

Overview of the H-1B Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge (Jobs Accelerator) Grants Round 1 and Advanced Manufacturing Round 2 Grant Awards Project Summaries

The Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge (Jobs Accelerator) is designed to help regions achieve the demonstrated benefits of collaborative, cluster-based regional development. This initiative represents the implementation of Administration policy priorities to accelerate bottom-up innovation in urban and rural regions, as opposed to imposing “one-size-fits-all” solutions. The Jobs Accelerator also meets Administration goals for smarter use of government resources through reduction of Federal silos and promotion of more coordinated Federal funding opportunities that offer more efficient access to Federal resources. Investments from federal agencies and technical assistance from 13 additional agencies will promote development in areas such as advanced manufacturing, information technology, aerospace and clean technology in rural and urban regions.

To date, this program has provided more than \$63 million in investments from several federal agencies to 30 partnerships in 22 states.

The objectives of the Jobs Accelerator are to:

- Accelerate the formation of new high-growth businesses and growth of existing businesses;
- Accelerate the creation of high-wage jobs;
- Advance commercialization of research, including Federally-funded research;
- Support deployment of new processes, new technologies, and new products to grow sales and generate employment;
- Enhance the capacity of small businesses in the cluster, including small and disadvantaged businesses;
- Increase exports and business interaction with international buyers and suppliers;
- Develop the skilled workforce needed to support growing clusters; and,
- Ensure diverse workforce participation in clusters through outreach, training and the creation of career pathways.

Funding Agencies

Investments from several federal agencies support projects funded through Jobs Accelerator Round 1 and Advanced Manufacturing Round 2. These include: The Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration (EDA); the Department of Labor’s Employment & Training Administration (ETA); the Small Business Administration (SBA); the Department of Commerce’s National Institute of Standards and Technology’s (NIST’s) Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP); and the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE’s) Advanced Manufacturing Office (AMO). The Jobs Accelerator supports projects that integrate different participating agency resources to strengthen the competitiveness of clusters.

Recognizing that the U.S. Government, through its many Federal agencies and bureaus, has financial and technical resources that can support the development of vibrant regional economies in which clusters may thrive, the Taskforce for the Advancement of Regional Innovation Clusters (TARIC) is coordinating an expanded Federal partnership to leverage resources to support regional innovation clusters (RICs). The Federal agencies and bureaus participating in the Jobs Accelerator are:

- Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Department of Commerce
 - Economic Development Administration (EDA)
 - International Trade Administration (ITA)
 - Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)
 - National Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NIST MEP)
- Department of Defense
- Department of Education (ED)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Department of Labor
 - Employment and Training Administration (ETA)
- Department of Transportation (DOT)
- Department of Treasury (Treasury)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Small Business Administration (SBA)

Grantee Summaries

- H-1B Jobs Accelerator Round 1: Twenty (20) awards announced September 22, 2011, totaling \$19,528,488 in ETA funds.
- H-1B Advanced Manufacturing Jobs Accelerator Round 2: Ten (10) awards announced May 29, 2012, totaling \$3,996,851 in ETA funds.

H-1B Jobs Accelerator – Round 1

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Pittsburgh Central Keystone Innovation Zone (EDA); Hill House Association (ETA); University of Pittsburgh (SBA)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$817,500; ETA: \$991,895 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	Southwestern Pennsylvania Urban Revitalization
Identified Region:	Pittsburgh, PA: Allegheny County; Armstrong County; Beaver County; Butler County; Fayette County; Greene County; Indiana County; Lawrence County; Washington County; and Westmoreland County
Identified Cluster:	Energy; Health Care
Project Description and Objectives:	<p>This program is an effort to take existing growth clusters in the City of Pittsburgh and ensure that all residents benefit from the growth of these clusters. This is accomplished by focusing program activities on the underserved communities that have, to date, not benefited from the resurgence of Pittsburgh through its notable clusters. The objectives of this program are to accelerate the formation of new high-growth businesses and growth of existing businesses; accelerate the creation of high-wage jobs; advance the commercialization of research, including federally-funded research; support the deployment of new processes, new technologies, and new products to grow sales and create jobs; enhance the capacity of small businesses in the cluster, including small and disadvantaged businesses; increase exports and business interaction with international buyers and suppliers; develop the skilled workforce needed to support growing clusters; and ensure diverse workforce participation in clusters through outreach, training, and creation of career pathways.</p>
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Activities include promoting entrepreneurship in a severely underserved area, spurring community development, job creation, and wealth generation for some of the poorest residents of the Pittsburgh region -- primarily African American individuals. By expanding the already successful energy and healthcare clusters and encouraging supply-chain support businesses, the broad-based consortium outlined above will be able to sustain and advance the clusters while creating an array of opportunities for the residents of the targeted community. All of the EDA-funded activities support these objectives.</p> <p>ETA: Activities include targeted outreach and recruitment; placement into short-term and long-term training courses, designed to address single or comprehensive skill sets that</p>

	<p>prepares individuals for mid-level positions and corresponding education benchmarks. This training will also offer state-wide and nationally recognized healthcare and energy certifications, where applicable.</p> <p>Trainings will include those related to: nursing, allied health, emergency and paramedic medicine, public safety, engineering, weatherization, Marcellus Shale drilling, phlebotomy, welding and other auxiliary programs that feed into the energy industry, home and personal health care, mechatronics, leadership, computer programming (including medical coding and billing programs), health information technology, and green energy.</p> <p>SBA: This project will be centered within the Hill District, Pittsburgh’s interconnected African American community, providing individualized business management consulting and educational programs to emerging and existing business owners. These services and programs will be offered by the University of Pittsburgh Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence and the Duquesne Small Business Development Center. The goal is to foster entrepreneurship, attract investment and strengthen existing companies.</p>
<p>All Project Partners:</p>	<p>Duquesne University; The Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC); Point Park University; Carlow University; The Allegheny County Department of Economic Development; The Hill House Economic Development Corporation; Innovation Works; UPMC Health Plan; PNC Bank; The Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh (URA); The Richard King Mellon Foundation; The Heinz Endowments; The Idea Foundry</p>
<p>Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:</p>	<p>Long-term unemployed</p>
<p>Contact Information:</p>	<p>Tony Bell, Vice President & Chief Program Officer Hill House 1835 Centre Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15219-4305 (412) 392-4455 tbellhh@aol.com</p>

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Roane State Community College (RSCC)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$500,000; ETA: \$978,808 ; SBA: \$148,377
Project Name:	Advance Composites Employment (ACE) Accelerator
Identified Region:	Knoxville and Oak Ridge, TN: Fentress County, Scott County, Campbell County, Claiborne County, Cumberland County, Morgan County, Anderson County, Union County, Grainger County, Hamble County, Roane County, Loudon County, Monroe County, Blount County, Knox County, Sevier County, Jefferson County, Cocke County
Identified Cluster:	Advanced Composites with Focus on Low-Cost Carbon Fiber Technology
Project Description and Objectives:	The ACE Partnership aims to accelerate the formation of new high-growth businesses and growth of existing business; accelerate the creation of high-wage jobs; advance the commercialization of research including Federally-funded research; support the deployment of new processes, new technologies, and new products to grow sales and create jobs; develop the skilled workforce needed to support growing clusters; and ensure diverse workforce participation in clusters through outreach, training and the creation of career pathways.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Activities include identifying gaps in the supply chain, matching existing companies to fill the gaps, seeking opportunities for incorporating companies into the cluster, identifying opportunities for technology and cluster expansion, developing networking groups and opportunities, growing Carbon Fiber Consortium, components to reach out to the underserved, conducting industry sponsored events to promote composite opportunities, provide technical assistance for small/medium manufacturers and technology-based companies, and providing a variety of commercialization activities.</p> <p>ETA: Activities will be centered around developing an Associate of Applied Science degree program to meet the mid-to-high level technician level worker needs of industries within the identified cluster. This training will be conducted in career pathways that lead to jobs for which employers currently pay H-1B visa fees to employ skilled employees. Of the 2,996 H-1B visas issued in Tennessee in 2010, 483 were in the ACE region and 446 were in career pathways related to the training proposed by ACE. Activities will be all encompassing from recruitment of students, training, placement, employment, and retention in employment. The ACE Advisory Board and subject matter experts will play key roles in developing</p>

	<p>training, assisting with placement and more.</p> <p>SBA: Activities will include the identification of technologies, commercialization and market opportunities within the cluster and pairing them with potential owners/managers; Accelerate the development of high-growth potential small businesses targeting underserved geographic areas and individuals; Educating and reaching out to financial institutions and small businesses about SBA loan guarantees; Utilizing the mobile computer lab and Roane State Community College campuses to deliver training in rural areas; and Conduct basic business development training.</p>
All Project Partners:	<p>Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Carbon Fiber Technology Facility (CFTF), SRA International, Joint Institute for Advanced Materials, University of Tennessee Biofuels Initiative, Tennessee Solar Institute, Advanced Materials Training and Education Center (AMTEC), Oak Ridge Carbon Fiber Composites Consortium, University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Services (UT-CIS, East Tennessee Economic Council (ETEC), Innovation Valley, Inc. (IVI), Roane State Community College (RSCC): Technology 2020 (Tech 2020), Tennessee Automotive Manufacturers Association (TAMA), Toho Tenax, Composite Applications Group, Poly Carbon Industries, Scenic Industries, and boat companies represented by the Tellico Reservoir Development Agency</p>
Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	<p>Unemployed including long-term unemployed; underemployed individuals; veterans; diverse and disadvantaged populations; dislocated workers; mid-to high-level workers</p>
Contact Information:	<p>Deb Miller, Grant Coordinator Roane State Community College (RSCC) 276 Patton Lane Harriman, Tennessee, 37748-8615 (865) 882-4503 MillerDU@RoaneState.edu</p>

