Build to Scale

Funding organizations that help businesses move critical technologies from lab → market → scale

Administered through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), Build to Scale (B2S) is a national program investing in organizations that help innovators overcome barriers to commercialization, including testing, manufacturing, capital access, and first-customer adoption. Regions need stronger entrepreneurship ecosystems to help breakthrough technologies reach the market faster. B2S invests in the organizations building those ecosystems.

FY 2027 Build To Scale Funding Opportunity

On November 20, 2026, EDA announced $145 million in available funding to strengthen America's economic and technological leadership. Projects should support the commercialization of products in one or more Key Technology Focus Areas, including machine learning, semiconductors, quantum, robotics, biotechnology, cybersecurity, advanced energy, and advanced materials science. By accelerating domestic commercialization of these critical technologies and reducing reliance on foreign supply chains, B2S advances the Trump Administration's focus on ensuring that the tech industries of the future are anchored on American soil.

The FY27 competition represents a significant evolution of the program. Unlike previous iterations, B2S now requires applicants to align their projects with defined critical technology areas, supports larger and more ambitious projects, and places a stronger emphasis on clear, evidence-based commercialization strategies. Together, these changes will make the FY27 B2S investment portfolio sharper, targeted, and more impactful.

FUNDING PATHWAYS

EMERGING PATH:
UP TO $1M OVER 36 MONTHS

Build regional commercialization capacity by helping emerging innovation ecosystems leverage research, technology, and entrepreneurial assets.

GROWTH PATH:
UP TO $7M OVER 48 MONTHS

Expand regional commercialization capacity by helping established innovation ecosystems scale commercialization activity and attract additional private investment.

Applicants must provide 1:1 match and documentation from all entities providing any portion of the match.

COMPETITION TIMELINE

The deadline to apply for the B2S competition is Friday, February 26, 2027 at 4:59pm ET.
EDA anticipates making awards in Summer 2027.

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For additional information, visit www.eda.gov/BuildToScale or email oie@eda.gov.

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ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

- Cities, counties, states, other political subdivisions of states, and Indian tribes.
- An entity whose application is supported by a state or a political subdivision of a state and that is one of the following: a nonprofit organization, institution of higher education, public-private partnership, research park, federal lab, venture development organization, an economic development organization, or a consortium of the aforementioned.

The B2S funding opportunity is recommended for organizations that:

- Operate commercialization infrastructure (accelerators, incubators, labs, pilot facilities)
- Support startups and businesses in critical technologies with validated market demand
- Maintain strong ties to ecosystem stakeholders including industry, investors, supply chain players, and research institutions
- Have identified regional commercialization gaps and have a validated plan to address those gaps
- Deliver measurable results: startups supported, products in market, customers acquired, capital mobilized

The Build to Scale Program cannot fund startups or private companies, but it can support the ecosystems around them. See the NOFO for full eligibility requirements.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

COMMERCIALIZATION TOOLS

Specialized equipment, shared testbeds, prototyping resources, pilot lines, gap analyses

VENTURE SUPPORT

Accelerators, venture studios, intellectual property and regulatory help, technical support, go-to-market readiness

SUPPORT FOR SCALING

First customer pilots, supply chain readiness, manufacturing consultation

CAPITAL ECOSYSTEM BUILDING

Angel network formation, investor education, fund development (administrative costs only, no investment capital)

**See the NOFO for a full list of eligible activities and evaluation criteria*

LEARN MORE

Visit www.eda.gov/BuildToScale to access the Notice of Funding Opportunity, register for upcoming applicant webinars, and read the FAQs. Help EDA spread the word! Share this opportunity with organizations building commercialization capacity in critical technologies.