THE CED EDGE.

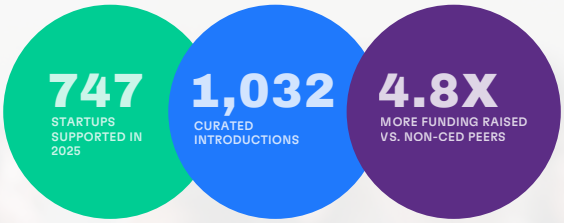
Center for Entrepreneurial Development

BUILT FOR FOUNDERS, BY FOUNDERS.

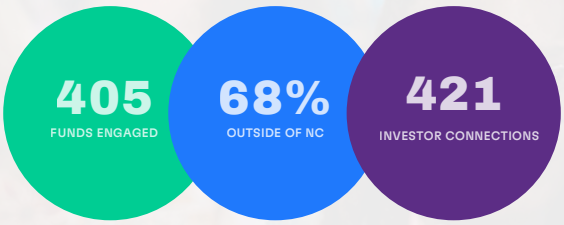
CED is a nonprofit entrepreneurial support organization founded in 1984, built by founders for founders. We help high-growth tech and life science companies scale through a trusted network of experienced founders, operators, investors, and vetted service providers.

From strategic guidance and peer connections to fundraising support, we connect founders with the right people and resources to move their businesses forward.

FOUNDER SUPPORT



CAPITAL AT WORK



IT STARTS WITH OUR NETWORK.

FOUNDERS AND OPERATORS

A practical peer network for people building and scaling Tech and Life Science startups.

INVESTORS

A trusted source of curated opportunities, market insight, and connections to high-growth companies.

ECOSYSTEM PARTNERS

Corporate, community, and professional partners advancing the next generation of innovation.

STATEWIDE NETWORK

A home base in the Triangle with relationships and impact across North Carolina.

EDUCATION + CONNECTIONS + CAPITAL ACCESS, ALL IN ONE COMMUNITY.

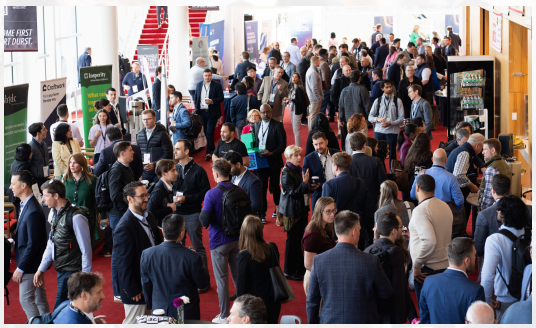
CORE
MEMBERSHIP

BUILD THE FOUNDATION FOR WHAT COMES NEXT.

Core is designed for first-time founders and early-stage teams who are building the fundamentals of a strong, scalable company. It gives you practical guidance as you navigate the startup journey, develop your network, refine your company story, and begin preparing for future growth and fundraising opportunities.

1 FORGE COMMUNITY

Join a community of tech and biotech founders and experienced operators who understand the challenges of building and scaling a company. Get practical guidance, trusted peer connections, and access to people who have been through it before and can help you make your next move.





2 MONTHLY WORKSHOPS

Monthly workshops led by experienced practitioners, covering the foundational skills and decisions involved in building a company. Gain practical insights, learn from people who have been through it before, and build the knowledge to move your business forward.

3 STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Connect with female-identifying founders, operators, investors, and ecosystem champions through a community built for meaningful connection, practical support, and shared growth.



4 INVESTOR READINESS

Build a stronger foundation for fundraising through practical guidance on developing your story, refining your pitch deck and supporting materials, understanding investor expectations, and preparing for the fundraising process.

5 VENTURE CONNECT

As a member, you'll receive a free ticket to North Carolina's leading capital conference to learn from the ecosystem, meet people who can help, and see what your next stage can look like.

6 SLACK COMMUNITY

Stay connected with fellow CED members between events, ask questions, share resources, and get timely updates on programs, opportunities, and conversations.

GROWTH

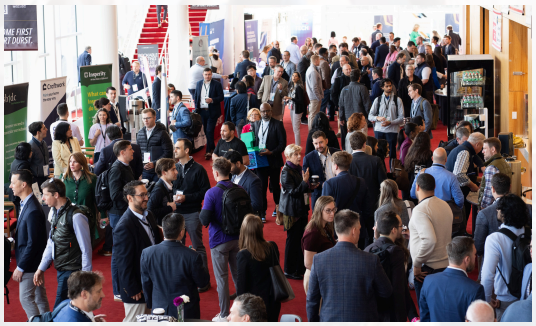
MEMBERSHIP

SCALE & ACCELERATE YOUR BUSINESS

Growth is for founders who have built momentum and are ready for deeper guidance, stronger relationships, and more direct access to the people and resources that can help them scale.

1 FOUNDER IN RESIDENCE

Get consistent access to premier, seasoned CEOs who are contracted to provide hands on support and perspective. These leaders bring deep operating experience and industry insight to help you pressure test strategy, prepare for key milestones, and work through growth, technical, regulatory, or commercial challenges with candid, practical guidance.





2 CONNECT TO CAPITAL

Build a targeted list of investors whose focus, stage, and investment approach align with your company and fundraising goals. CED helps you sharpen your story, strengthen your pitch, and prepare for investor conversations. When there is a genuine fit, we make curated introductions that help you build meaningful relationships and move your fundraising forward.

3 CEO DINNERS

Join invite only gatherings for established CEOs with facilitated conversations shaped around different industry contexts. Exchange candid perspectives with experienced leaders facing the opportunities and challenges of running established companies, while building trusted peer relationships across the business community.



***IN ADDITION TO ALL CORE OFFERINGS**

Center for Entrepreneurial Development

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

FIND THE MEMBERSHIP THAT MEETS YOU WHERE YOU ARE.

FREE

General

For prospecting founders

$0

/ no cost

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Dealroom basic access
- Limited CED team support on connections & resources

NOT INCLUDED

- *GRO: $1,200 (full price)*
- *Strength in Numbers: Pay per event*
- *Venture Connect: no ticket*

CORE

For growing startups

$100

/ month

- GRO discount rate: $950
- 12 monthly education workshops
- FORGE teacher access
- Strength in Numbers community
- Venture Connect: 1 ticket
- Digital Slack community & regular check in with CED Team
- Connect to capital: Fundraising 101, Pitch Scrubs and Monthly Ask me Anything Sessions
- Dealroom General Access & Training

★ MOST POPULAR

GROWTH

For scaling companies

$250

/ month

- GRO discount rate: $950
- 12 monthly education workshops
- FORGE teacher access
- Strength in Numbers community
- Venture Connect: 1 ticket
- Digital Slack community & regular check in with CED Team
- Connect to capital: Fundraising strategy, investor introductions, monthly ask me anything sessions
- CEO dinners: 6 per year
- 1:1 advisory with Founders in Residence
- Dealroom advanced access
- Discounted EO membership



"Thank you to the entire CED team for creating such a powerful, transformative program. The GRO Incubator came at a pivotal moment and helped me refine my strategy, strengthen my narrative, and step fully into my founder identity — momentum that led to Squadies being selected as one of 12 global AWS × Techstars finalists and opening doors with enterprise partners, angels, and VCs. GRO10 didn't just shape my company; it shaped me, and I'm deeply grateful for the support, connections, and belief in founders that made it possible."

RYAN BROWN | SQUADIES | FOUNDER & CEO