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$500,000; ETA: \$1,000,000 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	Milwaukee Regional Water Accelerator Project
Identified Region:	Milwaukee, WS: Kenosha County, Milwaukee County, Ozaukee County, Racine County, Walworth County, Washington County, Waukesha County
Identified Cluster:	Water
Project Description and Objectives:	The overarching strategy is to foster business partnerships among large and small companies with an eye toward international growth, build the next generation of talent needed to continue advancing the cluster, and connect regional water businesses to global markets to export products and services. The broad vision for the project will be to accelerate Milwaukee’s emerging position as a globally-recognized water industry hub.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Operations, staffing and programming for the Water Research and Business Accelerator Center, creating global connections building an international presence for the Milwaukee water industry cluster, expand the Water Council’s role as business “matchmaker” to serve global markets, and commercialization of research to create and grow business.</p> <p>ETA: Work with project partners, to ensure that coordination of activities such as workforce development and water career pathway initiative address employer needs by facilitating articulation agreements between post-secondary institutions, create a cadre of employees with technical skills which will enhance worker earning potential and employer production capacity, and connect low-income, at-risk populations to the water cluster through workforce development partners with activities such as training, internships, and career fairs.</p> <p>SBA: Market research to identify 7(j) eligible businesses that may benefit from a broader inclusion in the water cluster, marketing and outreach to make small businesses aware of the services offered under the grant. Provide business counseling, training and technical assistance in the area of technology transfer and SBIR/STTR grant opportunities.</p>
All Project Partners:	N/A
Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	Low –income and at-risk populations

Contact Information	Mark Kessenich Director of Planning & Development Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board 2338 North 27th Milwaukee, WI 53210 (414) 270-1773 mark.kessenich@milwaukeeewib.org

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Mid-America Regional Council Community Services Corporation (EDA); Full Employment Council, Inc. (ETA); University of Missouri Curators on behalf of the University of Missouri-Kansas City, (UMKC) Innovations Center KCSOURCELINK (SBA)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$741,838; ETA: \$1,000,000 ; SBA: \$149,500
Project Name:	KC Regional Jobs Accelerator
Identified Region:	Greater Kansas City (MO and KS) area including MO counties: Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, Ray; and KS Counties: Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, Wyandotte
Identified Cluster:	Advanced Manufacturing and IT
Project Description and Objectives:	The program will support employers looking for employees with stronger technical skills by providing unemployed and incumbent workers with training to secure positions now held by persons with H1B visas. The program will support taking university and corporate research to commercial application and assist small businesses in establishing business operations from those applications. The program will help small businesses grow and add employees by connecting them to larger companies to meet supply chain requirements and initiating export activity.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Activities include identifying game-changing technologies and processes putting them in the hands of small businesses and talented entrepreneurs resulting in new projects and businesses; integrating university, laboratory and industry research into the existing entrepreneurial ecosystem; creating a central clearinghouse for regional cluster and commercialization information.</p> <p>ETA: The Full Employment Council will partner with the Workforce Partnership, the three community-college systems and other training institutions to prepare incumbent workers and new employees to meet the skill requirements of advanced manufacturing and IT employers. Activities include: Recruitment; Assessments; On-the-Job (OJT) Training; Scholarships; Tuition for Special Programs; Job Development; and Career Pathway Development.</p> <p>SBA: Work to support small business development by assisting advanced manufacturing and IT businesses, including 7(j) eligible businesses, to commercialize research-creating business opportunities, help businesses become established, and help those companies become connected to large corporations as supply chain operations.</p>

All Project Partners:	Johnson County Community College System, Kansas Community College System, Metropolitan Community College District, Kansas City Kansas Community College, Civic Council of Greater Kansas City, Hallmark Cards, Smith Electric, Kansas City Smartport, Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center
Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	Unemployed and incumbent workers
Contact Information	Clyde McQueen President/CEO Full Employment Council, Inc. 1740 Paseo Boulevard Kansas City, MO 64108 (816) 471-2330

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Georgia Tech Research Corporation
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$500,000; ETA: \$1,000,000 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	Atlanta Health Information Technology Cluster
Identified Region:	State of Georgia
Identified Cluster:	Health Information Technology
Project Description and Objectives:	The three agency funding sources will synergistically address the statewide ecosystem gaps that exist between the development and commercialization of new health information technologies (HIT), the diffusion of those technologies into the dispersed healthcare sector, and the training and deployment of a job-ready workforce able to utilize or support disruptive HIT in patient-centric, community-based care. The overarching goal of the project is to develop innovation to stimulate jobs in distressed areas of the state, train veteran and chronically unemployed workers to fill the numerous, open HIT positions, and support SBA 7(j) companies with resource connections, as well as trained workers.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: An Interoperability Lab (IOL) will provide support and testing for HIT product developments, and ensure that new technologies comply with national standards. The IOL also will serve as a venue for public-private partnerships where HIT innovations will stimulate new business ventures, new jobs, and many opportunities for a distressed region.</p> <p>ETA: Gwinnett Technical College will develop a one-year, work-ready HIT certificate program for veterans and the chronically unemployed individuals. The objective is to provide industry-recognized training that leads to employment in software development, sales and customer service, as well as medical billing and coding, and computer networking positions within healthcare organizations.</p> <p>SBA: Georgia Tech will identify, provide technical and management assistance, and engage the participants of 7(j) eligible small businesses. The program includes partnering with Georgia Tech’s Minority Business Development Agency, SBDC, SCORE, WBC, Georgia Tech Procurement Assistance Center (GTPAC), and Procurement Assistance Centers. This project will match small businesses with larger ones to provide mentoring and identify B2B opportunities. The Atlanta Development Authority will coordinate financing.</p>
All Project Partners:	Gwinnett Technical College, Minority Business Development Center at Georgia Tech

Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	Veterans and chronically underemployed workers
Contact Information	Ms. Serelia Woods Georgia Tech Research Foundation Office of Sponsored Programs 505 Tenth Street, N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30332 (404) 385-0866 serelia.woods@osp.gatech.edu

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Winrock International (EDA,SBA); Northwest Arkansas Community College (ETA)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$1,000,000; ETA: \$1,000,000 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	Launching the ARK: Acceleration, Resources, Knowledge
Identified Region:	AR counties: Washington, Benton, Madison, Newton; MO county: McDonald; and OK counties: Adair, Benton, Cherokee, Delaware, Ottawa
Identified Cluster:	Information Technology
Project Description and Objectives:	Winrock International, University of Arkansas, and Northwest Arkansas Community college is launching ARK (Acceleration, Resources, and Knowledge) to develop and grow new technology startup companies that will provide innovative ideas, processes, and products to the existing industry clusters. The grantee will establish an annual information technology startup “boot camp” to draw new startup companies from the region and nationally to participate in an intense mentoring and commercialization process with the goal of developing IT companies and jobs that will support the retail, transportation and logistics, and food processing industries. The education and training activities will ensure a workforce educated in the skill sets needed for IT growth along with job placement support services.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Will operate the ARK program and assist in the coordination of the various public, private, and university programming that exists to support new entrepreneurial development and job growth in this region, such as an annual “boot camp” for entrepreneurs.</p> <p>ETA: Funding will be targeted to assist Northwest Arkansas Community College as it develops new and expanded programs in information technology to provide education and training activities in the skills sets needed by the cluster workforce, along with job placement support services.</p> <p>SBA: The Cluster will provide opportunities for disadvantaged businesses to participate in the ARK “boot camp” processes. The camp provides intensive mentorship and training to develop innovations matching the IT needs of the region. Top graduates will be selected to pitch their innovations for next round funding from venture and angel investor community.</p>
All Project Partners:	University of Arkansas, Arkansas Women’s Business Center, Northwest Arkansas Workforce Investment Board, Superior
Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	Rural, Historically Underserved

Contact Information	Dr. Becky Paneitz, President NorthWest Arkansas Community College One College Drive Bentonville, AR 72712 (479) 636-9222 bpaneitz@nwacc.edu
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Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Space Florida
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$1,000,000; ETA: \$998,300 ; SBA: \$149,898
Project Name:	Clean Energy Jobs Accelerator (CEJA)
Identified Region:	East Central Florida: Brevard County, Orange County, Seminole County, Volusia County
Identified Cluster:	Clean Energy
Project Description and Objectives:	<p>The Space Coast Clean Energy Jobs Accelerator (CEJA) is a comprehensive and coordinated project designed to elevate, integrate and accelerate the development of the Space Coast Clean Energy Cluster that has emerged in East Central Florida through the extension of the workforce, industry and innovation capabilities in the region's mature aerospace cluster.</p> <p>Project objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Identify capabilities, commercialization gaps and cluster opportunities. Develop a technology assistance program using existing cluster assets, state and federal organizations, and universities. (2) Work with project partners and Kennedy Space Center/NASA to develop a center that will sponsor, support, and accelerate the commercialization of emerging clean energy products and technologies. (3) Ascertain immediate and projected hiring needs on an ongoing basis. Recruit displaced employees exiting the space industry and other businesses to build employability skills through Career Re-entry Training. (4) Provide education, training and job placement assistance to support career transitions to clean energy occupations. Accelerate the formation of clean energy startup companies. <p>Stabilize and strengthen existing (two+ years) small, clean energy businesses.</p>
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: In partnership with the Space Coast Energy Consortium, Space Florida will work to comprehensively catalog the relevant regional industry and technology capabilities; create collaborative clean energy support programs and services; and link regional businesses and organizations with local, state and national financial and technical resources through the formation of a sustainable "One-Stop" Connector program. Also, a new Space to Energy Regional Innovation Center will accelerate the commercialization of new energy technologies and help to forge partnerships between industry developers and the space center's energy-related technical facilities and expertise.</p>

