Innovation Office Hours

September 23, 2026

NJEDA Innovation Team

NJEDA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

NJ EDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The NJEDA grows the state's economy and increases equitable access to opportunity by supporting high-quality **job creation**, catalyzing **investment**, and fostering vibrant, inclusive **community development**.

The NJEDA has financing and incentive tools to help startups ***grow*!**







NJ Innovation Fellows

NJ Innovation Fellows – *Income Replacement & Mentorship*

2-year income replacement grants of up to $400k and mentorship to pre-formation business concepts.

- Teams of at least 3 full-time NJ-based entrepreneurs
- Half of team must be first-time entrepreneurs
- All grant recipients must have paid gross-income tax to NJ at time of application or within 60 days leading up to application
- ***NJIF Cohort III applications open: September 9 – December 4, 2026***

https://www.njeda.gov/new-jersey-innovation-fellows-program/

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Commission on Science, Innovation & Technology

CSIT Catalyst & Clean Tech R&D Voucher – *R&D Support*

Up to $40k to help offset the cost of using R&D resources, including equipment and data. Reviewed on a rolling basis.

- < 50 employees, 50% of employees work in NJ
- 1 Full-time employee (35 Hours)
- < $5 million in prior year revenue (excluding grants)
- In good standing to do business in NJ (Tax Clearance)
- Less than 3 prior voucher awards

New Jersey CSIT Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology

https://www.njcsit.gov/

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SBIR/STTR Resources – *Help to Secure Federal Funding*

Support for entrepreneurs pursing Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) funding.

- New Jersey Small Business Development Center (NJSBDC)
  - Expert consulting and support from the Tech Team
  - Learn more
- Institute for Life Science Entrepreneurship at Kean University
  - SBIR grant writing assistance
  - Learn more



Angel Investor Tax Credit

Angel Investor Tax Credit Program – *Investor Incentive*

Refundable tax credit for investors in qualifying NJ-based startups.
Up to 35% (+5% for W&MOBs) of the investment.

- At least 75% FTE based in NJ
- Investors (VCs, Corp Dev, F&F, Owners with <80% equity) can be from anywhere
- Investment must be a non-refundable transfer of cash
- Fully submitted application within 6 months of closing investment
- $500k max tax credit per qualified investment

www.njeda.gov/angeltaxcredit/

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NJ Founders & Funders

NJ Founders & Funders – *Warm Intros to Investors*

NJEDA facilitates warm introductions between companies and investors via semiannual events. Companies pitch via 10-minute 1-1 meetings.

- Every entrepreneur gets 1 opportunity to attend while raising for their current company
- Free to attend
- ***Register to reserve your spot at upcoming events!***

www.njeda.gov/founders-and-funders/

TRANSLATE

NJ EDA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

ABOUT US | PUBLIC INFORMATION | FINANCING AND INCENTIVES | STRATEGIC INDUSTRY SUPPORT | REAL ESTATE | CAREERS

NJ FOUNDERS & FUNDERS

INVESTMENT INSIGHTS
NEW JERSEY
FOUNDERS & FUNDERS
FOR NJ INNOVATORS

NJ Founders & Funders is organized by the NJEDA to facilitate warm introductions between innovative emerging New Jersey companies and sophisticated angel & institutional investors. Our mission is to help grow the innovation ecosystem. Hosted twice per year, venture capital investors are invited to meet with a pre-determined group of companies for 10-minute, one-on-one sessions to discuss strategy, business models and funding opportunities.



F&F REGISTRATION SPRING 2026 >

QUICK PITCH TIPS & TRICKS FOR 'NJ FOUNDERS & FUNDERS'

ANGEL VC INVESTMENTS >

QUESTIONS

For questions regarding NJ Founders and Funders , please contact **NJFoundersFunders@njeda.gov**

www.njeda.gov/founders-and-funders/

NJ EDA





NJEDA's Strategic Innovation Centers (SICs)

Strategic Innovation Centers



New Jersey Innovation Institute

NJ Fast

NJ AI Hub

EdgeWorks

Helix | Portal Innovations

NJ CORIELL BioMedical

NJ MedTech Innovation

NeoVation Collaborative - MIHIA

Nokia Innovation Center

Atlantic County NJ Aerospace

HAX

NJ HAX Plasma Forge

Information and High Technology

Life Science

Advanced Manufacturing /Innovative Industries

Engage with NJEDA's Strategic Innovation Centers (SICs)!

