



For Immediate Release
March 29, 2017

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Ohio Advancing Technology and Startups

Third Frontier Helping Grow Innovative Companies and Products

Today the Ohio Third Frontier Commission approved \$10 million to help innovators create new products, advance technology and build new startup businesses.

“By supporting entrepreneurs and their innovative products, we are building the companies of tomorrow,” said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency and chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission. “These startup businesses are creating jobs and transforming Ohio’s economy.”

Entrepreneurial Services Provider Program Awards

The Ohio Third Frontier **Entrepreneurial Services Provider (ESP) Program** provides resources around the state to help entrepreneurs get their ideas to the marketplace. The following resources are available to help Ohio’s startup and early stage technology companies:

- Mentorship by seasoned entrepreneurs and industry professionals
- Access to investors and capital
- Business support including legal, tax and accounting services
- Assistance developing intellectual property and marketing/sales strategies
- Recruiting talent
- Incubators providing state-of-the-art workspaces
- Accelerators guiding entrepreneur teams through a business “boot camp”

The following partners were awarded grants to provide these resources to Ohio’s entrepreneurs:

ProMedica Innovations, located in the city of Toledo (Lucas County) was awarded \$4,375,000.

The Entrepreneurs Center, Inc., located in the city of Dayton (Montgomery County), was awarded \$2,900,000.

Commercial Acceleration Award

The Ohio Third Frontier **Commercial Acceleration Loan Fund (CALF)** helps Ohio companies build products and processes where they may otherwise have difficulty securing funding because of the risk associated with developing technologies.

Centerline Biomedical, Inc., located in the city of Cleveland (Cuyahoga County), was awarded a \$1,260,000 loan to commercialize its surgical navigation technology, making procedures better, safer, and more cost-effective.

Technology Validation and Start-Up Awards

The Ohio Third Frontier **Technology Validation and Start-up Fund** (TVSF) provides grants to Ohio institutions of higher education and other nonprofit research institutions. The funding is to demonstrate that a technology is commercially viable through activities such as testing and prototyping. The ultimate goal is to license the technologies to companies.

University of Toledo, located in the city of Toledo (Lucas County), was awarded two \$50,000 grants to further develop: a device that can help stroke victims suffering from difficulty swallowing, and a compound to improve the treatment of bone defects.

Ohio institutions of higher education and other nonprofit research institutions may also receive larger grants that will be dispersed among projects that help move technologies from the lab to the marketplace.

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, located in the city of Cincinnati (Hamilton County), was awarded \$500,000 to grow its Innovation Fund.

Cleveland State University, located in the city of Cleveland (Cuyahoga County), and **Kent State University**, located in the city of Kent (Portage County) were jointly awarded \$400,000 to form the TeCK Fund.

Companies aiming to license institution-owned technologies can also receive funding to accelerate commercialization through activities such as market research and further prototyping. This helps companies either raise funds or get the licensed technology to the marketplace faster.

GhostWave Inc., located in the city of Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$100,000 to develop a prototype of a sensor to reduce interference and make blind spot detection systems in vehicles more effective.

OncoSolutions LLC, located in the city of Akron (Summit County), was awarded \$150,000 to scale up a robotic system to better evaluate the effectiveness of possible anti-cancer drugs.

RegenFix, LLC, located in the city of Toledo (Lucas County), was awarded \$150,000 to test custom devices to assist in the healing of damaged bones. The devices are built with nitinol instead of titanium, providing a bone-like stiffness and allowing them to be built through 3D printing.

ZeoVation, Inc., located in the city of Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$100,000 to optimize the production of a particle that can be added to sunscreen to make it more stable, less toxic, and provide better UV protection.

Sign up for [TechOhio](#) to learn how Ohio Third Frontier is helping grow Ohio's technology economy. It tells the stories of Ohio's entrepreneurs, sharing the breakthrough technologies, cutting-edge research and innovative companies being developed across the state. And follow TechOhio on Facebook and Twitter @TechOhioGov.

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