

# **Kentucky: Encouraging New Entrepreneurs**

Mahendra Jain mjain@kstc.com

www.kstc.com http://ksef.kstc.com

#### The National Academies:



Learning from Each Other: U.S. and European Perspectives on SB Innovation Programs March 19, 2015

## **Kentucky Programs for Entrepreneurs**

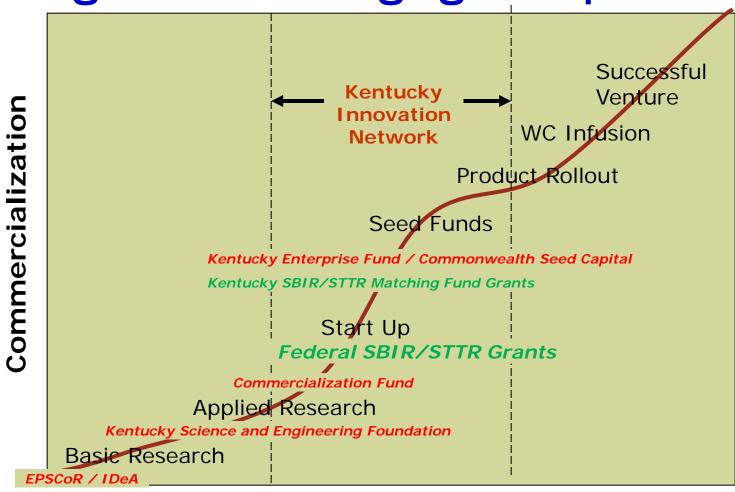
Kentucky Offers a Variety of Programs to develop entrepreneurial ecosystem for:

- New Venture Formation Innovation Driven
- Capitalization
- Business Assistance and Expansion
- Job Creation
- Talent Development





## **KY Programs Encouraging Entrepreneurs**



Education - GSE & Idea State U

Time





### **Programs Designed for ...**

### **Student Entrepreneurs**

High School and College / University

### **Entrepreneurial Innovators**

Researchers and Faculty at an University

### **Entrepreneurs**

Business





# Student Entrepreneurs





## Governor's School for Entrepreneurs

- Where Creative, Free-thinking Teens are Empowered to Share and Develop Their Ideas for Innovative Products and Services
- Develops High School Students as Entrepreneurs through a Summer Learning Program
- Provides Dynamic Opportunities to Learn About Entrepreneurship and Put Their Ideas into Action
- Summers of 2013, 2014, and 2015
- www.kentuckygse.com





### Idea State U

(Created and funded by KY Cabinet for Economic Development)

- Kentucky's Statewide Business Plan Competition
- Designed to Encourage Innovation and Entrepreneurship by Rewarding Student-Teams from Colleges and Universities
- Open to Both Graduate and Undergraduate Students
- Competition Emphasis on Business Concepts
- Business Plans, Table Top Displays, and Pitches Scored by Independent Judges
- Total Prize: \$100K (Plans, Concepts and Special Pool)
- <a href="https://www.ideastateu.com">www.ideastateu.com</a> (2014: 80 students, 26 teams)





# Entrepreneurial Innovators





# Kentucky Science and Engineering Foundation (KSEF)

#### **KSEF Goals**

- Proactively Fund Home-grown, Peer Reviewed Research Ideas that Lead to:
  - Capturing Innovations in Intellectual Property (IP)/Patents
  - Technologies with Commercial Potential
  - Training Students and Post-doctoral Fellows
  - Accelerating New R&D Collaborations
- Enhance the Capacity of Organizations and People to Successfully Compete at National and International Levels





# **Kentucky Commercialization Fund**

### **Program Goal**

- Help Universities in Commercializing Promising Technologies, from the Lab to the Marketplace, by Their Transfer to an Existing Business or the Creation of a New Start Up
  - Testing, Validation, and Scale-up of Technology
  - Market Opportunity Assessment
  - Technology Valuation
  - Commercialization Plan Development





# Entrepreneurs





## Kentucky SBIR/STTR Program

- Pre-application Assistance
  - One-on-one Consultation
  - Outreach SBIR/STTR Seminars
  - Workshops and Conferences: Regional / National
  - Phase Zero Grants (up to \$4,000)
  - Phase Double Zero Grants (up to \$4,000)
  - SBIR Connect Meetings: Louisville and Lexington
- Post-award Assistance
  - Kentucky SBIR/STTR Matching Grants
  - Review of Comments
- Entrepreneurial Leave: University of Louisville and University of Kentucky





# SBIR/STTR Phase Zero and Phase Double Zero Grant Program

### **Program Goal**

 Enable Small Businesses and Faculty Entrepreneurs to Prepare High-quality, Competitive SBIR/STTR Phase I and Phase II Proposals for Any of 11 Participating Federal Agencies

#### Award Size

- SBIR/STTR Phase Zero Grant up to \$4,000
- SBIR/STTR Phase Double Zero Grant up to \$4,000





# Kentucky SBIR/STTR Matching Funds Program

(Created and funded by KY Cabinet for Economic Development)