New Jersey Fintech Accelerator At Stevens Institute Of Technology
NJFAST
POWERED BY PLUGANDPLAY

- Apply to the accelerator
- Learn more

NJ AI HUB

- Attend hub events
- Rent working space
- Apply to the accelerator
- **Learn more**

HAX

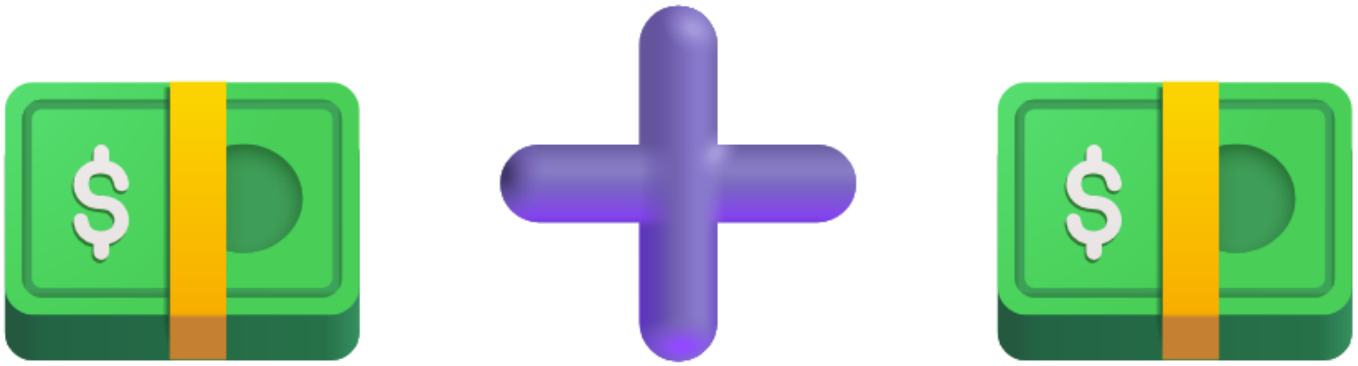
- Apply to the accelerator
- Attend a demo day
- Learn more

HELIX
Health & Life Science Exchange

Portal Innovations

- Rent office & lab space
- Learn more about Portal membership

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Angel Match Program

Angel Match Program – *Venture Debt*

NJEDA matches up to $1M in aggregate against at least 1 incoming investor.
Terms: 10-year convertible note, 3% interest, repayment starts at year 8.

- At least $100k in 12-month trailing revenue (including grants)
- At least 2 full-time founders/C-suite executives working in NJ
- At least 50% of FTE working in NJ
- Working space in NJ
- Raising a preferred equity round (no SAFEs)

www.njeda.gov/AngelMatch/

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NJ Innovation Evergreen Fund

NJ Innovation Evergreen Fund – *Venture Capital Co-Investment*

Private-public co-investment platform. 1:1 matching equity co-investment of up to $12.5M alongside our Qualified Venture Partners.

- Raising funds from institutional VCs in priced-based rounds (no SAFEs)
- At least 50% US FTE based in NJ during lifetime of NJEDA's investment
- Working space in NJ
- Firms can become QVFs at the same time co-investment happens

www.njeda.gov/evergreen/

37 Qualified Venture Firms (QVFs) & Growing!



www.njeda.gov/evergreen/

NJ EDA

Over $31M & Counting Invested in NJ Scaleup Companies!



www.njeda.gov/evergreen/

NJ EDA

The NJEDA has financing and incentive tools to help startups ***grow***! And they are ***stackable***!



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The tools are stackable!

Wall Township's SunRay Scientific used...



- **CSIT grants** of **~$364k** to support R&D
- **Angel Tax Credit Program** to incentivize **~$3.2M** in private investment
- **NJ Manufacturing Voucher Program** to receive **~$341k** for equipment
- **Small Business Lease Grant** to reduce their lease payments

Before applying, be certain you have the proper certifications!

Certifications:

- NJ Business Registration Certificate
- NJ Tax Clearance Certificate
- NJ Women & Minority Business Certificate (if eligible)

Need assistance navigating state agencies? Contact NJ Business Action Center

- Don Newman, donald.newman@sos.nj.gov
- Marielle Wolf, marielle.wolf@sos.nj.gov

Thank you for joining!

Questions?

Let's connect!



@NewJerseyEDA

WWW.NJEDA.GOV

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