

# INNOVATE LARIMER COUNTY

Fort Collins and Loveland have been named hotbeds of innovation in recent years, thanks to dedicated support for partnerships in manufacturing, industry and health care. The area specifically attracts innovation in software/hardware, water, bioscience and clean energy, and invites startups in tech, manufacturing, restaurant and craft brewing with growing economies and a welcoming culture.

NerdWallet ranked Fort Collins sixth in their “America’s Most Innovative Tech Hubs Survey” in 2015, in part thanks to having Colorado State University (CSU) nearby. In addition, The Rockies Venture Club awarded Fort Collins the “Up and Coming Startup City” in 2016 for its critical role in creating a vibrant startup environment.



## INNOVATION BOOSTERS

### COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Helps CSU students innovate and launch businesses, with funding support. Fifty percent of student ventures are still in business; companies include Stuff n’ Mallows, monkii bars, Fargreen, Living Ink Technologies.

### COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FOUNDATION (CSURF)

Advances CSU-led research and innovation and provides resources that enrich CSU and the community. CSURF operates CSU Ventures, which manages technology transfer activities from CSU.

### INNOSPHERE

Colorado’s leading technology incubator that accelerates the success of high-impact science and technology startups and scaleups. Ensures companies are investor-ready and connects entrepreneurs with experienced advisors.

## NATIONAL BRANDS STARTED IN FORT COLLINS/LOVELAND

### Hach

### New Belgium Brewing

### Noosa Yoghurt

### Odell Brewing

### Otter Products

### Topo Designs

### WaterPik

## #1 BOOMTOWN LOVELAND

Source:  
Smartasset, 2015

## #4 TECH JOBS FORT COLLINS

Source:  
Fast Company, 2015

### INNOVATE FORT COLLINS

Annual competition sponsored by City of Fort Collins, CSU and Innosphere to bring relevant technologies to market. In 2017, awarded five grants worth a total of \$265,000 to help the region reduce its carbon footprint.

### LARIMER COUNTY WORKFORCE CENTER (LCWC)

Offers resources and services that encourage the success of independents and micro-business in Northern Colorado.

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
[fortcollinschamber.com](http://fortcollinschamber.com)  
[northerncolorado.com](http://northerncolorado.com)