TECH HUBS
U.S. Economic Development Administration

Tech Hubs

GUIRR February 2024 Workshop Panel on *Encouraging Science Based Economic Development Through Regional Education Programs*

Program Overview - Vision

The Tech Hubs Program will **strengthen U.S. economic and national security** by investing in geographically diverse regions across the country with the potential to become globally competitive in the next decade to ensure the **technologies, industries, and jobs of the future start, grow, and remain in the United States.**

Program Overview: Phase 1 Award Types

Designation

- Strong endorsement of a region's plan to supercharge a critical technology ecosystem and become a global leader over the next decade.
- Unlocks opportunity to apply to Phase 2 implementation awards (~$40-70M per Hub).
- A suite of growing benefits offered by Departments and Agencies across the U.S. Government.

Strategy Development Grant (SDG)

- Planning grants (~$400 - $500k) enabling consortia to increase local coordination and further develop technology-based economic development strategy.
- Allows Strategy Development Consortia to receive individual feedback from EDA and prepare for potential future rounds of Tech Hubs Designation (if additional funding is appropriated).

Select Benefits of Designation

- **Follow-on Funding**
  - Tech Hubs Designees can apply directly for future Tech Hubs implementation funding.
  - Tech Hubs Designees will be given preference for the Build to Scale program.
- **Branding and Technical Assistance**
  - Tech Hubs Designees will be invited to a Community of Practice to engage with other Designees around the country.
- **Foreign Direct Investment**
  - Tech Hubs Designees will have a dedicated presence at the SelectUSA Investment Summit Exhibition Hall in June 2024.
- **Intellectual Property Guidance**
  - The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will identify a Tech Hubs Ambassador and highlight Tech Hubs Designees at regional USPTO events.
- **Export Assistance**
  - U.S. Export Assistance Centers will pilot select Tech Hubs Trade Specialists to serve as export assistance navigators and offer a global resilience stress test for each Tech Hubs Designee.

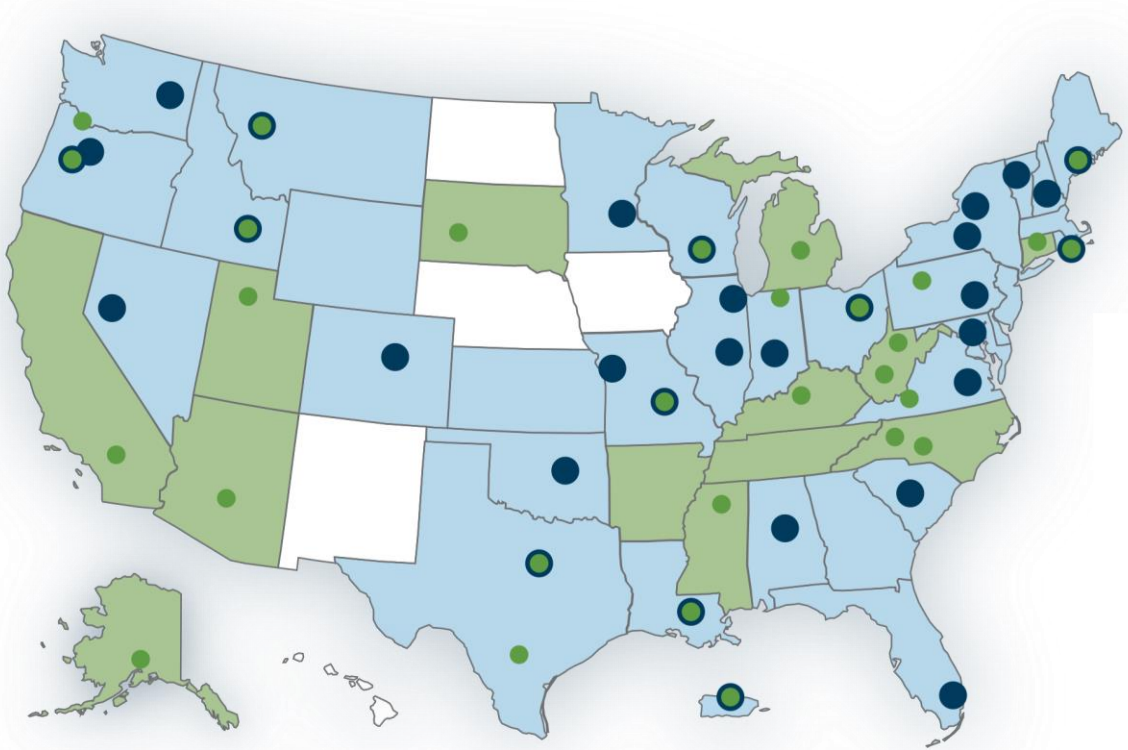
See the full list of benefits on TechHubs.gov