	<p>ETA: Brevard Workforce will ensure that specific hiring needs of expanding enterprises are understood, that potential employees with the requisite skills are connected to businesses, and that the needed skill sets and workforce capabilities are addressed through targeted training opportunities.</p> <p>SBA: The Technological Research Development Authority (TRDA), a business support organization, will assist new small businesses and strengthen existing small businesses through mentoring in a range of topics related to starting and successfully managing businesses. The TRDA, in partnership with SBDC, WBC's and SCORE, will also provide information about building networks and partnerships, government contracting strategies, and applying for grant opportunities including the Small Business Innovation Research programs.</p>
<p>All Project Partners:</p>	<p>Brevard Workforce, Brevard Community College, Space Coast and Energy Consortium, Brevard County Housing and Human Services Department, Technical Research and Development Authority (TRDA)</p>
<p>Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:</p>	<p>Displaced aerospace industry workers, Economically-impacted workers in other industries, Disadvantaged workers (low-income, minority, women, veterans)</p>
<p>Contact Information:</p>	<p>Mr. Howard Haug Space Florida Building M6-306 State Road 405 Kennedy Space Center Florida, 32899 (321) 730-5301 hhaug@spaceflorida.gov</p>

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Economic Council of St. Louis (EDA); St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment (ETA); St. Louis Minority Supplier Development Council (SBA)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$702,765; ETA: \$973,014 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	St. Louis Bioscience Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Project
Identified Region:	St. Louis City and County
Identified Cluster:	Bioscience
Project Description and Objectives:	<p>This collaborative effort to accelerate the growth of the bioscience cluster in the St. Louis region will spur new company and associated new job creation, and the engagement of individuals and companies underrepresented in the bioscience cluster. The co-applicants, representing St. Louis’ EDA, ETA and SBA entities, will elevate the cluster to the next level of expansion, enhancing the region’s global competitive position in biosciences, and contributing to the future growth of the regional economy from advanced, technology-based companies that are replacing shuttered manufacturing plants. Since the St. Louis region possesses world-class assets in both medical and plant sciences, the successful execution of the proposal is designed to create high-growth enterprises and high-wage jobs in one of the nation’s fastest growing industries. In addition to top research medical schools and independent research institutes, the region also has several large, mature biosciences corporations including concentrations of non-profit and corporate plant science research.</p>
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Following success bringing early-stage technologies that have not been commercialized into the pipeline, funding will address identified gaps and challenges, including access to a skilled workforce of experienced entrepreneurs that are needed to enable companies to grow. Through entrepreneur capacity-building and worker skills training, the project will further a <i>grow-our-own</i> strategy, increasing the number and accelerating the development of successful bioscience companies creating high-wage jobs.</p> <p>ETA: To benefit historically underrepresented groups, the project will work with the St. Louis Agency for Training and Employment, the city’s WIB, and the county’s workforce development division to provide on-the-job-training (OJT) for individuals hired by bioscience start-ups as well as established bioscience companies.</p>

	<p>SBA: The St. Louis Minority Suppliers Development Council (MSDC) will coordinate services for eligible 7(j) small businesses to include business training and counseling, commercialization of Research and Development (R&D), export readiness, and exposure to the bioscience industry. The MSDC will work with cluster partners to expose business owners and potential entrepreneurs to business opportunities in the biosciences and prepare them to be successful suppliers in this field. MSDC will work with a number of strategic partners in this effort.</p>
<p>All Project Partners:</p>	<p>Economic Council of St. Louis County (EDA), St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment (ETA), and St. Louis Minority Supplier Development Council (SBA)</p>
<p>Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:</p>	<p>Incumbent workers, Unemployed or dislocated workers</p>
<p>Contact Information:</p>	<p>Mr. Keith W. Mullen St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment 1520 market Street, Suite 300 St. Louis, MO 63103 (314) 657-3548 kmullen@stlworks.com</p>

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	University of Minnesota Natural Resources Research Institute (EDA); Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (ETA); University of Minnesota Center for Economic Development (SBA)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$800,000; ETA: \$998,985 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	Minnesota’s Mining Cluster – The Next Generation of Innovation and Diversification to Grow America
Identified Region:	Aitkin County, Carlton County, Cook County, Crow Wing County Itasca County, Koochiching County, Lake County, St. Louis County
Identified Cluster:	Energy
Project Description and Objectives:	The overall project will focus on several major objectives including mineral development through applied research and new value-added product diversification and associated business development focused on mining related by-products and under-utilized low-grade materials. The project will also address further development and acceleration of education programming and training to help youth, incumbent workers, and unemployed or disadvantaged workers take advantage of new employment opportunities in this growing cluster.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: The project will invest EDA funding with the University of Minnesota Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) supporting market development of waste rock aggregate and other co-products and the diversification of value-added mining opportunities, both ferrous and non-ferrous, particularly rare and precious metals.</p> <p>ETA: Funding will be channeled to the Northeast Higher Education District (NHED) to support the acceleration of the high school-based Applied Learning Initiative and to help enroll qualified students, incumbent and disadvantaged workers into the new Iron Range Engineering Program.</p> <p>SBA: The UMD Center for Economic Development (CED) will provide strategies to businesses owned by women, minorities, veterans, service-disabled veterans, and tribes on topics including feasibility analysis, business planning, start-up, stabilization, exporting issues, loan packaging, cash-flow analysis, marketing, technology issues, expansion, innovation and intellectual property. In partnership with the NRRI, SBA will assist businesses to develop new products and bring those products to market.</p>
All Project Partners:	The University of Minnesota; Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development; University of

	Minnesota Natural Resources Institute; University of Minnesota Center for Economic Development; Northeast Higher Education District
Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	Youth, incumbent workers, unemployed or disadvantaged workers
Contact Information:	Tim Langlie, Financial Services Director MN Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) 332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200 Saint Paul, MN 55101-1351 (651) 259-7071 tim.langlie@state.mn.us

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Worksystems Inc. (ETA); City of Portland (EDA)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$1,000,000; ETA: \$1,000,000 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	Clean Tech Advance Initiative (CTA)
Identified Region:	Portland, OR and Vancouver, WA: OR Counties; Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington; WA Counties: Cowlitz, Clark
Identified Cluster:	Clean Tech
Project Description and Objectives:	The CTA initiative seeks to further integrate two of the metropolitan region’s prominent industry clusters to accelerate clean technology innovation and production to meet the growing global demand. Economic development, workforce and small business partners in Oregon and southwest Washington have established three core elements of the Jobs Innovation Accelerator Challenge (JIAC) for the clean technology cluster over the last decade. The proposed Clean Tech Advance initiative will amplify these efforts by connecting, leveraging and multiplying local, regional and national resources to connect clean technology (clean tech) innovations with manufacturing to increase regions’ competitive advantage in the global marketplace.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: EDA-funded activities will enhance the region’s ability to develop new clean tech products and services by helping innovative clean tech companies secure private investment, new revenues, and Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grants.</p> <p>ETA: ETA-funded activities will complement the work of our CTA partners by encouraging alignment of existing local advanced manufacturers with the clean tech supply chain through two approaches, 1) pipeline preparation and 2) leadership training. The project will also connect academic research and innovation to private sector entrepreneurship with proven workforce development strategies to prepare workers for the economic transformation needed to retain our nations’ global competitiveness. Using the above strategies, this program will , 1) infuse the local advanced manufacturing industry with the middle-to high-skilled workers demanded by both current growth and the accelerated growth projected to follow the regional clean tech alignment that will be generated by grant activities; and, 2) position regional advanced manufacturing businesses to enter the clean tech supply chain through the adoption and implementation of progressive business practices and quality assurance standards required by the clean tech industry.</p>

	<p>SBA: The Oregon Microenterprise Network, the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs and the Portland Community College Small Business Development Center will deploy tools and programs specifically developed to assist SBA 7(j) defined businesses. The partnership will provide regional outreach for 7(j) companies and provide technical services in business administration, marketing, sales, budget, location, and finance.</p>
<p>All Project Partners:</p>	<p>Portland Workforce Investment Board in Multnomah and Washington Counties; Workforce Investment Council of Clackamas County, Oregon (WICCO); Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (SWWDC); ESCO; Vigor Industrial; PCC Structural; Leupold & Stevens; Moventas; Schnitzer Steel; SoloPower</p>
<p>Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:</p>	<p>Unemployed, Women, Minority Groups, Veterans, Middle- and High-Skilled Professionals, Long-term Unemployed</p>
<p>Contact Information:</p>	<p>Andrew McGough, Executive Director Worksistemas, Inc. 1618 SW First Ave, Suite 450 Portland, Oregon 97201-5714 (503) 478-7371 amcgough@worksistemas.org John Gardner, Workforce Investment Manager (503) 478-7354 jgardener@worksistemas.org</p>

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	NextEnergyCenter (EDA); Macomb/St. Clair Workforce Development Board (ETA); Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council (SBA)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$975,751; ETA: \$999,994 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	Southeast Michigan Advanced Energy Storage Systems Initiative
Identified Region:	Detroit, MI: Wayne County, Oakland County, Macomb County, Washtenaw County, Livingston County
Identified Cluster:	Advanced Energy Storage Systems (AESS)
Project Description and Objectives:	This project leverages critical momentum connected to Southeast Michigan’s greatest core competencies and strengths, including a racially diverse population. After years of spiraling decline, the AESS cluster has benefitted from substantial investment and poses tremendous job-creation opportunity to reposition Southeast Michigan once again as a global innovation leader.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Grow capacity of the Michigan Academy for Green Mobility Alliance (MAGMA) to the region’s AESS-related economic development needs, including value chain analysis, industry transition and new venture and technology development.</p> <p>ETA: Deliver AESS-related and MAGMA-endorsed training courses connected to engineering and technician career pathways, convert several existing education and training courses from traditional classroom settings to a short-course format.</p> <p>SBA: Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council (MMSDC) will conduct workshops where participants learn about contract opportunities, how to access capital, and how to gain exposure and awareness of their firms’ capabilities. Matchmaking events between minority suppliers and AESS procurement specialists will be coordinated. Additionally, the MMSDC will work with the Southeast Michigan’s network of Small Business and Technology Development Centers which will provide counseling to improve business performance in finance, marketing, technology commercialization, investor readiness, Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR), and Small Business and Technology Transfer (STTR) submissions.</p>
All Project Partners:	NextEnergy; Michigan Minority Supplier Diversity Council; Wayne State University; Michigan Academy for Green Mobility Alliance (MAGMA); Macomb Community College; National Science Foundation Center for Advanced Automotive Technology (CAAT); The Southeast Michigan