- Program Initiated and Funded by CED-00E Since 2006
- Provides Matching Funds for Both SBIR and STTR Grant Awards
- Phase I
  - Matches Up to 100% but Not to Exceed \$150,000 for Exploration of Technical Merit or Feasibility of an Idea or Technology

#### Phase II

 Matches Up to 100% but Not to Exceed \$500,000 Per Year for Two Years to Support Full-scale R&D and Business-related Tasks





# Kentucky SBIR/STTR Matching Funds

### **Program Goals**

- Augmentation of the Federal Grant Work
- Facilitate a Competitive Phase II Application
- Increase Federal Funds to the State (EPSCoR; IDeA)
- Enhance Tech Development for Commercialization
- Bridging the Gap between Phase I and Phase II
- Fill the Critical Funding Need to Retain Jobs and Continuity in Work and Business Development
- Enable Business to Protect Intellectual Property
- Facilitate Business Cluster Development





### **Kentucky Innovation Network**

(Created and funded by KY Cabinet for Economic Development)

### Provides Business Assistance through 13 Locations

- Business Development Consultation
- Business Model Consultation
- Validation and Market Assessment
- Assistance with Growth Strategy
- Access to Service Providers
- Access to Professional Networks
- Connections to Potential Suppliers / Business Partners
- Access to Funding Resources and Capital Networks
- Coaching throughout Fundraising Efforts





# **Kentucky Innovation Network**



## **Seed Capital**

- Kentucky Enterprise Fund (KEF), Kentucky New Energy Ventures Fund (KNEV), and Rural Innovation Fund (RIF)
  - Provides Seed-stage Capital to Kentucky-based Companies
  - Encourages Private Investments
- Commonwealth Seed Capital Fund (CSC)
  - Independent, Nonprofit Fund that makes Debt or Equity Investments in Early-stage Kentucky Business Entities
- VenCap
  - Venture Capital Funding to Kentucky Companies who have Attracted a Lead Investor
- Enterprise Angels, Louisville; Bluegrass Angels, Lexington, KY
- Vogt Invention and Innovation Award (\$250K)





### **Tax Credit Programs**

### Kentucky Small Business Credit Initiative

- Increases the Availability of Credit by Reducing the Risks Lenders Assume while Making Loans to Small Businesses
- Credit Enhancement Program Helps Lenders Finance Creditworthy
   Small Businesses that would Typically Fall Just Outside the Norms

### Kentucky Small Business Tax Credit

- Offers Nonrefundable Tax Credit to Businesses Hiring One or More Eligible Individuals and Investing at Least \$5K in Equipment or Tech.
- Eligibility Businesses Typically have 50 or Fewer FTEs

### Angel Investment Tax Credit

- Offers Tax Credits of up to 50% of an Investment in Kentucky Small Businesses
- Each Investment must Get Certified in Advance





### Incubators and Accelerators

- bioLOGIC Corporation, Covington, KY
- UpTech, Covington, KY
- Advanced Science and Technology Commercialization Center (ASTeCC), Lexington, KY
- Coldstream Research Campus, Lexington, KY
- MetaCyte Business Lab, Louisville, KY
- Nucleus, Louisville, KY
- i-Hub, Louisville, KY
- The Centre for Business and Research, Owensboro, KY
- WKU Small Business Accelerator, Bowling Green, KY





## **Supporting Mentoring Programs**

- Lexington Venture Club
- Lexington-Startup-Advantage
- Geeks Night Out, Lexington
- 5Across, Lexington
- Venture Connectors, Louisville
- SBIR Connect, Lexington / Louisville





## Kentucky SBIR/STTR: Status

(Created and funded by KY Cabinet for Economic Development)

- Program Impact:
  - \$50,582,222 in 208 grants to 103 SBCs
  - Jump in National Ranking: from 44<sup>th</sup> in FY02 to 26<sup>th</sup> in FY13
  - Job Creation: 500+ high tech
  - Intellectual Property: 138 Patents
  - Licensing Arrangements: 15
  - Several Awardees Already Selling the Products
  - Leveraged \$88, 764, 359 in Federal SBIR/STTR Grants
  - Private Capital Investment: \$10M+ (Two Companies Acquired)





# Kentucky's Entrepreneurial Activity Ranking

### Per 2011 Kauffman Entrepreneurial Index

Kentucky's Entrepreneurial Activity has Grown

- ✓ 5<sup>th</sup> Fastest Rate from 2001 to 2010
- ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> Fastest Rate between 2008 2010
- ✓ 8<sup>th</sup> Highest Rate among All States in 2011

### Per University of Nebraska-Lincoln Report

Kentucky Ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in 2013 State Entrepreneurship Index

- ✓ Based on Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the IRS Statistics of Income Bulletin, the U.S. Census Bureau, and the U.S. Statistical Abstract
- ✓ ND (2.72), CA (1.91), NY (1.79), **KY (1.78),** NH (1.71), CT...





# **Questions?**



