



Global Launch Pad: Arizona

Tech Arizona Advocates

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Points to Consider Before You Launch

- **Research and Plan:** Arizona's tech landscape is fueled by innovation, a favorable business climate, and proximity to the U.S.-Mexico border. Study the state's key sectors—semiconductors, cleantech, AI, aerospace & defense tech, software and healthtech & bioscience—to identify alignment and opportunities.
- **Company Registration:** Set up your business through the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) and secure your EIN with the IRS. Foreign entities should also consider registering as a Foreign LLC.
- **Visas and Legalities:** If you're a non-U.S. entrepreneur, explore business immigration options including E-2 investor visas or L-1 intracompany transfers. Consult with U.S. immigration attorneys.
- **Funding:** Arizona is home to a growing VC ecosystem. Explore opportunities through:
 - [Arizona Commerce Authority – Access to Capital](#)
 - [Canal Partners](#)
 - [Tallwave Capital](#)
 - [Grayhawk Capital](#)
 - [Maverick Ventures Arizona](#)
 - Social Venture Partners Arizona
 - [Maverick Angels](#)
 - AZVC
 - Monsoon Ventures
 - Phx Ventures
 - [PHX East Valley Angel Investor Initiative](#)
- **Tax Considerations:** Arizona has a flat corporate income tax and no franchise tax. Consult a tax advisor to understand federal and state obligations.
- **Insurance:** Businesses are required to carry liability and worker's compensation insurance.

Getting Established

- **Business Setup:** Incorporate via the ACC, then open a business bank account at institutions like Chase, Wells Fargo, or local community banks.
- **Location:** Phoenix is Arizona's state capital, but the state of Arizona includes many regional tech hubs in Tucson, Scottsdale, Chandler, Flagstaff, and other Northern Arizona cities that offer fast-growing startup communities. Coworking spaces include Galvanize, CO+HOOTS, The Refinery at UA Tech Park, and NACET in Flagstaff.
- **Tech Clusters:** Arizona's key innovation zones include:
 - **SkyBridge Arizona** (international logistics)

- **UA Tech Park** (aerospace, optics, biotech)
 - **Phoenix Biomedical Campus** (healthtech)
 - **ASU SkySong** (enterprise innovation)
 - **Moonshot at NACET** (Flagstaff – incubator and entrepreneurial resource hub)
 - **NAU Venture Studios** (Northern Arizona University's startup studio supporting early-stage founders and innovation)
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Building Your Business

- **Networking:** Engage with the local ecosystem through organizations like:
 - [Freeway](#)
 - [Venture Café Phoenix](#)
 - [PHX Startup Week](#)
 - Startup Grind Phoenix
 - [Arizona Founders Forum](#)
- **Embrace Innovation:** Arizona supports cross-industry innovation in AI, renewable energy, smart cities, and defense tech. Collaborate with Arizona State University, University of Arizona, and Northern Arizona University.
- **Market Understanding:** Arizona's proximity to California, Texas, and Mexico makes it a strategic market for regional and international expansion. Leverage tools from:
 - [Greater Phoenix Economic Council \(GPEC\)](#)
 - [Sun Corridor Inc. – Tucson](#)
 - [ECoNA – Economic Collaborative of Northern Arizona](#)
 - [Freeway - Phoenix Startup Ecosystem Dashboard](#)
- **Understand the Culture:** Arizona values community, collaboration, and diversity. The startup culture is scrappy, supportive, and mission-driven—many ventures aim for both growth and social impact.
- **Homegrown Successes:** Notable Arizona-born tech companies include Axon, Carvana, Footprint, GitKraken, CampusLogic, Paradox, and Nikola Motors.

Regulatory and Operational

- **Data Protection:** U.S. federal and state laws apply. Arizona follows standard U.S. data privacy practices—if serving European customers, ensure GDPR compliance.
- **Talent Acquisition:** Tap into talent from universities (ASU, UA, NAU) and bootcamps (Galvanize, Tech Talent South, University of Arizona bootcamp). Arizona boasts a growing tech workforce with relatively low hiring costs.
- **Government Support:** The Arizona Commerce Authority offers relocation assistance, workforce training grants, and R&D incentives.
 - Arizona Innovation Challenge
- **Cybersecurity:** Arizona Cyber Initiative and state-level CISO resources are available. ASU and UA also lead research in cybersecurity and quantum computing.
- **Sustainability:** Arizona leads in solar power, water tech, and desert agriculture. Explore partnerships with:
 - The Nature Conservancy – Arizona
 - ASU Global Institute of Sustainability

- **International Trade:** Arizona shares a border with Mexico and is a NAFTA/USMCA gateway. Consider Tucson's Port of Entry and the **Sonoran Corridor** logistics hub for cross-border operations.

Other Resources

- [Arizona Commerce Authority](#)
- Phoenix Global Growth
- [Arizona SBDC Network](#)
- [Arizona@Work – Talent Pipeline](#)

Startup Accelerators and Incubators

- [Center for Entrepreneurial Innovation \(CEI\)](#)
- [Moonshot at NACET](#)
- [Flagstaff Business Incubator – NACET](#)
- University of Arizona Center for Innovation (UACI)
- Venture Devils at ASU
- [Chandler Innovations](#)
- [MAC6](#)
- NAU Venture Studios
- Arizona Forge – UA
- [SEED SPOT](#)
- [Gangplank](#)
- Tech Launch Arizona
- [AZ TechCelerator - City of Surprise](#)

Entrepreneurial Support Organizations

- [StartupAZ Foundation](#)
- [Arizona Tech Council](#)
- [Arizona Commerce Authority](#)
- [Arizona Small Business Development Center \(AZSBDC\)](#)
- Score Southern Arizona
- [ECoNA – Northern AZ](#)
- [Local First Arizona](#)
- Better Business Bureau - Arizona
- [Startup Tucson](#)

Coworking and Innovation Spaces

- [CO+HOOTS](#)
- Galvanize Phoenix
- Industrious
- Kiln
- The Refinery at UA Tech Park
- Hacks with Friends (AZTechCouncil)
- The Works @ MidFirst