



Biosciences & Medical Devices

Central

Virginia

CENTRAL VIRGINIA offers a vibrant business environment with a highly qualified workforce in an ideal location with room for growth and expansion. The University of Virginia is increasingly focused on supporting enterprising faculty and innovative entrepreneurs as they discover, invent, and develop new technologies. The upshot is a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem that attracts the best and the brightest and offers opportunities for companies seeking access to expert faculty and advanced research and technology.

Demonstrated Record of Success

- The National Venture Capital Association named Charlottesville Metropolitan Statistical Area the fastest growing ecosystem in the nation in 2016 with an annual growth rate of 55.2%. Nine companies in the area received \$27.7 million in venture funding in 2015.
- **HemoShear Therapeutics** discovers novel biological targets and advances drug programs to treat metabolic disorders with significant unmet patient need. To accommodate the company's rapid growth, it relocated into the historic former Martha Jefferson Hospital.
- The **Focused Ultrasound Foundation** is a nonprofit foundation working to provide patients with this non-invasive, life-changing treatment option in the shortest time possible.
- **BIO-CAT**, the largest custom blender of enzymes in the nation, expanded in Louisa County in conjunction with the company's 25th year of business.
- **MicroAire** designs, manufactures, and distributes highly specialized orthopedic surgical instruments to a global marketplace, all from its facility in Central Virginia.
- A leading global clinical contract research organization, **PRA Health Sciences** provides a full spectrum of services in Phase I-IV clinical trials including bioanalytical lab services.
- **ADial** develops novel prescription medications for addiction and related disorders, specifically alcohol use disorder.
- **Diffusion Pharmaceuticals'** lead drug, TSC, has shown increased brain cancer patient survival at two years.
- **INDOOR Biotechnologies**, an immunodiagnostics company specializing in allergy, asthma, and indoor air quality, began as a University of Virginia start-up and now has an office in the UK and sales across the globe.
- Operating a cGMP manufacturing facility, **Afton Scientific** offers aseptic filling and terminal sterilization services for liquids and container-closures.



BIO-CAT

Access to Research and Higher Education

- The University of Virginia (UVa) produces innovative research discoveries with the potential to address critical issues in medicine and the life sciences and offers access to world class faculty experts.
- Consistently ranked in the top 3 public universities by U.S. News & World Report, UVa has sponsored research awards totaling more than \$311 million annually.
- UVa Licensing & Ventures Group provides support for entrepreneurs and partners with start-ups and businesses to commercialize breakthroughs in technology.
- UVa School of Medicine is ranked 25th for primary care and 28th for research by U.S. News and World Reports.
- Two research parks support the University's academic and research activities and foster relationships with commercial and industrial interests. The UVa Research Park, a 562-acre, fully master planned, mixed-use development, is located less than one mile from the Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport, and the Fontaine Research Park, a 54-acre, master planned development, is adjacent to the University's central grounds.



Central Virginia's Gateway to the World.



Talented and Prepared Workforce

- High educational attainment: 54% of Charlottesville and Albemarle County have at least a Bachelor's degree.
- Over 680 students complete biosciences degrees annually in fields such as biochemistry, bioengineering, medicine, neuroscience, and pharmacology.
- Local average wages are 13% less than Virginia and 32% less than Northern Virginia.
- Large eight county and one city labor pool with projected growth of 4% by 2021.
- Underemployed seeking opportunities; potential retention of out-commuting workforce.
- Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) and Germanna Community College (GCC) offer courses of study in biotechnology, science, engineering, health information management, nursing, and surgical technology as well as customized industry training to meet company-specific needs.



Insulin regulating smartphone app

Access to Capital

- Central Virginia is home to a number of active private investors and their substantial assets, networks, and expertise.
- The Virginia Biosciences Health Research Corporation, a public/private partnership, stimulates industrial partnerships and increased corporate-sponsored research, develops high-value patents, and fosters new start-up companies.
- HemoSonics, Phthisis Diagnostics, Global Cell Solutions, SphynKx Therapeutics and many other Central Virginia firms received Commercialization Program grants, SBIR grants and matching funds, and STTR funds from local, state, and federal sources.

A Record of Start-Up Successes

- **ADial Pharmaceuticals**
addiction disorder medicines
- **Afton Scientific**
sterile product processing
- **AMPEL BioSolutions**
biomedical research consultation
- **BioVista**
drug repositioning
- **BrightSpec**
residual impurity analysis
- **Diffusion Pharmaceuticals**
drugs for cancer
- **HemoShear**
drug discovery, human relevant systems
- **HemoSonics**
management of critical bleeding/clotting
- **INDOOR Biotechnologies**
environmental allergen detection systems
- **MicroAire**
orthopedic surgical instruments
- **Neoantigenics**
oncology theranostics products
- **RioGin**
improving pharmacokinetic properties of peptide drugs
- **SpermCheck**
male contraceptive
- **TearSolutions**
dry eye disease treatment

Central Virginia Biosciences Quick Facts

Number of Firms	187
Number of Workers	1,973
Annual UVa Sponsored Research Awards	\$311 million

Make Central Virginia the location for your **Bold Venture!**



Helen Cauthen, *President*

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