	Works! Agencies Council (SEMWAC); LG Chem Power, Inc.; International Union; United Automobile; Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW); Focus: HOPE
Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	Incumbent workers, dislocated workers, students
Contact Information:	John Horace Bierbusse, Executive Director Macomb St. Clair Workforce Development Board 21885 Dunham Rd. #11 Clinton Township, Michigan 48036-1030 (586) 469-5220 john@macomb-stclairworks.org

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	San Diego State University (SDSU) Research Foundation
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$400,000; ETA: \$1,000,000 ; SBA: \$149,999
Project Name:	Renewable Energy Generation Training and Demonstration Center
Identified Region:	San Diego, CA including Imperial County
Identified Cluster:	Renewable Energy
Project Description and Objectives:	Collaborate to establish a “mega-region” that will facilitate the nurturing of an emerging industry cluster for Imperial Valley. To link the abundant intellectual capital, technology commercialization resources and vibrant renewable energy cluster resources currently present in the San Diego region with the physical infrastructure, land, and the vast potential of renewable energy production found in the Imperial Valley. The project offers a special opportunity to leverage a combination of experience, academic integrity, research facilities and natural resources to create a global impact on the development, demonstration, deployment and workforce training for renewable energy technologies.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Establish a commercial-scale proof of concept center to perform technology demonstrations, supported by multifaceted commercialization support services.</p> <p>ETA: Focus on individuals who have lost their jobs or that are threatened to lose their jobs due to foreign trade. Allow public and industry access to the training and certification options through SDSU IV, IVC and SDSU’s College of Extended Studies to offer customized training and program e-learning components and simulators.</p> <p>SBA: Provide small business development support and services such as training, mentoring, consulting, technology transfer/commercialization, SBIR and export assistance to develop, produce and fast-track deployment of new systems and technologies for the Imperial Valley in the area of renewable energy generation.</p>
All Project Partners:	Imperial Irrigation District; Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation; Brawley Chamber of Commerce; San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation (SDREDC); Tech Coast Angels (TCA – San Diego Chapter), City of Brawley, Cleantech San Diego; Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology (CCAT); Department of Homeland Security – San Diego Regional Technology Center, California Energy Commission – Energy Innovations Small Grant Program (EISG); United States Department of Energy – Energy Innovation Ecosystem Development Initiative

Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	Workers displaced by foreign trade, or those threatened with the loss of their jobs because of foreign trade
Contact Information:	Jennie Amison, Director, San Diego State University Research Foundation Sponsored Research and Development 5250 Campanile Drive, San Diego, CA 92182-1931 (619) 594-5731 awards@foundation.sdsu.edu

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	EnterpriseSeattle
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$600,000; ETA: \$488,000 ; SBA: \$141,000
Project Name:	Washington Interactive Media Accelerator (WIMA)
Identified Region:	Seattle, WA including King County, Snohomish County, Pierce county, Kitsap County
Identified Cluster:	Interactive Media
Project Description and Objectives:	<p>Washington State and the Puget Sound region have emerged as a major center for the interactive media industry. This industry includes technology and content related to simulations, interactive learning and entertainment, social applications, web applications, and platform technology. This industry is proven to be extremely entrepreneurial, but has little infrastructure or support services to assist new startups, to provide internships and other professional training opportunities, to collaborate on improved curriculum development and mentoring, or to provide both a common physical space and a virtual portal that will foster and maintain new businesses and potential employees. To address these and other related needs, we propose to develop the Washington Interactive Media Accelerator (WIMA). The WIMA is an innovative project pilot bringing together industry, education, and economic development under one collaborative effort and could be duplicated in other regions. It will be the central focus for industry support, and will operate a number of programs and provide needed services.</p>
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Creation and operation of WIMA; creation and operation of the Entrepreneurship Outreach and Education Center; creation of the Executive-in-Residence Program; develop and maintain cluster networking opportunities; management and coordination of international trade missions; commission economic impact studies and cluster analysis; and, creation and operation of the Interactive Media Education and Internship Program.</p> <p>ETA: Creation and operation of the Interactive Media Education and Internship Program; creation of a Regional Job Portal; development of an internship plan for workers to enter the industry; coordination and operation of the Interactive Media Education Alliance; creation and administration of new scholarships; and, creation of a Work Skills Center.</p> <p>SBA: Will create an Entrepreneur Outreach & Education Center (EOEC). The incubator will provide a 1-year mentoring program for six start-ups. Two of six start-ups</p>

	will be minority or women-owned. Workshops will be conducted for 20 new small businesses of which 4 will be minority-owned and 20% of the companies selected for the incubator will be owned or founded by historically under-represented groups. The center will foster relationships between its clients and local venture capitalist and angel investors.
All Project Partners:	Academy of Interactive Entertainment; Bellevue College; Lake Washington Technical College; Shoreline Community College; University of Washington Bothell
Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	Minority populations, underrepresented and excluded communities
Contact Information:	Ms. Kristina Hudson Washington Interactive Network 1301 5 th Avenue, Suite 2500 Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 389-8657 khudson@enterpriseseattle.org

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Rochester Institute of Technology, Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies (RIT-CIMS)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$400,000 ; ETA: \$997,470 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	Finger Lakes Food Processing Cluster Initiative
Identified Region:	Genesee County, Livingston County, Monroe County, Ontario County, Orleans County, Seneca County, Wayne County, Wyoming County, Yates County
Identified Cluster:	Food Processing Cluster
Project Description and Objectives:	<p>The Finger Lakes Food Processing Cluster Initiative will provide the structure and resources to support a successful, sustainable, robust Food Processing Cluster in the Finger Lakes region of New York State by advancing innovative technologies and providing training to use those technologies, while being mindful of the importance of sustainability. To this end, RIT-CIMS will partner with many regional resources such as RIT's Golisano Institute for Sustainability, the NYS Pollution Prevention Institute, Cornell Agriculture and Food Technology Park, Monroe Community College, Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council, food processing cluster trade organizations and businesses, and small business development and workforce investment agencies. To take advantage of the synergies of a true cluster approach, RIT-CIMS will facilitate cluster unification and planning and will provide critical economic and environmental information, technical and business assistance to existing and developing companies, necessary training for the local labor force to fill the gap between current workforce skills and industry needs; targeted outreach to small disadvantaged businesses; and support research to advance the cluster for the future. As a result of the EDA and SBA activities of this Finger Lakes Food Processing Cluster Initiative, it is estimated that 40 new jobs will be created (directly) and an estimated 48 service jobs (indirect) will be created. Additionally, an estimated 20 jobs will be retained in Food Processing Cluster businesses in the Finger Lakes region in the next two years. By the fourth year of the ETA activities, it is anticipated (based upon the experience of project partners) that the Finger Lakes Food Processing Cluster Initiative will provide a career pathway for an estimated 190 workers.</p>

<p align="center">Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:</p>	<p>EDA: Activities will focus on providing technical assistance to companies such as material analysis, durability testing, and feasibility studies. This technical assistance will focus on process improvements using a Lean, Energy, and Environment approach, feasibility studies to advance innovative product and process technologies, and research and development to further advance new knowledge benefiting the cluster.</p> <p>ETA: Develop the skilled workforce needed to support growing clusters, including occupations traditional filled with H1-B workers; Ensure diverse workforce participation in clusters through outreach, training and the creation of career pathways.</p> <p>SBA: Provide outreach and engage disadvantaged small business owners and start-ups into the cluster network. Connect small businesses with the clusters incubators and/or specific counseling and training program. Emphasis will be on an increase in technology/product transfer from laboratory to marketplace; an increase in adoption of new technologies or processes; strengthened supply chains; new patent applications; increased venture capital financing; and market expansion.</p>
<p align="center">All Project Partners:</p>	<p>The New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I); Golisano Institute for Sustainability (GIS) – The Clean Energy Incubator (CEI); Venture Creations (RIT’s business incubator); High Tech Rochester; the regional NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) center; Clarkson University; RPI; The University of Buffalo</p>
<p>Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:</p>	<p>Unemployed, incumbent and underemployed workers</p>
<p align="center">Contact Information:</p>	<p>Dr. Ryne Raffaele, Vice President for Research Rochester Institute of Technology One Lomb Memorial Drive Rochester, NY 14623-5603 (585) 475-2055 ryne.raffaele@rit.edu</p>

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	United Tribes Technical College (UTTC)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$567,433; ETA: \$999,175 ; SBA: \$149,867
Project Name:	Upper Missouri Tribal Environmental Risk Mitigation (UM-TERM) Project
Identified Region:	MT, ND and SD Reservations: Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; Blackfeet Nation; Rocky Boy; Fort Belknap Indian Community; Fort Peck Indian Community; Crow Reservation; Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation; Fort Berthold Reservation; Turtle Mountain Reservation; Spirit Lake Reservation; Standing Rock Reservation; Cheyenne River Reservation; Lake Traverse Reservation (Sisseton-Wahpeton); Flandreau Santee Sioux Indian Reservation; Yankton; Crow Creek Indian Reservation; Lower Brule Reservation; Rosebud Indian Reservation; Pine Ridge Indian Reservation
Identified Cluster:	Environmental Risk Mitigation
Project Description and Objectives:	<p>The UM-TERM project is designed to meet the region’s need for qualified environmental technicians and other professionals with the expertise to enable tribal entities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage water resources and protect water rights; • Manage land resources including mineral deposits and wildlife; and, • Mitigate environmental risk and distress in tribal areas of the upper Missouri River basin. <p>Tribal planners will integrate federal funding resources to support a network that is designed to accelerate business development opportunities for Native Americans and reduce unemployment in economically distressed reservation areas.</p>
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: By developing a formal network including project participants, federal, state, local, and tribal governmental agencies, and private businesses representing environmental fields, funding will foster the economic conditions needed to support both jobs and business development in natural resources.</p> <p>ETA: Within a coalition, Tribal Colleges and Universities will develop a common core of courses required for Associate Degree programs related to environmental risk mitigation. Additionally, a series of short-term certificate programs, based on currently identified demand, will be designed for incumbent workers and for participants interested in building more marketable and specialized skill sets.</p>

