



New Technology Innovation Grants Available

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Editors: Please use this release immediately to allow companies the maximum amount of time to prepare a proposal for the first application deadline, Nov. 15.

DURHAM, N.H. -- A new grant program to help businesses solve tough scientific or engineering problems was announced today by the New Hampshire Industrial Research Center (NHIRC) at the University of New Hampshire. The Granite State Technology Innovation Grant funds research partnerships between New Hampshire companies and academic institutions, with the goal of creating high-quality jobs through technology development and innovation.

Since 1992, the NHIRC has awarded more than \$4 million in matching funds from the state Department of Resources and Economic Development to a total of 103 companies. The NHIRC's original program, the Technical Assistance Grant, has been replaced by the Granite State Technology Innovation Grant program.

A Request for Proposals has been issued, with application deadlines of November 15, 2006, and March 15, 2007. The RFP encourages applications for projects in bioinformatics, computational tools, environmental technologies, geospatial analysis, information technology, materials science, medical technologies, nanotechnology, optics, precision engineering, robotics and sensors, but other disciplines also will be considered.

Awards range from \$20,000 to \$100,000 and require a 1:1 match of cash or in kind contributions from the company. Funds are distributed to the academic institution providing the research assistance, with preference given to New Hampshire colleges or universities. The NHIRC can assist companies in finding an academic expert to work on their project.

The NHIRC is based at the University of New Hampshire, in the Office of Research Partnerships and Commercialization. Learn more at www.nhirc.unh.edu/Factsheet.pdf. The Granite State Technology Innovation Grant RFP is available online at www.nhirc.unh.edu/RFP.pdf. For more information, contact Michelle Gregoire, UNH Office of Research Partnerships and Commercialization, (603) 862-0126.