Program Overview: Application Volume

In Phase 1, EDA received 379 total Tech Hubs applications from 247 unique lead consortia members in 49 states and 4 territories.

	Award Size	Demand
Phase 1: Designation	**31** Designated Hubs	**198** applications
Phase 1: SDG	**29** recipients	**181** applications
Phase 2: Implementation	approx. **5-10** Hubs	**31** Designated Hubs will be eligible to apply

Competition Outcomes



President Biden announcing the inaugural Tech Hubs on October 23, 2023.

KEY

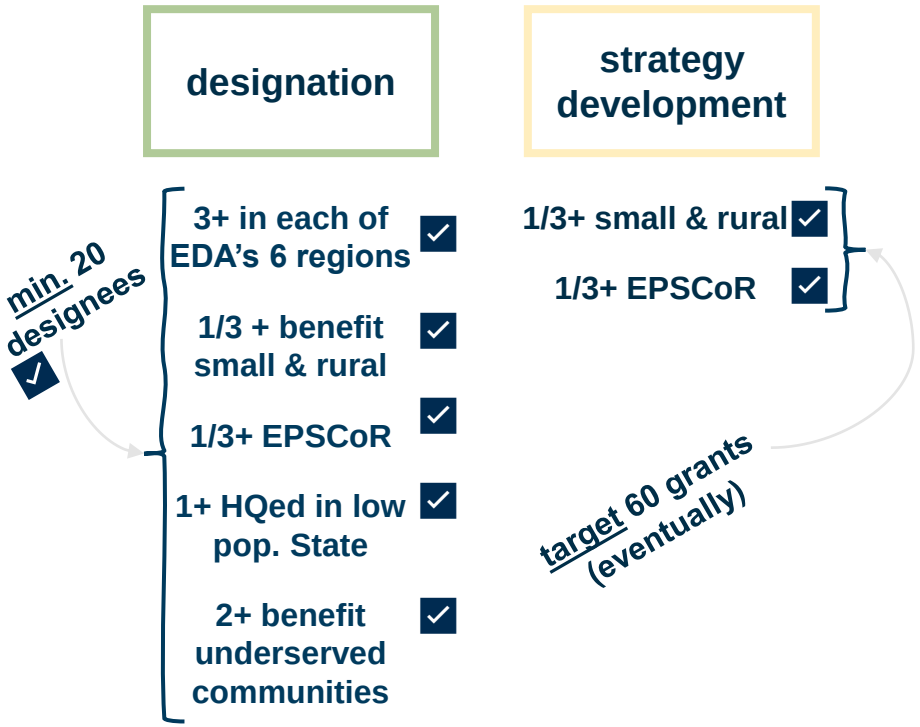
- Designee HQ
- SDG Recipient HQ
- Designee and SDG Recipient HQ
- Designee States Served
- States Served by Only SDG

The 31 Designated Tech Hubs

By the numbers:

- **31 Tech Hubs Designees** were selected from a competitive pool of almost **200 applicants for designation**
- **6** include a **tribal government**
- **22** significantly benefit **small and rural communities**
- **4** include **coal communities**
- **12** include strong participation from **labor organizations**

Statutory Distribution Requirements



Characteristic	Designation (31 Total)		Strat. Dev. Grant (29 Total)	
	#	%	#	%
Small & Rural[1]	22	71%	24	82%
EPSCoR[2]	14	45%	15	52%
Low-Pop HQ[3]	4	13%	n/a	n/a
Underserved[4]	24	77%	n/a	n/a

Green highlights denote where the portfolio meets or exceeds statutory minima.

