



TECH HUBS PROGRAM LAUNCH FACT SHEET

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACROSS AMERICA



“Today represents a more secure economy, jobs, and a stronger future for our nation. America is delivering.”

PRESIDENT JOSEPH R. BIDEN
ON THE PASSAGE OF
THE CHIPS AND SCIENCE ACT

As part of President Biden’s Investing in America Agenda, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) is launching a transformational new program that will continue the Biden-Harris Administration’s work to strengthen U.S. supply chains, create good-paying jobs, and expand economic opportunity across America. The Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (Tech Hubs) Program will strengthen U.S. national and economic security by developing clusters of businesses, communities, colleges and universities, and workers focused on accelerating innovation and technology deployment throughout the country.

This new Program follows EDA’s successful implementation of the [Build Back Better Regional Challenge](#) and the [Good Jobs Challenge](#), and will continue EDA’s work to invest in American workers and place-based economic development.

Through these programs and investments, we’re making sure the supply chain for America begins in America. We’re bringing manufacturing and innovation back, creating good-paying jobs—many that don’t require a four-year degree—and revitalizing communities and small businesses so that no community is left out or left behind.

The Tech Hubs Program was authorized as part of the bipartisan CHIPS and Science Act, one of the critical drivers of President Biden’s work to invest in American manufacturing. In December 2022, President Biden signed the FY 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act into law, funding \$500 million for the Tech Hubs Program.



**Scan to learn
more about the
Tech Hubs
Program!**

UNDERSTANDING THE PROGRAM

The Tech Hubs Program seeks to strengthen U.S. economic and national security by ensuring the industries of the future—and their good jobs—start, grow, and remain in the United States. The Tech Hubs Program will make place-based investments in regions with the assets, resources, capacity, and potential to become globally competitive, within a reasonable period of time, in critical technologies and industries. EDA will run this competition with a focus on geographic diversity and equity.

Successful proposals will demonstrate a region’s capabilities in, and focus on, its primary technological strength, and its potential for Tech Hubs investments to enable the region to become the global leader in that critical technology area within a decade.

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HOW WILL APPLICANTS ENGAGE UNDERSERVED AND UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES AND POPULATIONS?

EDA's suite of programs serves the whole spectrum of U.S. economies and enables growth through both targeted, point-in-time investments that unlock immediate opportunities and strategic, long-term investments that seek to create self-sustaining regional growth.

The Tech Hubs Program aims to increase the diversity of the U.S. innovation economy. Economic research clearly shows increasing the diversity of inventors, students, researchers, funders, and founders increases the pace of innovation, which in turn supports good jobs, stronger supply chains, and new technologies, like clean technology. Throughout both phases of the Program, successful applicants will pursue specific, impactful diversity and inclusion strategies that accelerate innovation and growth and that increase the equity, accessibility, and diversity of the innovation economy, including through accessible, good jobs. EDA will also include a focus on geographic diversity, throughout the continuum of rural and urban areas.

Scan to learn more about the Tech Hubs Program!



HOW WILL FUNDING BE ALLOCATED?

The Program provides for two funding opportunities. The first phase of awards will designate promising Tech Hubs across America and provide strategy development awards to accelerate their development—applicants choose to apply for one or both of designation and a strategy development award. A second phase will provide significant strategy implementation awards to help Tech Hubs reach their full potential.

PHASE 1: Designating Tech Hubs

EDA expects to designate at least 20 Tech Hubs across the country and make a commensurate amount of strategy development awards utilizing approximately \$15 million of the \$500 million available. The Tech Hubs designation will be a widely-recognized indicator of a region's potential for rapid economic growth. The designated Tech Hubs will be invited to apply for Phase 2.

PHASE 2: Supporting Implementation

EDA expects to make at least 5 implementation awards with the remaining available funding to designated Tech Hubs. Contingent on future funding levels, EDA aims to invest in more Hubs to expand the Program's portfolio of technologies and places and may make follow-on investments in successful Hubs with opportunities for additional impact.

WHEN WILL YOU BE ABLE TO APPLY?

PHASE 1:

Early May 2023 with a 3-month application window

PHASE 2:

Announcement of designations and Phase 2 application window open by the end of Fall 2023

While EDA will consider a variety of factors, generally, successful applicants in Phase 1 will demonstrate they have resources, capability, coordination, and vision to become a Tech Hub grounded in their selected core technology area within the ten key technology focus areas set out in the Tech Hubs statute. Given the Program's goals, applicants in Phase 1 will primarily be measured on their articulation of the alignment of the region's existing assets, potential, and overall strategy with its opportunity to become the global leader in its technology area.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

For the Tech Hubs Program, only consortia are eligible, and each consortium has certain required and optional entity types.

EDA defines a Hub's geography as a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) or a similar area (including Micropolitan Statistical Areas (μSAs) or tightly interconnected combinations of MSAs and/or μSAs) with a concentration of assets, capital, R&D, labor market, and infrastructure strongly relevant to the Hub's selected core technology area, the Hub's identified market opportunity, and its potential to become globally competitive in that area within a decade. Applicants should identify their chosen geography as part of their application. Consortia may include assets or members outside the chosen geography—e.g., in nonmetro rural areas or partnerships with geographically distant but tightly mission-aligned organizations—that support the consortia's strategy and benefit the Hub.