biomedical entrepreneurs
- [Werkplaats](#)—executive suites at the Dominion

Networking Groups

San Antonio is experiencing growth in its startup networking groups with a STEM focus. Many meetups with sizable membership (500+) are listed below.

- [Geekdom](#)
- [Startup Grind San Antonio](#)
- [San Antonio Technology Center](#)
- [San Antonio New Tech Meetup](#)
- [Growing with Artificial Intelligence Meetup](#)
- [Lisk Blockchain Meetup](#)
- [Bitcoin Trading Meetup](#)
- [Cyber Def Dojo \(cybersecurity\) Meetup](#)
- [San Antonio Women Developers](#)
- [Alamo City Python Meetup](#)
- [Data Science Meetup](#)
- [Tech Talent South Meetup](#)
- [Open Web Application Security Project \(OWASP\) Meetup](#)
- [UI-UX Meetup](#)
- [Learn to Code Meetup](#)
- [Web Technology Meetup](#)
- [Alamo Inventors Meetup](#)

- [Greater Gaming Society](#)
- [International Game Developers Association](#)

Supporting Infrastructure

Supporters and Advocates

- [Tech Bloc](#) is a technology industry advocacy organization in San Antonio.
- [CyberSecurity San Antonio \(San Antonio Chamber of Commerce\)](#) serves as the hub for all things cyber in the San Antonio region, including military and government affairs; talent, education and workforce development; global engagement; sustainability; and innovation and economic development.
- [Cyber Texas Foundation](#) supports cybersecurity professionals and hosts an annual conference in San Antonio.
- [BioMed SA](#) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the growth of the healthcare and bioscience industry by providing resources to the industry in San Antonio, convening collaboration and action groups, and raising the industry's visibility nationally and beyond.
- [The Health Cell](#) was formed by and for San Antonio's biotechnology, medical, military and academic leadership to promote professional development and collaboration across the City's health sector.
- [The City of San Antonio Small Business Office](#) leads the City's efforts to grow and develop small businesses.
- [San Antonio Economic Development Department \(SAEDD\)](#) works on behalf of the City of San Antonio on business infrastructure needs, incentives and quality workforce training programs.
- [San Antonio Economic Development Foundation \(SAEDF\)](#) is a private, nonprofit organization to drive San Antonio's economic growth by recruiting new business to San Antonio and helping local companies stay and grow.
- [Bexar County Small Business & Entrepreneurship Department](#) oversees the Small, Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (SMWVBE) and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) programs.
- [Bexar County Innovation Fund](#) is used to accelerate the growth of our digital information technology sector by funding recruitment, expansion, talent development competitions, professional and technical training, and brand building initiatives.
- [CANopener Labs](#) provides prototyping services for inventors and entrepreneurs.
- [Enventure San Antonio](#) is a nonprofit organization designed to help biomedical professionals discover and connect to entrepreneurial career options.

Lawyers

Eventually, every founder will need a lawyer who understands a startup's unique requirements. Startup legal services in San Antonio include:

- Tech lawyer David Jones works with many startups (tech startups, as well as tech legal issues): [David Jones PLLC](#)
- San Antonio lawyer Jose Padilla specializes in startups from formation to funding to acquisition or IPO: [Padilla Law PLLC](#)
- Patents lawyer Samar Shah (specializing in STEM startups): [Shah IP Law PLLC](#)
- San Antonio lawyer Van Lindberg (intellectual property matters and the intersection of technology and law): [Van Lindberg at Dykema Cox Smith](#)

- San Antonio lawyer Stephanie Chandler (works with companies in early stages through significant liquidity events, technology licensing, commercialization): [Stephanie Chandler at Jackson Walker](#)
- [Langley & Banack](#) has a group of cybersecurity, data protection, and privacy attorneys who specialize in helping clients minimizing a company's risks from a data breach
- Allison Higgins heads [Quest Business and Intellectual Property Law](#) and focuses her legal expertise on IP, technology, trademarks, and internet issues

Funding

Confused by what all the funding terms like “pre-seed,” “Series A,” and “Series C” mean?? Check out this useful primer: [Series A, B, C Funding: How It Works, Definitions, Averages](#)

There are over 50 San Antonio-based investors listed in the [Alamo Angel's investor directory](#). Other venture funds, investors, and possible sources of funding such as loans in San Antonio are listed below.