[1] Significantly benefit a small and rural community (MSA, µSA, other county w/pop <250k)

[2] Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) state/territory is a consortium member

[3] Headquartered in a low population state (state w/o Urban Area >250k pop)

[4] Significantly benefit and engage underserved communities in/near metro areas

Statutory Distribution Requirements

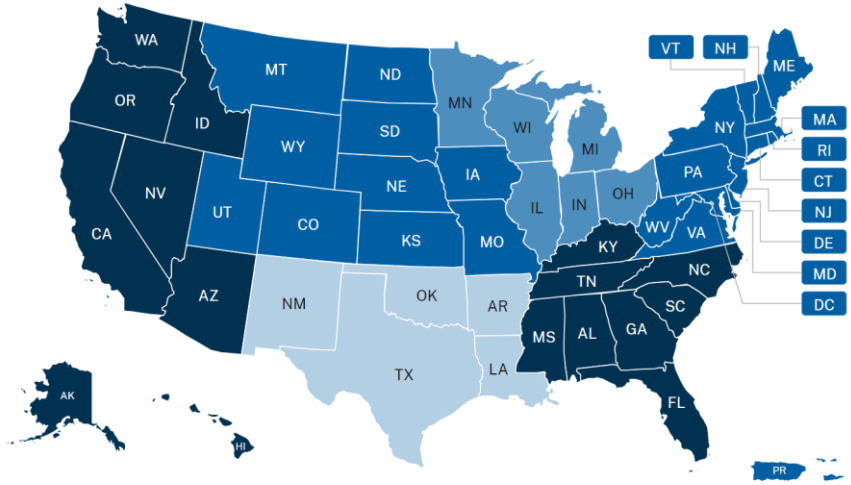
designation

3+ in each of EDA's 6 regions ✓

Regional Office	Designation (31 Total)	Strat. Dev. Grant (29 Total)
Atlanta	3	4
Austin	3	3
Chicago	6	4
Denver	4	4
Philadelphia	10	8
Seattle	5	6

Green highlights denote where the portfolio meets or exceeds statutory minima.

EDA's Six Regions



Designee Technology Portfolio

The Tech Hubs are focused on technologies and innovation critical to our economic and national security:

Enabling Safe and Effective Autonomous Systems (3 Hubs)

- **Headwaters Hub***—smart photonic sensor systems in Montana
- **Ocean Tech Hub***—ocean robotics, sensors, and materials in Rhode Island and Massachusetts
- **Trustworthy & Equitable Autonomous Systems Tech Hub**—secure autonomous systems in Oklahoma

Maintaining Our Quantum Edge (2 Hubs)

- **Elevate Quantum Colorado**—quantum information technology in Colorado
- **The Bloch Tech Hub**—quantum computing and communications in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin

***** Indicates Tech Hubs Designees that also received Strategy Development Grants

Designee Technology Portfolio

Advancing Biotechnology: Drugs and Devices (6 Hubs)

- **Advanced Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Tech Hub**—active pharmaceutical ingredient manufacturing in Virginia
- **ReGen Valley Tech Hub**—organ and tissue biofabrication in New Hampshire
- **iFAB Tech Hub**—precision fermentation and biomanufacturing in Illinois
- **KC BioHub**—vaccine-related biologics manufacturing in Missouri and Kansas
- **Heartland BioWorks**—biologics manufacturing in Indiana
- **PRBio Tech Hub***—biopharmaceutical and medical device manufacturing in Puerto Rico

Advancing Biotechnology: Precision and Prediction (5 Hubs)

- **Wisconsin Biohealth Tech Hub***—personalized medicine in Wisconsin
- **Baltimore Tech Hub**—predictive healthcare in Maryland
- **Birmingham Biotechnology Hub**—equitable AI-driven biotechnology in Alabama
- **Greater Philadelphia Region Precision Medicine Tech Hub**—end-to-end precision medicine in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey
- **Minnesota MedTech 3.0**—smart medical technologies in Minnesota and Wisconsin