	<p>SBA: Will coordinate entrepreneurial opportunities in the environmental sciences including the Native American Business Network’s <i>Indianpreneurship</i> seminar—a culturally relevant program for Native entrepreneurs who want to start their own business. Provide counselors to support writing of business plans specifically for businesses run on reservations. Additionally, provide one-on-one mentors for <i>Indianpreneurship</i> participants to help connect cluster members with the local Small Business Development Centers (SBDC), and to assist in starting new businesses.</p>
<p>All Project Partners:</p>	<p>Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC); Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA); Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU); Native Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI); Tribal leaders representing UTTC and a total of 19 Indian reservations</p>
<p>Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:</p>	<p>Incumbent workers, Unemployed or dislocated workers</p>
<p>Contact Information:</p>	<p>Jennifer L. Janecek-Hartman United Tribes Technical College 2841 Warwick Loop Bismarck, ND 58504 (701) 426-6399 jjanecekhartman@uttc.edu</p>

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Northern Illinois University (ETA; EDA) Rockford Area Strategic Initiatives (EIGERlab) (SBA)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$634,466; ETA: \$985, 521 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	Rockford Area Aerospace Cluster Jobs and Innovation Accelerator
Identified Region:	Rockford, IL including Boone County, Winnebago County
Identified Cluster:	Rockford Area Aerospace Network (RAAN)
Project Description and Objectives:	This project will enable the rapid acceleration of the Rockford Area Aerospace Network (RAAN) to develop the Rockford MSA workforce capacity and the collaboration infrastructure necessary to meet more quickly the dramatic aerospace growth anticipated for the next two decades. This project seeks to first grow the market for the Rockford MSA aerospace cluster from regional to a national and international basis. Second, increase technical knowledge to accelerate the advancement of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) through technology transfer and meet the growing needs of Primes and tier-on aerospace companies. Third, promote access to a qualified workforce, including new starts, and nurture disadvantaged populations through STEM education, training and internships.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	EDA: Accelerate efforts in three areas. 1) Identify Rockford Area Aerospace Network (RAAN) research and technology projects with potential for commercialization; 2) Accelerate the use of small and medium sized enterprise (SME) barriers to Engineer in Residence (EIR) programs for focused business development projects; and 3) Develop a sustainable post-high school education infrastructure. ETA: Accelerate training and education needs on several levels. 1) Provide a seamless, cost effective undergraduate matriculation from a local two-year college to a regional four year university; 2) Promote the inclusion of under-represented undergraduate student recruitment and mentoring; and 3) Provide cost and time effective opportunities for indigent employees in the aerospace cluster to seamlessly obtain continuing education.

	<p>SBA: Target underrepresented and economic/socially disadvantaged small businesses. Provide a multi-session business “boot camp” program with focus on improving core competencies, financial planning, and target marketing. Will provide aerospace consultants to connect suppliers and customers. Will use SBTDC, SBDC, ITC, PTAC and other programs to assist in strategic planning, GAP analysis and other business services. Cluster members will provide reduced rate CAD design capabilities to targeted aerospace companies. These services will be utilized to design, analyze and prototype new innovative products.</p>
<p>All Project Partners:</p>	<p>Rock Valley College; Chicago Rockford International Airport; Ardekin Precision; B/E Aerospace Inc.; CHEM Processing, Inc.; City of Rockford, Mayors Office; Clinkenbeard; Ingenium; Kaney Aerospace; Kaney Group; Global Accumulator Division (GAD); TSI Plastucs, Inc.; Woodward Governor Company</p>
<p>Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:</p>	<p>Indigenous, underemployed and unemployed individuals, especially underrepresented populations pursuing an engineering career.</p>
<p>Contact Information:</p>	<p>Ms. Dara C. Little, Associate Director Office of Sponsored Projects, Northern Illinois University DeKalb, Illinois 60115-2828 (815) 753-1581 asosp@niu.edu</p> <p>Dr. David A. Stone, Associate Vice-President for Research Lowden Hall 301 DeKalb, Illinois 60115-2828 (815) 753-1581 asosp@niu.edu</p>

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Wichita State University
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$849,181; ETA: \$1,000,000 ; SBA: \$144,239
Project Name:	Center for Innovation and Enterprise Engagement
Identified Region:	South Central Kansas including Butler County, Cowley County, Harper County, Harvey County, Kingman County, Marion County, McPherson County, Reno County, Sedgwick County, Sumner County
Identified Cluster:	Manufacturing (aerospace advanced materials and composites, wind turbines, and medical equipment)
Project Description and Objectives:	The following complementary strategies will equip south central Kansas manufacturers with the resources and the workforce to diversify the regional economy while maintaining the manufacturing base and position the regional advanced manufacturing clusters for future growth, stability and global competitiveness. Innovation Acceleration will provide a forum for industry collaboration and provide assistance to accelerate development of innovative, cost-effective, sustainable, next-generation, composites and advanced materials, processes, repair technologies and products. Career Accelerator will expand workforce training from students to entry-level workers and experienced engineers in order to equip and raise the skill level of a premier composite technicians’ workforce who will be qualified to obtain or upgrade employment in a variety of high-growth industries. Enterprise Accelerator will engage historically underrepresented and excluded communities in support of identifying, planning and developing new business opportunities.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	EDA: Industry Roundtable, Competitive Faculty/Business Fellowships, Competitive Innovation/Technology Accelerator including technical assistance, feasibility studies, planning activities, technology or process development, cluster networking, market expansion. ETA: Articulation agreement development and implementation for New Engineering Technology Degree, Bridge Program to promote success of new engineering and engineering technology students, Online composites course development, Scholarships and work experience, internships, and co-ops.

	<p>SBA: Expand the CIEE advanced Manufacturing Industry Roundtable and Collaborative Partner Technical and Management-Assistance Programs to reach underserved market. Partner with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to target businesses for training, counseling, technology transfer, commercialization of existing research and development counseling, export readiness counseling and other relevant small business services. A team will focus on engagement and integration of small businesses eligible for 7(j) assistance. These efforts will be integrated in a comprehensive plan of training and economic development to include disadvantaged communities working with SBA’s Small Business Development Center resource partners.</p>
<p>All Project Partners:</p>	<p>Wichita State University (WSU) College of Engineering (CoE); National Institute of Aviation Research (NIAR); Kansas Department of Commerce (KDOC); Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas (WA) and Kansas WorkforceONE (KSWFOne); Center for Entrepreneurship (CFE); Center for Economic Development and Business Research (CEDBR); WSU academic departments 8. Center for Innovation in Biomaterials for Orthopaedic Research (CiBOR); Center for Management Development (CMD); Pittsburg State University; Community and Technical Colleges Butler; Cowley; Hutchinson; Pratt (Wichita eLearning Service Center); Wichita Area Technical College; Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP); Regional economic development partners; Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition (GWEDC); Kansas Small Business Development Center (KSBDC); Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center (MAMTC); Small Business Administration (SBA); South Central Kansas Economic Development District (KS rural development grants) (SCKEDD); K-12 Programs: Project Lead the Way (PLTW), Summer Camps, Business Plan Competition, WSU Center for Entrepreneurship, Youth Entrepreneurs of Kansas (YEK), Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), Science and Engineering Educational Development for Students (SEEDS); Professional Associations: Society of Women Engineers, Engineering Foundation of Kansas</p>
<p>Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:</p>	<p>Students, Entry-Level Workers, and Engineers</p>
<p>Contact Information:</p>	<p>Denee Clifford Wichita State University Office of Research Administration 1845 Fairmount Wichita, KS 67260 (316) 978.5201 denee.clifford@wichita.edu</p>

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Northern Maine Development Commission
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$782,500; ETA: \$995,725 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	GreenME
Identified Region:	Northeastern ME including Aroostook County, Washington County
Identified Cluster:	Renewable Energy Industry Cluster (REIC)
Project Description and Objectives:	The REIC consists of representatives from approximately 55 businesses that employ over 500 people located throughout the State of Maine with the majority from the region. These businesses produce energy extracted or captured from on-going natural processes, generated and regenerated naturally. The project objective is to transition 9,000 residential units and 20 commercial facilities to primary or supplemental wood biomass fuel in four years. This will result in 260 direct industry cluster jobs and 196 indirect and induced jobs in the regional economy. To implement this renewable energy strategy will require a comprehensive and targeted workforce development strategy to train residential and commercial heating installers.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Develop a grass pellet boiler for small commercial and residential heating purposes, Develop a Regional Innovation Strategic Plan and a Regional Venture Development Organization plan for the REIC. Expansion of the Renewable Energy Industry Cluster (REIC) in the Aroostook-Washington Economic Development District (AWEDD) through additional mapping of indigenous assets and development of expanded leadership teams by the attraction and integration of new partners. Feasibility of commercialization of replacement wood pellet burner for fuel oil burner in existing heating systems. Evaluation of newer growth small diameter trees as feedstock for expanded production of industrial grade wood pellets and/or wood chips for utilization in heating and power applications; primarily geared for export to European market. Entrepreneur business development to stabilize and expand forest harvesting operations through improved technical and business practices.</p> <p>ETA: ETA funds will be used to train 30 American workers in the following high demand occupations: mechanical engineers, biological technicians, electrical engineers, and engineering managers.</p> <p>SBA: Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC) will oversee activity development. NMDC will leverage the expertise of the Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the Procurement and Technical Assistance Center, NMDC's Business Finance Division, the Maine Small Business Development Center, Maine International</p>

