

IIFH BioGenerator Fellowship

A unique opportunity to join our 2021 innovation partners onsite to gain first-hand experience on what it takes to have a successful startup

- **\$70K fellowship:** 1 year salary, travel, tuition, research and conference expenses (up to \$70K by [IIFH](#))
- **Timeline:** Spring/Summer 2021 to Winter/Spring 2022 (flexible start date, virtual option if required)
- **Eligibility:** UC Davis post-doctoral fellows, or PhD students in their last 1-2 years of study
- **Experiential Learning with Venture Capital Group:** During the first quarter of the fellowship, the fellow will work with the host to evaluate startups in the food system and identify investable ventures, kicking off with an anticipated onsite residency in St. Louis, Missouri (up to \$10K travel, accommodation and conference allowance provided). During the second quarter upon return to Davis, the fellow will engage in regular virtual and in-person meetings to conclude with the venture capital host.
- **Developing and De-risking Innovative Concept:** Using the knowledge gained in the first six months of the program, fellows will have an additional two quarters (six months) on campus to conduct critical studies for de-risking a potential technology, product or process they want to develop.
- **DEADLINE April 9, 2021 – OR UNTIL FILLED:** [Click here to apply.](#)

About BioGenerator

[BioGenerator](#) was formed in 2003, and serves as an evergreen investor that creates, grows, and funds innovative companies and talented entrepreneurs in the St. Louis region. BioGenerator identifies and de-risks commercially promising innovations and services; advises innovators and entrepreneurs; recruits and supports entrepreneurial talent; makes staged investments grounded in rigorous due diligence; and offers access to enabling lab space and capital equipment. BioGenerator is the investment arm of [BioSTL](#), funding early-stage health and plant bioscience companies through four funding stages, which drive technology development and commercialization. BioGenerator positions companies to navigate the unique challenges of early-stage bioscience company development and provides guidance and expertise in order for the companies to grow and achieve success.

About the Innovation Institute for Food and Health (IIFH)

The IIFH makes uncommon connections between sectors and disciplines to catalyze innovation across food, agriculture and health. It works to accelerate the deployment of products and processes to enable safe, sustainable and secure nutrition for all. Together with strategic partners, IIFH identifies systemic issues as the basis for collaborative programs using both top-down (partner-driven) and bottom-up (investigator-initiated) approaches to formulate systemic solutions. This reduces the time from conception to application for transformative impact.



Program Description

First Quarter (3 months): Experiential learning onsite with BioGenerator

- Start date flexible: following selection, anticipate joining BioGenerator for the first quarter at their St. Louis, Missouri offices in Spring/Summer 2021 (including up to \$10K travel, accommodation and conference allowance).
- Explore BioGenerator's strategic ecosystem and extensive network of assets in evaluating and vetting competitive investment opportunities.
- Learn what kind of companies and technologies are considered investable and engage with expert consortium members to understand opportunities in food/agriculture innovation.
- Gain invaluable knowledge about what investors look for in entrepreneurs.

Second Quarter (3 months): Transition back to UC Davis, splitting time between research and virtual engagement with BioGenerator

- At UC Davis: upon second quarter return to Davis, continue to support BioGenerator's efforts in evaluating startups and selecting investable ventures that address selected challenges in the food system.
- The fellow will work closely with BioGenerator staff through virtual means, but support is provided for regular in-person meetings as needed.

Third and Fourth Quarters (6 months): De-risking technology/product/process concept

- Resume campus research: for remaining two quarters, practice applying BioGenerator learnings to conclude research activities (with support for research supplies), exploring the greatest impact and best route to market.
- Enrich learning: through on-campus Entrepreneurship Academy and business plan development, identify potential investors and research the target landscape.
- Support from: monthly face-to-face meetings with the IIFH (virtual or in-person), as needed.
- In conclusion: provide a brief report on the results and impact of the fellowship, and present at the annual Innovator Summit.

Application Requirements

- 1) Completed application form on IIFH website
- 2) Resume or CV (PDF)
- 3) Letter of interest detailing current research focus, why the program is of interest to you, and how your career goals align therewith (max. 2 pages, PDF format)
- 4) Letter of support from supervising faculty PI (max. 1 page, PDF format)

Please combine items 2 – 4 above (in the order they are listed) into one single PDF for submission.