



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

### **Notice of Funding Availability**

The New Jersey Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology (CSIT) expects to launch an online application for The Maternal and Infant Health Research and Development (R&D) Grant Program at 9:00 am on July 1, 2022 at <https://www.njeda.com/maternal-and-infant-health-grant/>. The application will be open through August 26, 2022 at 5pm. The Maternal and Infant Health R&D Grant Program has a total budget of \$750,000 for grant awards of up to \$75,000 each. This is a competitive grant. No fees will be charged for this program. Decisions on this grant award are expected to be made by the CSIT Board by January 2023.

### **Purpose**

The goal of the Maternal and Infant Health R&D Grant 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.

Prenatal care is the health care a woman gets *during pregnancy*. Early and regular prenatal visits with a health care provider are important for the health of both the mother and the fetus. Prenatal care can help prevent complications and inform women about important steps they can take to protect their infant and ensure a healthy pregnancy. With regular prenatal care women can:

- Reduce the risk of pregnancy complications.
- Reduce the fetus's and infant's risk for complications.
- Help ensure the medications women take are safe.

The postpartum period, also known as the fourth trimester, refers to the time after delivery when maternal physiologic changes related to pregnancy return to the *nonpregnant state*. In addition to

physiologic changes and medical issues that may arise during this period, health care providers emphasize the psychological needs of the postpartum mother.

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

## **Overview**

The Maternal and Infant Health R&D Grant Program has a total budget of \$750,000 for grant awards. Eligible applicants will receive awards of up to \$75,000.

The objectives of the program are to:

- i. Support innovation from researchers and entrepreneurs focused on developing technology, therapeutics, and other solutions to address maternal and infant health challenges from prenatal to 12 months postpartum.
- ii. 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 that impact maternal and infant health.

## **Program Details**

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis, with awards going to the highest scoring applicants provided the minimum score is met. All materials must be submitted after July 1, 2022 at 9 am and before the grant application deadline on August 26, 2022 at 5:00pm.

Each approved grant will be valid for a period of 12 months (starting from date of the execution of the grant agreement). Any unused approved grant amounts will be cancelled after the 12-month period and returned to the program budget for future use.

## **Eligibility**

To be eligible for the Maternal and Infant Health R&D Grant Program, the applicant must meet the following eligibility criteria at the time of submission and throughout the application review period:

- Be authorized and in good standing to conduct business in New Jersey as evidenced by a current New Jersey tax clearance certificate (listing New Jersey Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology). All certificates listing another state agency will be rejected.
- Have no more than 25 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers (FTE calculated on a 35-hour work week) at time of application.
- Have a minimum of one full-time worker (FTE calculated on a 35-hour work week). A founder can be counted as a worker; 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 New Jersey (as calculated on an FTE basis of 35 hours per week).
- Have less than or equal to \$1,000,000 in 2021 calendar year sales revenue.

Scoring Criteria – the applicant must achieve a minimum score of 10 in the following criteria to be eligible for a grant.

- Innovation (up to 5 points),
- Implementation plan - budget and milestones (up to 5 points),
- Community engagement and impact (up to 5 points),
- Go-to-market strategy (up to 5 points),
- Team (up to 5 points).

Bonus Points – Bonus points will be awarded to applicants that achieve the minimum score and are also:

- New Jersey Certified women-owned business (2 points),
- New Jersey Certified minority-owned business (2 points),
- New Jersey Certified veteran-owned business (2 points),
- Primary place of business/R&D located within an opportunity zone eligible census tract or primary place of business/R&D located within Trenton, Paterson, or Atlantic City (2 points).

## **Eligible 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.

### **Grant Amounts**

Eligible applicants can receive grant awards of up to \$75,000.

### **Application Process**

The application will open at 9:00 am on July 1, 2022 at <https://www.njeda.com/maternal-and-infant-health-grant/> and close on August 26 at 5:00pm. All applications to the Maternal and Infant Health Program **must** include the following documentation:

- a) Completed online application.
- b) To evidence that proof of concept has been achieved for the project. Submit **one** of the following:
  - Description of the proof-of-concept results,
  - Published paper outlining results achieved,
  - Detailed description of patent application for proposed technology,
  - 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 a university.
- c) Employee information as appropriate for applicable company structure and staffing (i.e., most recent New Jersey 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 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.
- d) Summary of most recent Internal Payroll (Q4 2020 or Q1 2021) indicating each employee name and number of hours worked per week.

- e) Most recent company tax filing: Federal 941 and either an NJ-CBT-100 (Schedule A), Form-1065 or Form -1040 (Schedule C), as applicable,- showing the total gross receipts or sales for the year.
- f) Current New Jersey tax clearance certificate (listing New Jersey Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology). See [https://www16.state.nj.us/NJ\\_PREMIER\\_EBIZ/jsp/home.jsp](https://www16.state.nj.us/NJ_PREMIER_EBIZ/jsp/home.jsp). All certificates listing another state agency will be rejected.
- g) If applicable, copy of Women and/or Minority owned business certification <https://www.njportal.com/DOR/SBERegistry/Default/>.
- h) If applicable, copy of Veteran-owned, Minority-owned, or Women-owned business certification.
- i) Completed Application Certifications.
- j) Completed CSIT Legal Debarment Questionnaire.
- k) Completed Non-Involvement in Russia/Belarus Certification.

The following steps detail the application submission process:

- Applications will be open for a limited timeframe.
- A document completeness review will be done on a rolling basis as applications are received.
- Applicants with missing documentation will be notified and given 10 business days to submit missing documents.
- After the missing documentation deadline, only complete applications will be evaluated and scored.
- An evaluation committee will review and assign a score to each application, after receiving qualitative input from Subject Matter Experts (SMEs). As part of the process, all complete applicants will be invited to make a brief presentation about their project to CSIT staff and SMEs.
- In order to be eligible for funding, an applicant must receive a minimum of 10 of the available 25 points on the standard scoring criteria before allocation of bonus points.
- If more applications are received than available funding, priority will be given to applications that score the highest against the scoring criteria.

### **Board Approval**

The CSIT Board will make final decision on grant award winners.

### **Fees**

No fees will be collected by CSIT for this program.

## **Additional Information**

### **Other Terms & Conditions**

For two years from the date of the grant agreement, workers and consultants who continue working on the project must conduct 50 percent of their work in a New Jersey location. Failure to comply will trigger a requirement that the applicant make full re-payment of the grant award.

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

All grant awardees are asked to commit to participate in one in-person interim site visits from the CSIT/EDA team for update on project.

All grant awardees are asked to commit to participate in future CSIT/NJEDA alumni activities, such as serving as a panel member or participating in interviews about program experience.

### **Confidentiality**

Applications received will be reviewed only by staff of CSIT, NJEDA, and participating universities/colleges, federal labs, and non-profit organizations. 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 the applicant believes that information contained in its proposal merits confidential treatment pursuant to OPRA, any such purportedly confidential information submitted must be specifically identified and marked by the applicant as such.