	<p>Trade Association, and the Maine Technology Institute to provide business assistance to low and moderate income business owners, clients located in high poverty/high unemployment areas, 8(a) status and HUB zones. Service will include: training sessions in entrepreneurship, one-on-one business technical assistance and coordination of regional peer-to-peer networking groups providing start-ups with strategies for loan proposal development and then, access to financing organizations.</p>
<p>All Project Partners:</p>	<p>The REIC consists of representatives from approximately fifty-five (55) businesses that employ over 500 people, located throughout the state of Maine with the majority from the region. Additional REIC participants are the University of Maine at Presque Isle, University of Maine at Fort Kent, University of Maine at Orono, Northern Maine Community College Center for Excellence in Alternative Energy Education and Training, Presque Isle Chamber of Commerce, Local Workforce Investment Board, Maine Career Centers in Presque Isle, Machias and Calais, regional high school Superintendents, Maine International Trade Center, Maine Pellet Fuels Association, Community Action Agencies, Maine Department of Labor, Northern Maine Finance Corporation, Leaders Encouraging Aroostook Development, Sunrise County Economic Council, County Governments, Municipal Governments, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, USDA Rural Development, Northern Maine SBDC, Northern Maine PTAC, Northern Maine MEP, Maine Department of Economic and Community Development, Maine Department of Transportation, US Small Business Administration, US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Northern Forest Center</p>
<p>Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:</p>	<p>The target population for the project includes incumbent workers in a renewable energy setting, as well as displaced and unemployed workers, who are enrolled in an academic or degree program that will lead to a high demand occupations identified in this proposal within 36 months.</p>
<p>Contact Information:</p>	<p>Mr. Robert P. Clark, Executive Director Northern Maine Development Commission 11 West Presque Isle Road Caribou, ME 04743 (207) 498-8736 rclark@nmdc.org</p>

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	The Solar Energy Consortium (EDA) Orange County Community College (SUNY Orange) (ETA) Gateway to Entrepreneurial Tomorrows, Inc. (SBA)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$800,000; ETA: \$1,000,000 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	The Solar Energy Consortium (TSEC) New York Renewable Energy Cluster (NYREC)
Identified Region:	City of Newburgh, NY including Ulster County, Dutchess County, Rockland County, Orange County, Sullivan County, Columbia County, Greene County, Putnam County
Identified Cluster:	Manufacturing and Renewable Energy (Solar)
Project Description and Objectives:	The Accelerator grant seeks to expand the role of industry clusters in job creation; encourage the growth of small businesses, especially those headed by minorities, women and disadvantaged owners; and expand training opportunities so that U.S. workers can access pathways to higher-skill jobs. Newburgh, a city of 28,000 and one of New York State’s poorest localities, is the primary location for this project. The New York Renewable Energy Cluster’s strategic response targets the Accelerator grant’s three challenges with a unified approach to cluster development, small business origination and support and workforce training.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: EDA funding will be used to establish cluster development mechanisms intended to become permanent features of NYREC’s long-term development strategy. Activities will focus on business support services to start-ups, including market research, site analysis, and access to capital.</p> <p>ETA: ETA funding will be used to increase course offerings at participating schools and tailor them more precisely to renewable energy cluster needs, thereby enhancing their value as job-generating training. These courses will continue to be offered and expanded through tuition payments and Department of Labor funding.</p> <p>SBA: The Gateway to Entrepreneurial Tomorrows (G.E.T.) will specifically target the underserved and disadvantaged population of Newburgh providing the following services: mentoring, business plan development, export-readiness, technology commercialization, international and domestic marketing, accounting and legal business structures, internet commerce and employee management. Client referrals will be made to renewable energy industry experts who can vet business ideas for feasibility. Clients at appropriate stages of business development will be connected with venture capital groups and alternative</p>

	financing entities, and receive assistance with applications for state and federal R&D funding including federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR).
All Project Partners:	Orange County Office of Business Assistance (which oversees the Orange County Partnership and the Orange County Business Accelerator); State University of New York (SUNY) Binghamton, New Paltz, Orange County, Ulster County; Gateway to Entrepreneurial Tomorrows (GET); NYSERDA; New York State (NYS) Department of Labor’s Workforce Investment Board; NYSEIA, NYSERDA, USDOE
Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	Underserved and Disadvantaged
Contact Information	Dr. William Richards, President State University of New York (SUNY Orange) 115 South Street Middletown, New York 10940 (845) 341-4701 bill.richards@sunyorange.edu

Grant Program:	Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Northeast Ohio Technology Coalition (NorTech) (EDA) Lorain County Community College (ETA) JumpStart Inc. (SBA)
Award Amounts:	EDA: \$912,945; ETA: \$1,000,000 ; SBA: \$150,000
Project Name:	Northeast Ohio Speed-To-Market Accelerator (STMA)
Identified Region:	Cleveland and Akron, OH including Ashtabula County, Cuyahoga County, Geauga County, Lake County, Lorain County, Mahoning County, Medina County, Portage County, Stark County, Summit County, Trumbull County, Wayne County
Identified Clusters:	Energy; Flexible Electronics
Project Description and Objectives:	The Speed-To-Market Accelerator provides a step-by-step process to accelerate the speed-to-market for near-production or pilot-production prototypes. The primary objective of the STMA is to accelerate revenue generation which stimulates job creation. The STMA will also increase the global competitiveness of cluster companies, reduce their dependence on government grants, attract additional private capital, and attract students, incumbent workers, and the unemployed to STMA-sponsored educational programs that infuse both clusters with talent.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: The EDA funds Nortech, MAGNET and JumpStart to conduct a series of workshops to educate cluster members on speed-to-market and provide one-on-one assistance to help cluster members meet difficult challenges such as assessing key markets, engaging with commercialization partners and anchoring customers, increasing export revenue, and accessing capital.</p> <p>ETA: Lorain County Community College will utilize ETA funding to lead an extensive network of Northeast Ohio universities in early assessment of cluster workforce needs in time to develop and implement education/training programs.</p> <p>SBA: The JumpStart organization will be used to provide the following services: Outreach to identify and recruit 7(j) eligible businesses to join the STMA project and the flexible electronics cluster; management and technical assistance through one-on-one counseling; membership in its First Client Pilot Initiative; helping minority businesses secure initial sales to established companies; and to identify, pursue and secure new capital to grow businesses.</p>
All Project Partners:	Nortech; MAGNET; JumpStart; Lorain County Community College

Populations to be Served by ETA Funding:	Incumbent workers; unemployed workers
Contact Information:	Tracy Green, Director Loraine County Community College 1005 Abbe Road North, CC 222 Elyria, OH 44035-1691 (440) 366-7557 tagreen@lorainccc.edu

H-1B Advanced Manufacturing Jobs Accelerator – Round 2

Grant Program:	2012 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Columbia River Economic Development Council, Impact Washington, SW Washington Workforce Development Council (ETA), Oregon Microenterprise Network (OMEN)
Total Funding:	\$1,792,221 ETA: \$400,000
Project Name:	Innovations in Advanced Materials and Metals (IAM2)
Identified Region:	Portland-Vancouver MSA, including Portland, Vancouver, Clark and Cowlitz Counties in WA and Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties in OR.
Identified Cluster:	Advanced Manufacturing
Project Description and Objectives:	The region's Advanced Manufacturing cluster is primarily driven by businesses in advanced materials and metals that use high technology tools, including engineering, computing and metallurgy, to produce a product or part, or for enhancing manufacturing capabilities. The IAM2 project includes: collaboration with industry and universities on engineering and product development, market research, business development, supply chain development, workforce training, business training, technical assistance, and targeted outreach to veterans, underserved and underemployed populations.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Targeted market research for domestic and international sales opportunities, business development consulting for aerospace and defense contracts, new product development technical assistance, engineering internships, and supply chain development.</p> <p>NIST: Provide product diversification and process re-engineering assistance utilizing the Innovation Engineering tools for SMEs in the advanced materials and metals cluster, assist SMEs with export readiness and export assistance using ExporTech workshops to develop international sales plans, and provide market intelligence reports through Technology Scouting to SMEs to locate existing technologies to help meet their needs.</p> <p>DOE: Support for an energy efficiency program to deploy game-changing energy efficiency technologies and to assist target industry users with adoption of best practices that will significantly reduce electricity, water, and natural gas consumption and costs.</p> <p>ETA: Train new and incumbent workers using customized and On-the-Job training models for employment in H1-B qualified occupations in the cluster.</p> <p>SBA: Technical assistance services, including business management training, business consulting, networking opportunities, and feasibility studies targeted at 7(j) eligible small businesses; increased technology utilization by expansion of eligible small businesses' contracts, capacity, and capability in the advanced materials and metals supply chain; customized market research to increase the ability of 7(j) eligible businesses to access new markets.</p>

Grant Program:	2012 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Arizona Commerce Authority
Total Funding:	\$1,817,000 ETA: \$400,000
Project Name:	Growing the Southern Arizona Aerospace and Defense Region
Identified Region:	Cochise, Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz and Yuma Counties
Identified Cluster:	Aerospace and Defense
Project Description and Objectives:	<p>The project seeks to develop the aerospace and defense (A&D) cluster within the 6-county Southern Arizona Aerospace and Defense (A&D) region. Supporting innovation and job creation in Cochise, Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz and Yuma counties, the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) will provide overall management of the work program, collaborating closely with several key partners, including the Pima County One-Stop, the Arizona Science Foundation, the Arizona Technology Council, a national network of Manufacturing Extension Partnership centers, and several key A&D business contractors including Boeing. The Southern Arizona A&D region has a globally competitive market niche because it is a vital U.S. manufacturing and testing center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). UAS relies on a supply chain network to provide state-of-the-art electronic equipment and software to drive the electronics, advanced lightweight and durable composite materials, and highly energy-efficient propulsion systems.</p>
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Spur enhanced coordination of industry, academic, military and public leadership efforts to strengthen the region’s A&D cluster, as well as promote exports among existing aerospace companies to targeted international markets.</p> <p>DOE: Support a challenge grant competition to provide funding to researchers to show proof-of-concept technologies for aerospace and defense applications, including algae-based jet fuels, composite materials, and energy storage materials.</p> <p>ETA: Leverage existing and new resources to support the development of curriculum and related apprenticeship/internship programs to meet the talent needs of regional Aerospace & Defense Original Equipment Manufacturers and suppliers.</p> <p>SBA: Development, promotion and education of Aerospace and Defense supplier database as an interactive resource for 7(j) eligible small businesses; technical assistance for 7(j) businesses through collaboration with the region’s Arizona Small Business Development Centers (AZSBDC), the Arizona Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (AZPTAC), and SCORE Counselors.</p>