***** Indicates Tech Hubs Designees that also received Strategy Development Grants

Designee Technology Portfolio

Accelerating Our Energy Transition (5 Hubs)

- **GLOW Propeller***—offshore wind and renewable energy in Louisiana
- **Intermountain-West Nuclear Energy Consortium***—small modular reactors and microreactors in Idaho and Wyoming
- **SC Nexus for Advanced Resilient Energy**—clean energy supply chain in South Carolina and Georgia
- **South Florida Climate Resilience Tech Hub**—sustainable and climate resilient infrastructure in Florida
- **New Energy New York Battery Tech Hub**—end-to-end battery development and manufacturing in New York

Strengthening Our Critical Minerals Supply Chain (2 Hubs)

- **Critical Minerals and Materials for Advanced Energy (CM2AE) Consortium***—critical mineral processing in Missouri
- **Nevada Lithium Batteries and Other EV Material Loop**—lithium batteries and electric vehicle materials in Nevada

* Indicates Tech Hubs Designees that also received Strategy Development Grants

Designee Technology Portfolio

Regaining Leadership in Semiconductor Manufacturing (4 Hubs)

- **Texoma Semiconductor Innovation Consortium***—fablet-based semiconductor manufacturing in Texas and Oklahoma
- **Corvallis Microfluidics Tech Hub***—microfluidics platforms in Oregon
- **Advancing GaN Tech Hub**—gallium nitride-based semiconductors in Vermont
- **NY SMART I-Corridor Tech Hub**—end-to-end semiconductor manufacturing in New York

Growing the Future of Materials Manufacturing (4 Hubs)

- **Sustainable Polymers Tech Hub***—sustainable plastics and rubbers in Ohio
- **Forest Bioproducts Advanced Manufacturing Tech Hub***—sustainable wood biomass polymers in Maine
- **American Aerospace Materials Manufacturing Tech Hub**—aerospace materials manufacturing in Washington and Idaho
- **PNW Mass Timber Tech Hub**—mass timber manufacturing and design in Washington and Oregon

***** Indicates Tech Hubs Designees that also received Strategy Development Grants

Features of the Most Competitive Applications

- **Technology-based potential of the region for global competitiveness**
  - Clearly-defined market opportunity, strategy to capture the market, and case for why region has a competitive advantage
  - Described how a Designation award would be additive to existing activity in the region (and, where applicable, other federal grant funding)
- **Impact on economic and national security of the entire United States**
  - Described how the consortium's success would create benefits outside the region and address our largest challenges
- **Role of the private sector**
  - Included employers and private sector capital in consortium or identified a strategy to build the necessary capital stack
  - Provided letters with specific commitments from employers in the core technology area

Features of the Most Competitive Applications

- **Composition & capacity of the regional workforce**
  - Described sufficient labor force dynamics and/or attraction strategy to meet the demands of the growing hub
- **Innovative "lab-to-market" approaches**
  - Identified specific and novel lab-to-market strategies
  - Noted a strategy to retain and attract inventors, researchers, engineers, and entrepreneurs
  - Described how university, federal, and private sector R&D will interact
- **Equity & diversity**
  - Included equity-based organizations or individuals in consortium leadership
  - Defined a strategy to serve and benefit diverse communities
- **Regional coordination & partnerships**
  - Provided evidence of past economic development regional coordination and outcomes
  - Described complete, multi-organization, cross-regional strategy (not centered on one entity)

Next Steps

- ***Designated Tech Hubs*** *are strategizing on their Phase 2 applications.*
- ***Strategy Development Consortia*** *are working with EDA to implement their grants.*
- ***The EDA team*** *is providing feedback and guidance to the Designated Tech Hubs ahead of the Phase 2 deadline and to the Strategy Development Consortia before the end of 2023.*
- ***Non-Awardees*** *can work with EDA Regional and HQ Offices to learn about other funding opportunities and continue to grow their strategy and consortium. Resources and tools on eda.gov and techhubs.gov.*

Get in Touch

If you have questions, reach out to the Tech Hubs Program Office at techhubs@eda.gov.

Visit the Tech Hubs website at http://techhubs.gov.

Sign up for the EDA newsletter.