UTSA’s next downtown San Antonio building project, facilitating connections between students and faculty with San Antonio businesses and technology entrepreneurs.

LOCATION
Downtown San Antonio

ESTIMATED SIZE
250,000 Gross Square Feet

ESTIMATED COST
$161,250,000

INITIATIVE OVERVIEW
The new state-of-the-art Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Careers (IEC) Building leverages the broad opportunities that exist in San Antonio, allowing UTSA to address the city’s pressing workforce needs, engage students with experiential learning and career-engagement opportunities, and address the current and future academic space shortage. The IEC is a critical element in the university’s strategic plan and will be uniquely positioned to provide invaluable access to UTSA’s research and academic assets, as well as to community innovation and entrepreneurship mentors, and capital and business developers.

THE CHALLENGE
The IEC will be part of the expanded footprint of UTSA’s Downtown Campus and will serve to reduce the present space deficit of 1,316,888 net square feet, according to the Adjusted 2019 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Academic Space Projection Model. Notably, UTSA achieved record enrollment in fall 2020. As UTSA develops plans for academic space needs after the pandemic, the current deficit of space will critically limit the university’s programming abilities for business education and career preparation.

IMPACT
The IEC will support programming that enhances the development of marketable skills of students in work settings, preparing them for careers in business, technology and its applications, and independent small business development. The IEC puts student innovators and entrepreneurs in the heart of the city’s technology corridor and provides a collision space with mentors, coaches and other creative thinkers in the ecosystem. Additionally, by providing new class labs, classrooms and applied research labs, the facility offers necessary space to support UTSA’s goal of increasing enrollment to 45,000 students by 2028. The IEC also supports new collaborative degree programs in the areas of business, engineering and sciences, supporting multidisciplinary and collaborative research.

HOW THE REQUESTED FUNDS WILL BE USED
» Programming, design and construction of the 250,000 GSF facility
» Anticipated project cost per GSF is $645/SF. This cost is in line with similar urban facilities across the nation.