Grant Program:	2012 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	County Of Contra Costa, Manex, University of California Berkley, Peralta Community College Laney College (ETA), Norcal SBDC (Humboldt State)
Total Funding:	\$2,190,779 ETA: \$399,000
Project Name:	Advanced Manufacturing Medical/Biosciences Pipeline for Economic Development (AM2PED)
Identified Region:	I-80/880 Corridor of the Inner San Francisco East Bay Area, including Western Alameda and Contra Costa Counties
Identified Cluster:	Medical Device and Bioscience Manufacturing
Project Description and Objectives:	AM2PED will build a regional innovation ecosystem for technology transfer, economic development, and workforce development in medical device and bioscience manufacturing along the I-80/880 Corridor of the Inner San Francisco East Bay Area. AM2PED will expand technology transfer, innovation, and job creation-closing feedback loops between tech development, market application, and business growth, including access to capital, technical assistance and workforce training. AM2PED will build connecting networks to link regional efforts focused on medical manufacturing and bio-sciences, constructing a virtual “one stop” center for technology innovation, investment, and job creation.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Cluster and intermediary development, leadership in convening and connecting industry employers to technology, technical assistance, and workforce components.</p> <p>NIST: Provide market intelligence and information on the targeted industry cluster trends, assist manufacturers with technology development utilizing tools for technology adoption and product development. Work with the workforce boards and community colleges to conduct skills mapping of workforce needs of the manufacturers generated by the newly developed technologies.</p> <p>DOE: In conjunction with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories, support commercially ready technologies in medical, biotechnology, and bio-inspired manufacturing at the validation and demonstration stage ready for technology transfer.</p> <p>ETA: Coordinate with community colleges developing specialized training programs, speed development of new curricula in response to industry identified needs, and develop a regional process to administer California Employment Training Panel (ETP) funds dedicated to this project.</p> <p>SBA: Mapping and identification of 7(j) eligible small businesses in Alameda and Contra Costa counties; training, counseling, and technical assistance to 7(j) businesses on a range of topics, including business plan development, loan preparation, financial management, operations management, marketing, commercialization, tech transfer, and specialty areas such as procurement assistance (e.g. 8a certification), export readiness, and sustainability management.</p>

Grant Program:	2012 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Delaware Valley Industrial Resource Center
Total Funding:	\$1,892,000 ETA: \$400,000
Project Name:	Greater Philadelphia Advanced Manufacturing Innovation and Skills Accelerator
Identified Region:	Greater Philadelphia
Identified Cluster:	Transportation Equipment
Project Description and Objectives:	<p>The Advanced Manufacturing Innovation and Skills Accelerator (the “Accelerator”) is directed at achieving two primary objectives: 1) significantly increase growth in business value by accelerating the rate at which businesses identify and commercialize new product, process, or service innovations and by rapidly developing the engineering, technical, and managerial talent necessary to capture the full value of advanced manufacturing technology, and, 2) significantly decrease the inherent risk and historical roadblocks associated with the development and commercialization of new innovations through the integration and systematic organization and deployment of the region’s educational, technical, business and financial assets, both public and private. The Accelerator provides a structure and service engagement framework based on the NIST developed Innovation Engineering Management System (IEMS) to rapidly create, communicate, and commercialize new innovations by applying the region’s technical, business, financial, and economic development assets, as necessary, according to the IEMS created game plan. The Accelerator will yield high-growth, high-wage companies that increase the region’s value-added contribution to the transportation equipment sector. A stronger transportation equipment supply sector will serve to attract OEMs and first-tier suppliers to the region and to create high-wage, high-skill jobs and grow the cluster.</p>
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Technical assistance, asset mapping, and cluster networking. Funding will also support an executive director, marketing materials, and technology awareness events.</p> <p>NIST: Provide a market intelligence report on the targeted cluster industry, transportation equipment; assist SMEs in the cluster with identifying and commercializing new products, processes or services through the utilization of the Innovation Engineering Management System (IEMS) tools.</p> <p>DOE: Identify and establish relationships with regional scientific and technical assets; facilitate licensing and adoption of intellectual property; and serve as the Accelerator’s technical expert for low-weight, high-strength carbon fiber and other low cost composite materials.</p> <p>ETA: Funding will be directed towards the education and training of future engineers and smaller manufacturing businesses in additive manufacturing and composites.</p> <p>SBA: Outreach efforts and networking events aimed at 7(j) eligible small businesses; market research to identify small firms’ barriers to participating in the transportation cluster supply chain; counseling and other targeted business services provided to qualifying small businesses.</p>

Grant Program:	2012 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Innovation Works, Catalyst Connection, National Center For Defense Manufacturing And Machining, Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce Investment Board (ETA)
Total Funding:	\$1,862,150 ETA: \$400,000
Project Name:	Agile Electro-Mechanical Product Accelerator
Identified Region:	Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Lawrence, Washington and Westmoreland counties in southwestern Pennsylvania
Identified Cluster:	Metal manufacturing and electrical equipment (particularly as they impact the region’s strengths in the energy, advanced electronics and life sciences)
Project Description and Objectives:	The Agile Electro-Mechanical Product Accelerator (AEMPA) program addresses needs that three of Pittsburgh’s significant industries (energy, life sciences and advanced electronics) have in regard to the development of industry-specific innovative technologies through metal manufacturing and electrical equipment solutions. This initiative involves helping existing manufacturing companies to grow through new product creation and better operating efficiency. It also helps to create new manufacturing companies to fuel further economic growth. It helps to train the local workforce to fill the jobs created by manufacturers in the region. And finally, it helps to reverse economic decline in targeted distressed communities where manufacturers are located and will locate by guiding the creation and growth of those manufacturers.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Creation of an Agile Hardware Design Center that uses lean/agile start-up principles and employs electromechanical engineering design expertise to accelerate the growth of high-impact startups and young manufacturers making parts or products for the energy, life sciences, and advanced electro-mechanical industries.</p> <p>NIST: Research key end markets in the energy, life sciences and advanced electronics industries; identify SMEs for the cluster and identify the opportunities in the supply chain market, provide assistance to access these markets and develop market penetration plans; conduct workshops to educate cluster members about trends and opportunities; identify emerging technologies to address needs of cluster SMEs, assist with technology acceleration activities by utilizing their expertise in Innovation Engineering and Innovation Management Systems (IMS) to introduce and implement rapid discovery and commercialization of new product ideas.</p> <p>DOE: Support development of technologies and tools that monitor energy and resource usage and efficiency to address life cycle requirements for metals processing, wrought and finished components, and additive manufacturing processes.</p> <p>ETA: Provide training for the region’s workforce including technicians and product developers in metal manufacturing and electrical equipment trades to support career advancement opportunities in the region.</p>

	<p>SBA: Training on agile development methodologies, individualized business management, consulting, and entrepreneurial educational programs targeting emerging and existing 7(j) eligible small businesses working in industries that service or work closely with metal manufacturing or electrical equipment; strengthen network of associations aimed at growing the small business manufacturing base.</p>
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Grant Program:	2012 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance (OMA); New Product Development Center (NPDC) at Oklahoma State University (ETA); Oklahoma Department of Commerce (ODOC); Center for International Trade and Development (CITD) at Oklahoma State University; (ETA) and Oklahoma Application Engineer Program (AEP)
Total Funding:	\$1,941,999 ETA: \$399,999
Project Name:	Manufacturing Improvement Program for the Oil and Gas Industry Supply Chain and Marketing Cluster
Identified Region:	44 Counties Primarily in Eastern and Southern Oklahoma
Identified Cluster:	Oil and Gas Industry
Project Description and Objectives:	Comprehensive improvement in manufacturing requires a review of a manufacturer's facilities, equipment, processes, product line, people, finances, markets and customers. The overarching goal is to increase the innovation capacity and improve profitability of small- to medium-sized manufacturers (SMM) in the oil and gas industry cluster. Reaching this goal will result in sustainable job creation in 44 low-income Oklahoma counties. The specific objectives are to help manufacturers a) assess current competency; b) develop plans to reduce energy use and improve manufacturing processes; c) innovate product lines; d) train a diverse workforce; e) manage financial consequences and outcomes; and f) identify and meet the needs of customers and markets.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Redesign of existing product lines and new product development for manufacturing.</p> <p>NIST: Identify and engage SMM participants in the Oil and Gas Industry Council. Assist the cluster SMMs with technical and business grant writing support for larger and more transformational projects.</p> <p>DOE: Support automation innovation assistance, perform energy audits, assist with energy efficiency upgrades, and focus on green product line innovation.</p> <p>ETA: Provide training for a diverse workforce in the use of advanced manufacturing and design tools.</p> <p>SBA: New business and market analysis for 7(j) eligible small businesses specific to the small businesses' unique needs and products; export assistance and business plan counseling for 7(j) eligible small businesses.</p>

