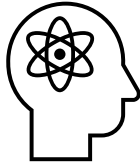


Unleash Innovation, Energize Research, and Secure Your Future with IRFP!



The New Jersey Innovation and Research Fellowship Program (IRFP) can help your company dive into groundbreaking projects and shape the world of tomorrow.

The IRFP is now accepting applications, and your journey to transform ideas into reality begins today.



PURPOSE

- Supports technological research and innovation in New Jersey.
- Encourages Ph.D. graduates to work with NJ science and tech companies.
- Grant primarily used for Fellow's salary, with possible equipment/conference expenses.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

(Fiscal Year 2024)

- Estimated \$1,000,000 from the Workforce Development Partnership Fund.
- Grant period may cover 24 months, contingent on funding availability.

FUNDING DETAILS

- First-Year Fellowship: Up to \$65,000 quarterly for Fellow's salary.
- Second Year: Based on approval, NJDOL contributes up to \$50,000, company must add \$25,000.

NEXT STEPS



Review the Complete Notice of Grant Opportunity Here or Scan the QR Code

<https://bit.ly/3Fw0vw3>



More Detailed Information about the IRFP Grant

Employer Applicant Eligibility

To be eligible under the IRFP grant, an employer applicant shall satisfy the following criteria as of the application submission date:

- **Primary Business Focus:** The employer's primary business should involve the provision of a scientific process, product, or service. The employer applicant should own, have filed for, or have a license to use protected proprietary intellectual property related to their business.
- **Business Registration:** The employer must have a Business Certificate to do business in New Jersey.
- **Vendor Registration:** The employer should be listed as a registered vendor with NJ Treasury through NJSTART (<https://www.njstart.gov/bsol/>).
- **Business Structure:** The employer should be organized as a C Corporation (C Corp) or Limited Liability Company (LLC) with a business plan.
- **Not Home-Based:** The business should not operate as a home-based business.
- **Not an Educational Institution:** The applicant employer cannot be an educational institution.
- These eligibility criteria ensure that the employer is a bona fide business engaged in scientific or technological endeavors with a strong foundation in New Jersey and a commitment to innovation.

Please note that meeting these criteria is essential for employer applicants to be considered for the IRFP grant.

Recruiting Fellows

- **Define the Project:** Clearly define the research project and its objectives. Outline the skills, qualifications, and expertise needed from a fellow to contribute effectively.
- **Create a Compelling Job Description:** Develop a detailed job description that outlines the project's goals, responsibilities, and expectations. Highlight how the fellow's work will align with the company's commercialization goals and New Jersey's innovation ecosystem.
- **Network and Collaborate:** Leverage your professional networks and collaborate with academic institutions to identify potential fellows. Graduates from New Jersey educational institutions or residents should be given preference.
- **Leverage Online Platforms:** Utilize online job portals, academic job boards, and industry-specific websites to post your fellowship opportunity. Ensure that the job description clearly references the IRFP program.
- **Engage in On-Campus Recruitment:** Participate in career fairs, information sessions, and campus recruiting events at universities and research institutions. This can be an effective way to directly engage with potential fellows.
- **Application Review:** Carefully review applications from prospective fellows. Consider factors like their qualifications, research experience, and their ability to contribute to your project's goals.
- **Interview Process:** Conduct interviews with shortlisted candidates to assess their alignment with the project and company goals. Assess their skills, research background, and their enthusiasm for the project.
- **Mentorship Plan:** Clearly communicate the mentorship aspect of the fellowship and how the fellow will work with a mentor to achieve project objectives.
- **Offer Competitive Compensation:** Ensure that the compensation package is competitive and aligns with the grant's requirements. Clearly outline salary, benefits, and any additional support provided to the fellow.
- **Select the Fellow:** Once you've identified the most suitable candidate, extend the offer for the fellowship and ensure all details are discussed and agreed upon.
- **Onboarding:** Provide a comprehensive onboarding process for the fellow, including introductions to the mentor, team, and an orientation to the project and company.
- **Support and Monitoring:** Throughout the fellowship, provide support and mentorship to the fellow. Regularly monitor progress and ensure that the project stays on track to meet its goals.

Recruiting the right fellow is crucial to the success of the IRFP grant. A well-structured recruitment process ensures that the selected fellow can contribute effectively to the project and help the company achieve its commercialization goals.

Fellow Applicant Requirements

- **Academic Qualification:** The fellow must be prepared to receive a Ph.D. degree within 12 months or have received a Ph.D. degree within the past 12 months.
- **Good Standing:** The fellow must be in good standing with the conferring university.
- **Citizenship or Immigration Status:** The fellow must be a United States citizen, a legal permanent resident, or possess specific immigration documents, including a valid immigrant visa, a valid employment authorization document, and an I-485 application pending with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service.

Note: Please be aware that dates provided in this information may be subject to change. Any updates or modifications to the application deadlines will be posted on the NJDOL's official website.