

# IIFH—Supply Change Capital Innovator Fellowship

A unique opportunity to work with our innovation partners in an immersive, hands-on experience in a food and health investment environment gaining real-world business and entrepreneurial skills while evaluating food and health startups.

- **\$50K fellowship:** 6 month salary, travel, tuition, research and conference expenses (up to \$50K by [IIFH](#))
- **Timeline:** Fall 2022 to Spring 2023 (flexible start date, virtual option if required)
- **Eligibility:** UC Davis post-doctoral fellows, or PhD students in their last 1-2 years of study
- **Part-time Learning and Exposure to Venture Capital (VC) Group (Remote):** During the first half of the fellowship (months 1-3), fellows will begin work remotely, part-time with VC and will be exposed to methods, practices, culture and systems of how VCs identify investable ventures, evaluate startups in the food arena, and more. The fellow will engage in regular virtual (and occasionally in-person) meetings with the VC host. This happens simultaneously while continuing fellow's on-campus research commitments. This time allows the fellow to become oriented with the VC landscape, role responsibilities, and be poised to begin full-time immersion with their VC host during the second half of the Fellowship (months 4-6).
- **Experiential Learning with Venture Capital Group (onsite):** During the second half of the fellowship (months 4-6), the fellow transitions to full-time work with the VC host to evaluate startups in the food system and identify investable ventures, with an anticipated onsite residency in either Chicago, IL or Los Angeles, CA (up to \$10K travel, accommodation and conference allowance provided).
- **DEADLINE September 16, 2022 – OR UNTIL FILLED:** [Click here to apply.](#)

## About Supply Change Capital

Supply Change Capital is focused on the two forces radically transforming the food economy: climate and culture. We invest at the intersection of food, culture, and technology – catalyzing early stage sustainable businesses modernizing the food system.

Based in Los Angeles and Chicago, the women-run firm leverages experience in food, food tech, supply chain, operations, and technology to team with founders as they grow and scale. The current portfolio includes 10 companies across food technology and culture-first brands. Current areas of curiosity include novel applications of fermentation technology, food waste and food preservation, and supply chain & logistics technology.

*Candidates with coursework or experience related to one or more of the following areas (or similar) are strongly desired: food science and technology, preservation or fermentation technologies, food waste, waste streams, food systems engineering, chemical or biological engineering of food, microbiology.*

### **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**

***Phase 1 (3 months): Begin part-time work with Supply Change Capital (50% minimum), splitting time between UC Davis research and virtual engagement with Supply Change Capital***

- Start date flexible: following selection, anticipate joining SCC remotely for three months.
- At UC Davis: Fellows remotely support Supply Change Capital's efforts in evaluating startups and selecting investable ventures that address selected challenges in the food system.
- The fellow will work closely with Supply Change Capital's staff through virtual means, but support can be provided for occasional in-person meetings as needed.
- Starting remotely, part-time will allow the fellow an orientation to the startup world, familiarize them with the necessary skills and processes, and begin building a framework for constructive engagement.
- Support from monthly face-to-face meetings with IIFH (virtual or in-person), as needed.

***Phase 2 (3 months): Full-time experiential learning onsite with Supply Change Capital***

- Fellow to join Supply Change Capital at either Chicago or Los Angeles offices in Winter 2022 (including up to \$10K travel, accommodation and conference allowance).
- Explore Supply Change Capital'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.
- In conclusion: provide a brief report on the results and impact of the fellowship, with the potential to present at IIFH's annual event or equivalent.

### **Application Requirements**

- 1) Completed application form on IIFH website. [Click here to apply.](#)
- 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.