Grant Program:	2012 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Southeast Michigan Community Alliance (ETA), Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center, National Center for Manufacturing Sciences, Detroit Regional Chamber Foundation
Total Funding:	\$2,191,962 ETA: \$400,000
Project Name:	Innovation Realization: Building and Supporting an Advanced Contract Manufacturing Cluster in Southeast Michigan
Identified Region:	Nine Southeast Michigan counties: Genesee (includes Flint), Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland (includes Pontiac), St. Clair, Shiawassee, Washtenaw (includes Ann Arbor), and Wayne (includes Detroit)
Identified Cluster:	Manufacturing (includes contract manufacturing and support engineering services)
Project Description and Objectives:	The Southeast Michigan Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Realization Cluster project seeks to supplement the region’s traditional parts-making economy with a fast-growing community of firms pursuing a different business model. The project applicant team represents regional organizations well-positioned to support the cluster’s development and growth, including the Workforce Intelligence Network (WIN), Detroit Regional Chamber’s Connection Point, Business Accelerators of Southeast Michigan (BANSEM), Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center (MMTC), Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME), and National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS). The project will start with the set of 112 known Innovation Realization manufacturers, convene them as an explicit cluster, and explore their connections to product developers and modeling/optimization tool providers. It will then draw more companies out of traditional manufacturing by illustrating the payoff to Cluster participation, including access to research on dozens of niche markets; new modeling tools to evaluate designs; structured opportunities with customers in new industries; and help training Computer Numerical Control (CNC) operators and programmers. It will evaluate the leaders and managers of interested Michigan manufacturers, and then provide assistance services to prepare them for the more complex, but more rewarding, role of making new products rather than old parts.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Convening and adding to the cluster, identifying its members’ capabilities, developing plans and follow-up actions to enhance those capabilities, and structured opportunities for qualified cluster firms to quote work with new customers.</p> <p>NIST: Provide managerial and business assessments to contract manufacturers within the cluster and develop recommendations for improvement planning and related follow-on services. Provide market intelligence services to inform manufacturers on prioritizing, targeting, and developing customer awareness tactics within their identified cluster niches. Provide assistance to access new customers in current and new markets specifically by using micro-websites and other marketing tactics.</p> <p>DOE: Support research and identification of energy-efficient manufacturing processes that can be utilized for new materials with improved functionality to meet performance requirements, enhanced manufacturability, lowered</p>

	<p>costs, reduced energy use, and built-in sustainability.</p> <p>ETA: Address talent shortfalls by challenging the region’s community colleges to rapidly train or otherwise connect cluster firms to qualified CNC operators, programmers, technicians, and engineers that are currently in low supply.</p> <p>SBA: Outreach to 7(j) eligible small businesses to identify candidates for cluster membership; link eligible small businesses with prospective clients, technology, development, and financing to support their growth and success; provide counseling, mentoring, and training targeted to 7(j) firms.</p>
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Grant Program:	2012 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Syracuse University, NYSTAR, Research Foundation of SUNY
Total Funding:	\$1,889,890 ETA: \$398,074
Project Name:	A Proposal to Accelerate Innovations in Advanced Manufacturing of Thermal and Environmental Control Systems
Identified Region:	CenterState New York, a 12-county region that is anchored by the five counties of Central New York (CNY)—Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego—and includes Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, Seneca, St. Lawrence, and Tompkins counties.
Identified Cluster:	Thermal and Environmental Control Systems
Project Description and Objectives:	An experienced team of public and private partners will accelerate the transformational rebirth of a cluster of small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that manufacture thermal and environmental control systems (TECS), which heat and cool buildings, refrigerate produce, control manufacturing processes, and enable a variety of other applications. The project team will speed the growth of the cluster by: a) accelerating the adoption of innovative materials and advanced manufacturing processes, b) providing networks to access to national and global markets, c) training displaced and under-skilled workers, and d) supporting new ventures in disadvantaged communities.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Elevate TECS advanced manufacturing as one of CNY’s signature strengths, leveraging regional initiatives on exports, advanced manufacturing, and clean energy and environmental systems. Activities will strengthen cluster networks, enhance links to sources of innovations, and increase exports.</p> <p>NIST: Gather and disseminate market intelligence, industry trends, and data about advanced manufacturing to support planning and strategy development for the TECS cluster; create a TECS Manufacturers’ Council to discuss technology and manufacturing needs, share best practices and identify priority projects for the Council; assist SMEs with the incorporation of new technologies and processes to improve product performance; provide access to new opportunities in the supply chain market and increase the export potential of products and services. Develop connections to other companies and university partners throughout the state to facilitate tech transfer and research commercialization projects, particularly in the areas of advanced composites, ceramics and nanomaterials.</p> <p>DOE: Fund seed projects to accelerate the adoption of innovative materials, product designs, and manufacturing processes for TECS.</p> <p>ETA: Project partners will develop and deliver training to meet the needs of the cluster firms and local workers—including those displaced by the imminent closing of a large automotive transmission manufacturer critical to the region’s economy for more than a century.</p> <p>SBA: Recruit and engage 7(j) eligible small businesses into the cluster; provide one-on-one counseling and technical training to 7(j) eligible businesses in partnership with Small Business Development Centers; conduct market research to identify 7(j) businesses in the region; match eligible small businesses with larger businesses to provide mentoring and identify business-to-business opportunities.</p>

Grant Program:	2012 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	Technology 2020, Tenn MEP, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), Pellissippi State Community College (ETA), University of Tennessee
Total Funding:	\$2,391,778 ETA: \$399,778
Project Name:	AMP! - Advanced Manufacturing and Prototyping Center of East Tennessee
Identified Region:	A 20-county economically distressed region surrounding ORNL comprised mostly of counties within the East Tennessee Development District.
Identified Cluster:	Manufacturing
Project Description and Objectives:	AMP! will connect companies through networking, small business assistance, or business connection and will train college students toward an Engineering Technology degree for advanced manufacturing. By drawing post-secondary students together with existing manufacturers and utilizing emerging technologies to solve real-world problems under the guidance of a premier national laboratory, AMP! will drive regional economic growth.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Provide leadership to cluster development, create advanced manufacturing competitions to draw industry and education together, accelerate the formation of new companies, and grow local supply chain through applications of advanced manufacturing products and processes.</p> <p>NIST: Map the advanced manufacturing cluster in the region; identify firms, employment data and trends, economic performance and impact to the region, and issues and opportunities impacting cluster growth and development. Target resources for the promotion of cluster growth. Identify needs and growth opportunities in the advanced manufacturing cluster; connect cluster manufacturers to AMP! consortium, resources, and initiatives; and help cluster manufacturers innovate and grow. Leverage resources that provide SME's access to unique research facilities, assist with the development of innovative products and processes into SME operations.</p> <p>DOE: Create an advanced manufacturing consortium and a unique co-laboratory to facilitate close collaboration with ORNL's Manufacturing Demonstration Facility. Focus on additive manufacturing, lightweight metal and roll-to-roll processing, and low-temperature material synthesis.</p> <p>ETA: Develop advanced manufacturing certification program and provide scholarships for veterans and disadvantaged students.</p> <p>SBA: Training and mentoring to 7(j) eligible entrepreneurs and small businesses located in economically distressed counties within the cluster region through the creation and delivery of a small business "Boot Camp", i.e., a series of training seminars and mentoring culminating in formal presentations to a panel of experienced business people who will provide feedback on the presentation and approach.</p>

Grant Program:	2012 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name:	University of Rochester, NYS Empire State Development (ETA), Division of Science, Technology & Innovation (NYSTAR), High Tech Rochester Inc.
Total Funding:	\$1,889,936 ETA: \$400,000
Project Name:	Rochester Regional Optics, Photonics & Imaging Accelerator (RRPA)
Identified Region:	9-county Finger Lakes Region in New York State plus Corning Inc. in Steuben County.
Identified Cluster:	Optics, Photonics, and Imaging
Project Description and Objectives:	The RRPA will combine the efforts of the three co-applicants and five partner organizations to accelerate the growth of the SME Optics, Photonics and Imaging (OPI) cluster companies and stop the net loss of jobs stemming from downsizing of some of the larger companies. The RRPA will assist companies in developing new and innovative products, develop and implement advanced manufacturing equipment and processes, increase revenues--particularly export revenues, train qualified workers, and attract both foreign and domestic investment.
Brief Description of Activities to be Funded by Each Agency:	<p>EDA: Enhanced networking and outreach specific to key trade shows and targeted international customer matchmaking; market research tied to key regional assets; direct assistance to companies in the region through technology demonstration, collaborative research projects and student (UR & RIT engineering and business school students) team projects. The UR led effort will also include the Rochester Regional Photonics Cluster, RIT and Bausch & Lomb.</p> <p>NIST: Develop a list and conduct outreach to manufacturing companies in the optics, photonics and imaging cluster, help companies be more productive and valuable to customers, and help them find innovative and cost effective solutions to optimize efficiency in their supply chains. Provide targeted services based upon an assessment of each individual company's specific needs, which may include optimizing manufacturing operations through lean manufacturing and quality programs; identifying new technologies that can be commercialized by existing manufacturing companies using the web-based National Innovation Marketplace; working on both upstream and downstream supply chains to help companies be more productive and valuable to those they supply, and to help them find innovative and cost effective solutions for their own supplier needs; and helping companies with waste and energy reduction, as well as other sustainability efforts. Provide companies with Innovation Engineering Management System training to help companies identify new growth ideas, assess them, and implement them.</p> <p>DOE: Support two research projects targeting the region's optics, photonics, and imaging companies. Accelerate work on freeform optics and support development of technologies for the reclamation and disposal of slurries containing rare-earth materials.</p>

	<p>ETA: In collaboration with the local Workforce Investment Board, postsecondary training providers will deliver skills training for current and future employees to move them up career pathways and support the growth of companies in the region.</p> <p>SBA: Deliver extended training to 7(j) eligible small businesses through the Entrepreneurs Network; provide technical assistance, business planning and SBIR/STTR support, and targeted procurement matchmaking to eligible disadvantaged/underserved businesses; partner with regional organizations that target 7(j) eligible firms (SBDC, Rochester Regional Veterans Business Council and Urban League of Rochester) to identify eligible program participants.</p>
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