A catalyst for innovation, the Idea Shop is a 13,000-square-foot facility composed of a state-of-the-art rapid prototyping lab that includes 3D printers, CNC mills, electronics workstations and many hand fabrication tools; a Dell laptop lab; an iPad library; an iMac lab for mobile app development and video editing; collaborative teaming areas; and flexible open spaces. The Idea Shop is home to the university’s Interprofessional Projects Program (iPRO) and entrepreneurship initiatives. The Idea Shop is located in the University Technology Park, a newly remodeled incubator space for researchers and companies requiring robust infrastructure.

The Idea Shop helps to build the competency and professional perspectives of Illinois Institute of Technology students at all levels. It is an inviting place for returning alumni, students, and prospective students to interact and participate in workshops. The Idea Shop also serves the Chicago-area entrepreneurial community and facilitates the process by transforming student and faculty generated ideas into actual businesses, products, and patents.