



*Big Ideas awards up to **\$300,000** in prizes to undergraduate and graduate students with creative solutions to solve pressing social challenges. Teams can win up to **\$18,000** in award funding, receive extensive feedback from judges, access skills development workshops and networking opportunities, get exposure to topic area experts, and participate in a 6-week mentorship period for finalist teams.*



Upcoming Big Ideas Events

Get a jumpstart on your project and strengthen your Big Ideas submission by attending our events or coming in for an [advising](#) session!

Information Session

Tuesday, September 27 | 6:00pm PT | B100 Blum Hall | Food provided

This is the last info session of the year! Learn more about the goals, categories, timeline and requirements of this year's contest. The first 30 students to sign up for in-person attendance will receive a Big Ideas t-shirt at the session: RSVP [here](#).

Hardware for Good Category Design Luncheon

Wednesday, September 28 | 12:00pm PT | Studio 310 Jacobs Hall | Food provided
Join us at the Jacobs Institute for Design Innovation kick off this year's new category, learn about the Hardware for Good challenge, meet other entrepreneurs, and learn about the resources available to support socially-focused hardware innovations. Space limited, RSVP required [here](#).

Pre-proposal Writing Workshop

Tuesday, October 11 | 6:00pm PT | B100 Blum Hall

Get guidance and feedback on how to effectively craft your Big Ideas pre-proposal. RSVP [here](#).

[More events](#)

3 page pre-proposal submissions due November 16, 12pm PT

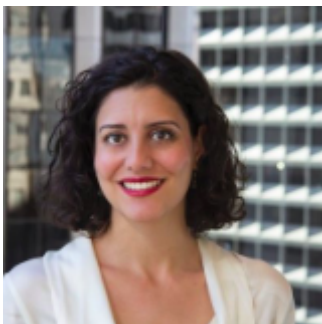
[Subscribe to contest updates](#)

Learn more: <http://bigideas.berkeley.edu/>

Questions? bigideas@berkeley.edu



The Blum Center's Practitioners in Residence program connects on-campus innovators and social entrepreneurs with a wide range of experts from industry, non-profits, government, and social enterprises. It's a unique opportunity to receive one-on-one real-world feedback and mentoring as you pursue social impact and develop your career.



Leila Makarechi, COO of Microclinic

International

Friday, October 7 | 9:00am - 12:00pm | Blum Center for Developing Economies

Focus areas: strategic partnerships, public-private partnerships, scaling businesses.

Leila Makarechi is Chief Operating Officer & Executive Vice-President of Program Management at Microclinic International. Microclinic International is nonprofit international organization aiming to revolutionize how deadly diseases are prevented and managed worldwide. She has experience working in Latin America, the Caribbean, India, and the Middle East. [RSVP here](#) for a 30 minute consultation, space limited.

UC Berkeley D-Lab Workshops

Interested in conducting quantitative or qualitative research for your project? UC Berkeley's D-Lab provides guidance to students on a range of research methods topics, including: running focus groups, conducting interviews, developing surveys, utilizing statistical

software, and mapping demographic data. All trainings are held at Barrows 356: D-Lab Convening Room, check [D-Lab's full calendar](#) for workshop updates and listings.

[Introduction to Social Science Methods \(2-Part Training\)](#)

Thursday, September 22 & September 29 | 11:30am - 1:30pm

This two-part workshop provides an introduction to both quantitative (1st week) and qualitative social science methods (2nd week).

[Geographic Data Fundamentals](#)

Thursday, September 22 | 1:30 - 3:00pm

This workshop will provide an introduction to digital geographic data--or geospatial data--and prepare you to work with these data in a variety of software tools.

[Introduction to Data Visualization](#)

Wednesday, October 12 | 1:00 - 2:15pm

This workshop will introduce key principles and resources for effectively communicating data through visualization.

Additional Opportunities

[Apply for the Startup@BerkeleyLaw FORM+FUND Workshop Series](#)

Startup@BerkeleyLaw is pleased to announce the 2016-17 FORM+FUND Workshop Series at UC Berkeley. The FORM+FUND workshops are two-hour interactive programs that address critical operational, financial, and legal components of starting and scaling a successful business. Each workshop features office hours hosted by leading Silicon Valley attorneys and venture capitalists. Workshop capacity is extremely limited and priority will be given to entrepreneurs that enroll in the full series.

[Apply for the next Skydeck Startup Cohort](#)

Must have a team member affiliated with UC Berkeley, LBNL, or UCSF. SkyDeck combines the consulting know-how of traditional accelerators with the vast resources of our research university. This robust partnership is coupled with SkyDeck's unique mentorship program to create a powerful environment for startups. Skydeck's 60+ advisors and a large network of investors connect you to the expertise and capital you need to launch and grow. Apply by September 23.

[Apply for the CITRIS Foundry Startup Accelerator](#)

The CITRIS Foundry is the University of California accelerator for founders building transformative technology companies. The program provides \$5,000 - \$10,000 in seed funding for startups; up to \$50,000 in total resources including office, meeting and lab space; cloud computing; legal services; and educational programs; customized mentorship specific to your needs from our extensive network of entrepreneurs, investors and industry experts; a strong community of fellow founders; and access to design and prototyping tools at the [CITRIS Invention Lab](#) as well as partner lab facilities at [QB3](#) and the [Marvell Nanolab](#). Apply by September 25.

[Lemelson-MIT Student Prizes](#)

The Lemelson-MIT Program is searching for the most inventive undergraduate and graduate students to apply for the 2017 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize (\$10,000 - 15,000) and your most inventive, entrepreneurial colleagues to be nominated for the 2017 Lemelson-MIT Prize (\$500,000)! For more information, please visit lemelson.mit.edu or contact The Lemelson-MIT Program at awards-lemelson@mit.edu. Apply by September 30.

[Call for Innovations: Securing Water for Food Grand Challenge for Development](#)

USAID's Securing Water for Food Grand Challenge for Development aims to increase access to innovations that help farmers produce more food with less water, enhance water storage, and improve the use of saline water and soils to produce food. It will provide up to \$2 million in funding for innovations improving water & food security. Learn more and apply [here](#) by October 10.

Apply for Institute of International Studies Undergraduate Merit Scholarship

The IIS Undergraduate Merit Scholarship supports undergraduate research in any area of international studies for an award of up to \$2,000. Research may be conducted independently, in congruence with an honors thesis, or while studying abroad. The scholarship is open to any UC Berkeley junior or senior with a minimum 3.5 GPA who has completed at least one semester of study in residence at Berkeley. Apply by November 14, contact iis.grants@berkeley.edu if you have any questions.



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