



**New Jersey Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology
The Maternal and Infant Health Research and Development
(R&D) Grant Program, Round 2**

Notice of Funding Availability

The New Jersey Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology (“CSIT”) will launch an online application for the Maternal and Infant Health Research and Development (R&D) Grant Program, Round 2 (“Program”) at **9am on Monday, June 17, 2024** at www.njeda.com/csit. Applications will be accepted through **Friday, July 26, 2024 at 5pm**.

The Program has a total budget of \$1,550,000 for 20 grant awards of up to \$75,000 each. This is a competitive grant program. No application, transaction, or termination fees will be collected by CSIT for this program. This program is funded from CSIT FY24 budget. Decisions on this grant award are expected to be made by 4th quarter of 2024.

Purpose and Funding

This grant opportunity is issued by the New Jersey Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology. The goal of the Program is to support innovation from researchers and entrepreneurs focused on developing technology, therapeutics, and other solutions to address maternal and infant health challenges in New Jersey. The grant will engage early-stage innovation-based companies in New Jersey and help to accelerate research and development of technologies, transforming new discoveries from research stage into commercially viable products and services. The grant funds will support the research and development of technologies, products and services that enhance the quality of care for and service delivery activities to women, infants, and healthcare agencies from prenatal care through the postpartum period.

Total funding this Program will be \$1,550,000 from the CSIT FY2024 Budget.

Program Overview

The Maternal and Infant Health R&D Grant Program is for companies conducting research and development or testing technologies related to maternal and infant health in the following target areas:

- Life Sciences – (e.g., therapeutic drug development, medical devices);
- Technology (e.g., digital and telehealth services and platform development, mental

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- health services); and
- Food and beverage (non-retail).

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis, with awards going to the twenty highest scoring applicants, provided each of those highest scoring applicants has met the minimum score of 70, until program funds are expended.

Each approved grant will be valid for a period of twelve months from the date of the execution of the grant agreement. **Any unused portion of the grant will be cancelled after the 12 months and must be returned to CSIT.** An extension for up to an additional 3 months may be permitted at the sole discretion of CSIT.

Eligibility

Each applicant to the Program must meet the following eligibility criteria at the time of application and during the entire review and approval period to be eligible for an award:

- Be authorized and in good standing to conduct business in NJ. Have a current valid NJ tax clearance certificate addressed to New Jersey Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology. All certificates listing another state agency will be rejected.
- Have no more than 50 full-time equivalent (“FTE”) workers (FTE is calculated on a 35-hour work week) at time of application.
- Have a minimum of one full-time worker (35 hours per week basis). A founder can be counted as a worker, and a worker may be paid or unpaid.
- Fifty percent 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 less than or equal to five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in prior calendar year sales revenue (excluding grant revenue).
- Applicants are limited to a single application. Multiple applications from the same company will not be accepted.
- Recipients of two or more active CSIT Seed and/or Demonstration Grants are ineligible for this Program.

Eligible and Ineligible Uses

The Maternal and Infant Health R&D Grant Program funding can be used to maintain project activities and cover general operating costs.

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

- Direct counseling and clinical services,
- Manufacturing of products for sale or commercial use,
- Real estate rental expenses,
- Patient clinical trial expenses,
- Construction costs.

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In addition, no more than 30% of the budget proposed for the applicant's project, in the aggregate, may be spent on IP patent prosecution and licensing-related expenses.

Project Modification

Any intended changes to project scope of work or budget must be **first** requested in writing to CSIT prior to modification of project by submitting the request to: csitmaternal@njcsit.gov.

Disbursement of funds

Funds will be dispersed on a milestone basis. Each milestone will have deliverables, which must be submitted and approved before receiving the funding for that specific milestone.

- First Milestone: Eighty percent (80%) of the grant will be disbursed upon execution of a grant agreement.
- Second Milestone: Final twenty percent (20%) of the grant will be disbursed upon submission of an approved Economic Impact Report and Final Project Completion Report (approximately 12 months after execution of grant agreement).

Application Process

All applications to the Program must include the following documentation:

- a. Completed online application. Applicants can only submit one application for this grant. Multiple applications from the same company will NOT be accepted. Recipients of two or more active CSIT Seed or Demonstration Grants are ineligible for this Program.
- b. Evidence that proof of concept has been achieved for the project. Submit **one or more** of the following:
 - Description of the proof-of-concept results
 - Published paper outlining results achieved
 - Successful completion of a federal SBIR/STTR grant or contract related to the project
 - Confirmation documentation from a university tech transfer office if the project relates to technology that has been developed at the same university
 - Detailed description of patent application for proposed technology
- c. Budget and Milestone Proposals (Excel template embedded within online application)
- d. Employee information as appropriate for applicable company structure and staffing -i.e., most recent NJ WR-30 (W2 employees) or 1099 (contractors), Shareholder Agreement or K- 1, or offer letters. Please note that if a Professional Employment Organization (PEO) is utilized, the

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applicant must submit confirmation of PEO-A form issued by the New Jersey Department of Labor (DOL). These confirmations are issued on an annual basis and are valid for a year. See

<https://www.nj.gov/labor/ea/employer-services/leasing-companies/> for additional information on PEOs.

