



Round 2 Catalyst R&D Pilot Seed Grant & Food and Agriculture R&D Pilot Seed Grant

Informational Webinar
June 5, 2023

Agenda

- Welcome
 - Program overview
 - Submission Process
 - Timeline
 - Eligibility Criteria
 - Required Documents
 - Scoring Criteria & Bonus Points
 - Terms & Conditions
 - Important Details
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Program Overview – Food and Agriculture

Program Summary

The goal of the Food and Agriculture Research & Development Pilot Grant Program is to support innovation from researchers and entrepreneurs focused on developing technology, and other solutions to addressing food insecurity in the in New Jersey.

What are the targeted industries?

- Life Sciences (e.g., therapeutic drug development, medical devices)
- Technology (e.g., digital and telehealth services and platform development)
- Food and Beverage (non-retail)
- Transportation and Logistics

Program Details

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis, with awards going to the highest scoring applicants.

Program Overview –Food and Agriculture

Project sizes

Eligible applicants can receive grant awards of up to \$75,000.
Each approved grant will be valid for a period of 12 months.

Objectives of the Program

- The grant will engage early-stage innovation-based companies in NJ to accelerate research and development of technologies to transform new discoveries from research stage into commercially viable products and services that address food security needs of communities across New Jersey by identifying and implementing ways to increase access to nutritious foods and develop new approaches to alleviate food deserts.

Program Overview – Round 2 Catalyst (Therapeutic Drug Discovery)

Program Summary

The goal of the Round 2 Catalyst R&D Pilot Seed Grant Program is to help New Jersey-based early-stage innovation companies accelerate development of technologies to transform new therapeutic drug discoveries from research stage into commercially viable products.

What are the targeted industries?

- Life Sciences (e.g., therapeutic drug discovery)

Program Details

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis, with awards going to the highest scoring applicants.

Program Overview – Round 2 Catalyst (Therapeutic Drug Discovery)

Project sizes

Eligible applicants can receive grant awards of up to \$150,000.
Each approved grant will be valid for a period of 12 months.

Objectives of the Program

- Engage early-stage innovation-based companies in New Jersey to accelerate research and development of technologies to transform new discoveries from research stage into commercially viable products and services

Program Overview

Use of funds

The grant funding can be utilized for project research and development activities.

No more than 30% of the budget proposed for the Project, in the aggregate, may be spent on:

- Marketing and customer discovery specific to the innovation
- IP patent prosecution and licensing-related expenses
- Conference registration fees