- [Alamo Angels](#)
- [Beam Angel Network](#)
- [Geekdom Fund](#)
- [Geekdom Community Fund](#)
- [HOLT Ventures](#)
- [Fraser-McCombs Capital](#)
- [USAA](#)
- [Targeted Technology Funds](#)
- [Scaleworks Venture Finance Fund](#)
- [LiftFund](#)
- [MGV Capital Group](#)
- [Tectonic Ventures](#)
- [Fountainhead Investors](#)
- [InCube Ventures](#)
- [San Antonio Economic Development Center](#)
- [San Antonio Economic Development Foundation](#)
- [San Antonio Economic Development Department](#)
- [Bexar County Economic Development](#)
- [Bexar County Innovation Fund](#)
- [Live Oak Ventures](#) Texas early-stage venture capital fund
- [Central Texas Angel Network](#)
- [Active Capital](#) is based in Texas, but will invest in founders across the U.S.
- [Dura Software](#) buys and operates software companies for the long-term.
- [Texas Intrepid Ventures](#) invests in promising military medicine startups.
- See also Silicon Hills Lawyer's [website listing of investors](#) interested in Texas startups.
- Pacific Northwest-based [Rogue Venture Partners](#) has partner Adam Stoll based in San Antonio who is willing to talk to local startups about financing paths.

Other funding sources include loans for small businesses. Be sure to read Margot Slossom's guest post on the [pros and cons of startup financing sources](#) and Jarod Angehr's guest post on [SAFE notes and revenue sharing](#).

There are also excellent online resources from the [Small Business Administration](#), [grants](#) for small businesses, and financing sources specifically for [minority-owned startups](#).

More Startup Resources: Podcasts, Checklists, and Books

STEM- and startup-centric podcasts are emerging in San Antonio. Here are some podcasts and radio shows to get you started.

- [EnventureSA](#) interviews scientists who are driving biomedical innovation in San Antonio.
- [Technology Today](#) is Southwest Research Institute's podcast on SwRI's advanced science developments
- [Obey Your Strengths](#) podcast from [Geekdom Media](#) focuses on how to leverage your StrengthsFinder results.
- The [SA Tech Radio](#) show features interviews with local tech founders and leaders.
- The [B Libre](#) podcast is focused on Bitcoin cryptocurrency.
- The [Wild West Crypto Show](#) is all about cryptocurrency.
- [TXBiobytes](#) science podcast from [Texas Biomed](#) shares the latest from the research institution.
- The South Texas Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases' science podcast [Microtalk](#) covers infectious disease.
- [Red Wing's Oil and Gas HSE Podcast](#) covers operations and health, safety and environmental — or HSE — issues in the oil and gas industry.
- [devmap](#) is a podcast for junior developers.
- Check out the past episodes from [Jungle Disk's](#) CEO Bret Piatt interviews of local experts and founders about cybersecurity on [Cyber Talk Radio](#).
- Check out the past episodes from [The Brand Brothers](#) podcast from [Geekdom Media](#) shares branding and marketing expertise.

More guides for startups

- For founders needing to learn how to approach investors, here's a [due diligence checklist](#) from the Central Texas Angel Network website.
- Don't forget to read books at every stage of your startup. This reading [list](#) offers great choices from your first harried days onward.
- Need to develop your pitch deck? [Pitch Deck Workshop April 8, 2020](#) by Iris Gonzalez [How to Create Your 1st Pitch Deck](#)
- Need help with remote onboarding? Use our checklist: [Remote onboarding webinar for Geekdom May 15, 2020](#) by Iris Gonzalez