The **Entrepreneurship and Innovation Program (EIP)** provides UMD Honors College freshmen and sophomores with an award-winning, interdisciplinary, living and learning education. EIP helps students develop the entrepreneurial mindsets, skill sets, relationships and resources they need to create innovative, impactful and sustainable solutions to today’s problems.

**A GREAT PLACE TO LAUNCH**

A joint program of the **Honors College** and the **Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute (Mtech)**, EIP has a proven pedigree of successful creativity and innovation-related education and achievement. Mtech has been a leading force in entrepreneurial education and innovation for over 25 years. EIP is based directly on Mtech’s groundbreaking Hinman CEOs program, the first undergraduate living-learning entrepreneurship program in the U.S. EIP students have access to Mtech’s venture development resources and activities as well as those specifically designated for EIP and the Honors College.

While we have a strong technology heritage, EIP is an excellent program for any student interested in entrepreneurship and innovation. Nearly half of EIP students are pursuing non-technical majors. And of course EIP is at the University of Maryland, which is consistently ranked by Kiplinger’s among top-ten public four-year institutions for providing outstanding education at an affordable price.

“**When I joined EIP my goal was to learn how to see a problem as an opportunity. I never would have dreamed a two-year program would impact me this much but it has.**”

— **ASHMI SHETH. DUAL FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT MAJOR**

“For creative students not majoring in marketing or economics, EIP provides an opportunity to learn and practice developing innovative ideas into practical products.”

— **LUKE CATHERINE. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING MAJOR, TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEURSHIP MINOR**

**United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE) selected EIP as a winner of a national award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship Education.**
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Students are part of a special experiential learning model comprised of dynamic courses, seminars, workshops, competitions, volunteerism, and company creation activities. They participate in a variety of creative and innovative thinking exercises and hands-on projects. In collaboration with faculty who have launched, operated, and advised successful ventures, students develop their business ideas and create team-based product and service plans.

CHALLENGING ACADEMICS

The Honors academic program combines small classes taught by exceptional faculty with the wide range of additional education opportunities offered by a large research institution. There are four courses totaling 9 credits that are exclusively available to EIP students. The academic program also requires an additional 6-credits of Honors Seminars or I-Series courses to bring the total honors course load to 15 credits. The academic program also requires an additional 6-credits of Honors Seminars or I-Series courses for a total of 15 credits.

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<th>FALL SEMESTER</th>
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<td><strong>FRESHMAN YEAR</strong></td>
<td><strong>HEIP 143: Foundations of Entrepreneurship &amp; Innovation (1 credit):</strong> Focuses on building the entrepreneurial mindset and introducing basic entrepreneurship principles through experiential learning and prominent guest speakers.</td>
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<td><strong>SOPHOMORE YEAR</strong></td>
<td><strong>HEIP 240: Exploring International Entrepreneurship &amp; Innovation (3 credits):</strong> Introduction to the opportunities and challenges of entrepreneurship and innovation from an international perspective.</td>
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LIVING COMMUNITY

All EIP students live together in LaPlata Hall for both years of the program, creating a rich, diverse, and dynamic atmosphere conducive to the free-flow sharing of ideas, team-building, and entrepreneurial activity. LaPlata is also close to other living-learning programs, the recreation center, athletic fields, and dining hall.

COACHING AND MENTORING

EIP emphasizes coaching and mentoring. The program offices and most classes are located in the residence hall to give students easy access to staff to discuss their latest venture idea or tackle a tough legal, financial, or ethical question.

IMPACT SEED FUND

An annual seed fund managed by Mtech is available to EIP students whose ventures have a positive social impact. Funds are provided as grants to students, with no payback or equity requirement.

“EIP took the larger Maryland community and placed me in an environment filled with the most promising leaders, competitive athletes, and talented musicians. The conglomeration of a diverse group of students ensures that any incoming EIP member will feel welcome.”

—STEPHANIE GRAF, DUAL FINANCE AND MARKETING MAJOR