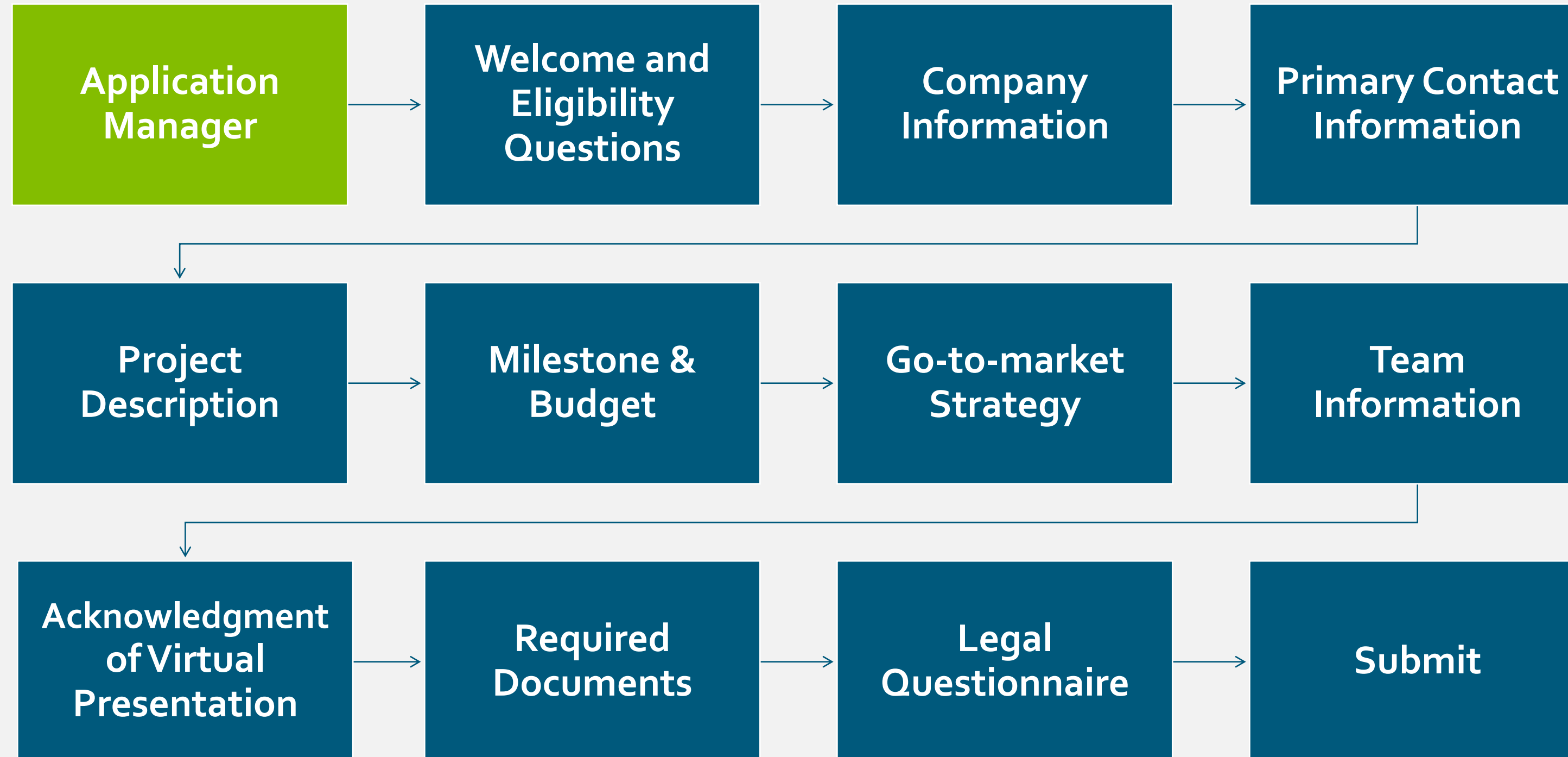
Program Overview

Ineligible Use of funds

The following expense categories are ineligible for funding by this grant:

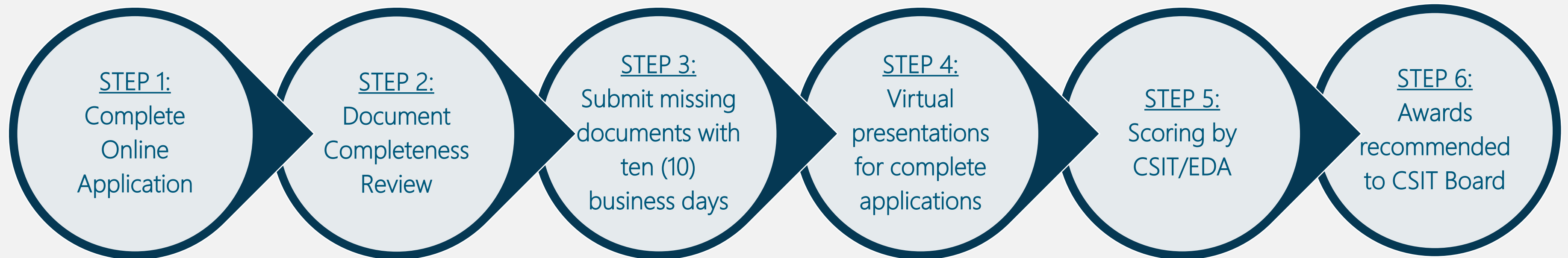
- Direct services to individuals or organizations
- Manufacturing of products for sale or commercial use
- Real estate rental expenses
- Patient clinical trial expenses
- Construction costs
- Travel, entertainment, and other similar expenses
- Allocations of general overhead expenses
- Any expenditures incurred before the "Effective date", the date representing the last date of execution of the Grant Agreement by the respective Parties
- Any expenses for equipment and materials that Applicant does not use for the Project during the Project period
- Fees related to Conferences not associated with the Project

Application Sections



Submission Process

Application, Review, and Approval Process



Submission Timeline

Action	Date
Application launch	June 5, 2023 – 9AM
Application closes	July 14, 2023 – 5PM
Final Documentation re-submission deadline	August 4, 2023
Presentations by Applicants	August 28, 2023 – September 18, 2023
Tax Clearance and Bonus Documentation Due	October 6 th
Scoring by CSIT/EDA	October 7 th , 2023 – October 13, 2023
Award announcements	4 th Quarter 2023
Grant Term	12 months from execution of grant agreement (3 month no cost extension is allowed upon request at the discretion of CSIT)

Eligibility Criteria

Who can participate?

