



### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Advanced Industry Infrastructure Funding program is to provide support to projects that develop the business infrastructure necessary to grow Colorado's Advanced Industries. The Advanced Industries include aerospace, advanced manufacturing, bioscience, electronics, energy, infrastructure engineering, and technology and information. The Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade will administer the program with support of Colorado Advanced Industry trade associations and the state's Economic Development Commission.

### **Program Description**

Advanced Industry Infrastructure Funding Grants provide state funding to collaborative projects that will have a broad industry-wide impact across one or more of Colorado's Advanced Industries. The range of possible projects is broad, but each project should have a well defined scope and objectives. Examples *may* include projects that provide workforce training, shared working space or equipment, or mentorship for Colorado companies.

### **Eligibility**

In order to be eligible for funding projects must meet the following requirements:

- Significantly impact one or more of Colorado's Advanced Industries
- Demonstrate the collaboration of multiple industry partners
- Demonstrate the availability of necessary matching funds. Matching fund requirements are \$2:\$1 (non-state funding : state funding).

Projects meeting the eligibility requirements will be eligible for up to \$500,000 in grant funding. The minimum size of grant awarded will be \$50,000.

### **Preferences**

Projects that align with one or more of the opportunities and purposes identified below will be given preference during the application review process.

- Have significant impacts on multiple Advanced Industries
- Originate from a nonprofit research institution
- Focus on applied R&D, technology acceleration, or production/manufacturing facilities
- Focus on workforce development
- Address the specific opportunities identified by Colorado's Advanced Industry Assessment Report (see attached list of opportunities)
- Directly assist with state recruitment or retention efforts
- Demonstrate ability to deploy funding and demonstrate significant impacts within a 12 month time frame

### **Application Process**

- Online grant applications can be accessed at: <http://choosecolorado.com/doing-business/incentives-financing/advanced-industries/>
- Submission deadlines will be in the Fall and Spring.

**For more information please contact [Katie.woslager@state.co.us](mailto:Katie.woslager@state.co.us)**

## **Additional Application Guidance**

### *Project Types*

1. Projects should address a specific gap in the Advanced Industry ecosystem that is well documented. For example, the development of a new workforce training program should provide evidence that the provided skill set or certification provided is in high demand by Colorado's Advanced Industry companies.
2. Proposals should not include requests for the funding of existing programming or operational costs.
3. Any funding requests for new programs should be focused on the initial capital costs necessary for program development. Additionally, these requests should identify sources beyond this grant that will meet the current and future operational costs associated with the proposed program.

### *Matching Funds*

1. While complete matching funds are not required at the time of application or award, all grant payments will be conditional upon the documentation and expense of the correlating required matching funds. Additionally, applications with well documented funding sources will be reviewed more favorably.
2. If an application does not have matching funds available at the time of the application, a detailed strategy for acquiring these matching funds over the course of the grant period should be in place. This strategy should be outlined in the application.

### *Reviewers*

1. All applications will be reviewed by both OEDIT and an external set of industry stakeholders.
2. OEDIT staff will review the application to ensure eligibility and identify any major concerns, especially as they may relate to Colorado's Advanced Industry strategy.
3. An external panel of industry stakeholders including private and public industry stakeholders will review these applications for quality and make funding recommendations. These experts can be assumed to have a Master's level education or equivalent experience and be familiar with the Colorado Advanced Industry ecosystem.

### *Budget*

1. Each application should include a detailed budget outlining all anticipated project expenses.
2. When listing expected personnel and equipment expenses, be as detailed as possible. Categorical labels such as "manufacturing equipment" and "management personnel" do not provide detail adequate for a thorough review.
3. Project budgets should not include the salaries of personnel or equipment vital to the continued success of an organization absent the proposed new resource or programming.