- e. Summary of most recent Internal Payroll (Q4 2023 or Q1 2024) indicating each employee name and number of hours worked per week.
- f. Most recent Company tax filing; Federal 941 and either an NJ-CBT-100 (Schedule A), Form- 1065 or Form -1040 (Schedule C) or whichever is applicable to the organizational form of your business, showing the total Gross Receipts or Sales for the year.
- g. Current valid NJ tax clearance certificate listing CSIT as the agency, available at https://www16.state.nj.us/NJ_PREMIER_EBIZ/jsp/home.jsp. **DUE No Later Than August 16, 2024**, or application will be withdrawn. NJ certificates may not be immediately available; therefore, these should be applied for well before the **August 16, 2024** due date.
- h. If applicable, copy of New Jersey certification for **Woman, Minority, Veteran or LGBTQ+** owned business. Certification information available at <https://www.njportal.com/DOR/SBERegistry/Default/> **DUE No Later Than August 16, 2024**, or relevant bonus points will not be awarded.
- i. If applicable, a copy of **Executed University License Agreement** with University. **DUE No Later Than August 16, 2024**, or relevant bonus points will not be awarded.
- j. Completed Application Certification
- k. Completed CSIT Legal Debarment Questionnaire
- l. For companies with a dba name (“doing business as”), CSIT requires proof of NJ registration reflecting the same.

The following steps detail the application submission and review process:

- A document completeness review will be done as applications are received.
- An evaluation committee comprised of CSIT and New Jersey Economic Development Authority staff will review and assign a score to each application, after receiving qualitative input from Subject Matter Experts (“SMEs”).

At the sole discretion of CSIT, staff may ask for clarification of the information included in the application, including, but not limited to, narrative responses, supporting documentation, and attachments. Applicants will have 10 business days to provide missing or incomplete documents. Applicants should submit the missing documentation

electronically to csitmaternal@njcsit.gov with the email subject line “Maternal and Infant Health Program Round 2 - Missing Documentation Submission - [Company Name].”

Scoring

Applicants must achieve a **minimum score of 70 points (out of a total 100 points)** to be eligible for a grant. An evaluation committee comprised of CSIT and NJEDA staff will review and assign a score to each application, after receiving qualitative input from Subject Matter Experts . Scoring will be based on:

- Innovation (**up to 30 points**)
- Market Opportunity and Strategy (**up to 20 points**) (Referred to as “Go-to Market Strategy” and “Market Opportunity and Strategy” scoring criteria in prior rounds)
- Implementation plan - budget and milestones (**up to 20 points**)
- Economic and Broader impacts, such as social, health, education, housing, safety, infrastructure impacts (**up to 10 points**)
- Team (**up to 20 points**)

Applicants that achieve a **minimum score of 70 points** may also be eligible for the following **bonus points**:

- NJ certified women-owned business (**10 points**)
- NJ certified minority-owned business (**10 points**)
- NJ certified veteran-owned business (**10 points**)
- Company is using technology initially developed at a NJ university, under an executed license agreement with such university (**15 points**)
- Primary place of business/research & development located within an opportunity zone eligible census tract or government restricted municipality (Trenton, Paterson, Atlantic City) (**5 points**)

Has not previously received a CSIT grant or voucher (**10 points**)

Board Approval

The CSIT Program Committee will review scored applications and make funding recommendations to the CSIT Board for applications that receive a minimum score of 70 points. The CSIT Board will make the final decision on grant awards and declination on or about 4th quarter 2024.

Fees

No application, transaction, or termination fees will be collected by CSIT for this program.

Additional Requirements and Information

Applicants must be in good standing with both the New Jersey Department of Labor ("DOL") and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") to be eligible for a grant award.

For three years from the date of the grant agreement, workers and consultants for the company must conduct at least 50% of their work in a NJ location. Failure to comply will

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be a condition of default of the grant and may result in the full re-payment of the grant.

All grant awardees must provide an economic impact report to CSIT upon the completion of the project (up to 12 months) and then yearly for an additional two years (due on February 1st in subsequent years).

All grant awardees are encouraged to commit to participate in one check-in meeting (in-person or virtual) six months from the start of Project term with the CSIT team for update on project.

Confidentiality

Applications received will be reviewed only by staff of CSIT, NJEDA and SMEs. All applications submitted will be subject to requests for disclosure, including but not limited to, requests pursuant to the Open Public Records Act ("OPRA") N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. If an applicant believes that information contained in its proposal merits confidential treatment pursuant to OPRA, any such purportedly confidential information submitted to CSIT must be specifically identified and marked as "confidential" by the applicant.

Contact Information

All questions concerning this Notice of Funding Availability must be directed to CSIT by email to csitmaternal@njcsit.gov. All answers will be posted publicly in the form of a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document which will be posted on the CSIT website prior to the application deadline.

Website: <https://www.njeda.gov/csit>.

Email: csitmaternal@njcsit.gov