- ✓ Authorized and in good standing to conduct business in NJ, as evidenced by a current NJ Tax Clearance Certificate (listing Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology)
- ✓ Have a minimum of one (1) full-time worker (35 – hour work week). A worker may be the founder can be counted as a worker, and a worker may be paid or unpaid.
- ✓ 50% or more of the cumulative hours worked by all workers, founders, and contractors must be conducted in NJ (as calculated on an FTE basis of 35 hours per week).
- ✓ Have no more than 25 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers at time of application
- ✓ Less than \$2,000,000 in previous calendar year sales revenue (excluding grant revenue)
- ✓ Cannot own or control more than 1% stock of the applicant and be an employee or officer of any agency of the state

Required documentation

What should I submit?

- Proof of Concept
- Budget and Milestone Document
- Employee Information
- Summary of most recent Internal Payroll
- Most recent Company tax filing
- NJ Tax Clearance Certificate (CSIT)
- Minority/Woman/ Veteran Owned Business NJ Certification (if applicable)
- Signed Application Certification
- Complete CSIT Legal Debarment Questionnaire
- Completed Non-Involvement in Russia/Belarus Certification (Only required for Food/Agri)
- For companies with a dba "doing business as", CSIT requires proof of NJ registration reflecting the same.

Scoring criteria

How will my application be scored?

All applicants must achieve a minimum score of 70 in the following criteria to be eligible for a grant.

- Innovation (up to 30 points)
- Market opportunity (up to 10 points)
- Implementation plan -budget and milestones (up to 20 points)
- Go-to-market strategy (up to 10 points)
- Economic and community impact (up to 10 points)
- Team (up to 20 points)

Bonus Points?

- Company is using technology initially developed at a NJ university, under an executed license agreement with such university (15 points)
- NJ certified women-owned business (10 points)
- NJ certified minority-owned business (10 points)
- NJ certified veteran – owned business (10 points)
- Primary place of business/research & development located within an opportunity zone eligible census tract or government restricted municipality (5 points)
- Has not previously received a CSIT grant or voucher (10 points)



Applicants must score a minimum of 70 points on the scoring criteria to be recommended for an award or assigned bonus points

Terms and Conditions - Compliance

Reporting

All grant awardees must report economic impact data to CSIT upon the completion of the project for an additional two years after project completion by submitting an “Economic Impact Questionnaire” provided by CSIT.

Commitment to NJ

Agree that employees and consultants will conduct at least 50% of work (calculated on an FTE basis) in New Jersey for a period of 2 years from the effective date of the Grant Agreement;

- Failure to comply may result in full re-payment of grant within sixty (60) days of relocation or as conditions state in the Grant Agreement)

Important Information: **Read NOF/FAQ**

Application Portal

Application Portal is open:

June 5th, 2023, at 9:00am EST through July 14th, 2023, at 5:00PM EST

CSIT Communication

Questions and inquiries accepted through the application deadline and should be submitted to csitcatalyst@njeda.gov or csitfoodagr@njeda.gov

All questions received and answers provided will be answered in the form of a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, which will be posted and continuously updated on CSIT's website

Electronic Signature

Applicants may provide an electronic Application Certification by uploading a signed PDF, however, if an applicant prefers not to provide an electronic signature, the applicant may follow the instructions on the NOF and online portal to provide a signature



Important Information (cont.)

Missing documentation

Applicants with missing documentation will receive an email notification from CSIT to submit or re-submit any missing or incomplete required documentation

Failure to provide missing documentation

Any application that does not include ALL the documents specified or contain documents that have not been completed will be considered incomplete and declined

How to Write a Winning Application



Be detailed and clear when describing your innovation project



Start early and review before you submit



Fully answer each question



Do not rush through the Budget and Milestone Document



SUBMIT application before 5:00pm

Program Timeline

June 5th

Informational Webinar

June 5th

Application Portal open at 9AM EST

July 14th

Application Portal closes at 5PM EST

August/
September

Virtual Presentations with CSIT Staff and SMEs

Awards are expected to be made by **Q4 2023**

Application portal open
Apply at: www.njeda.com/csit/

Questions/Inquiries?

csitcatalyst@njeda.gov

or

csitfoodagr@njeda.gov
