

Guidelines, Funding and Eligibility

Eligible Technologies

1. The technology must have been developed primarily at UMass 2. Researchers must be employees of the University of Massachusetts.
3. The technology has to have been previously disclosed to the campus OTCV with an OTCV Invention Disclosure form.
4. Technologies from all disciplines will be considered.
5. The technology must have significant commercial potential.
6. The funding, intended for a duration of one year, must be meaningful for the success of this technology and make the technology more attractive for commercialization. Applications for a second OTCV Award for the same technology will not be considered, however, pursuing other sources of commercialization support for that technology is strongly encouraged.
7. Adequate funding from other sources is not readily available at the current technology development stage.
8. Technologies cannot already be commercialized or covered by a license or subject to an already licensed disclosure.

Criteria for Selection and Award Grant

Overall, the Fund will give a strong preference to projects that are designed to develop technologies with a significant commercial potential for which a grant will make them more attractive to license to an existing company or to the formation of a new company. Specifically:

- The technology must be novel.
- The technology should have reasonable probability of commercial success and financial return for the University.
- The technology must address a demonstrated market need.
- The technology must address a market of sufficient size that justifies further investment.
- The award will make a significant difference in demonstrating the commercial potential of the technology.

Applying for Awards

Applications for a Technology Development Fund award must contain the following information.

- A cover page with name of the principal investigator(s), department, campus address, email, and telephone number and title of the project. Also included shall be

the technology transfer officer assigned, and their contact information, followed by proposed start date of project, proposed project duration, budget, and a oneparagraph description of the technology. See [OTCV Proposal Template](#) for details.

- A description of the project eligibility, addressing each of the 8 points described in the Eligible Technologies section.
- A description of the technology including its novelty and advantages over existing technologies. This should be written clearly and readily understandable. While manuscripts, grants, patent applications etc. may be attached, the application should be complete in itself.
- A statement of work proposed for the project, and how this work will address a necessary milestone or stage gate.
- A description of the products and/or services envisioned.
- Any knowledge you may have regarding the existing state of the commercial market and potential licensing interest. (Your Campus OTCV can assist you on this aspect).
- Any knowledge you may have of the potential funding sources for the next stage (Your Campus OTCV can assist you on this aspect).
- Project Budget Summary: Include only direct project expenses – including all fringe benefits. It should not include overhead costs. Requests up to \$25,000 will be considered. Funded recipients may be required to develop a more detailed, mutually acceptable budget with OTCV staff before funding will commence.

Category	Cost
Fees (If graduate students are to be employed)	
External Advisors, Consultants and Services	
Supplies	
Equipment (Please note justification of new equipment to be purchased will be necessary)	
Other (including travel)	

Total

- Travel and/or Equipment Justification (if requested in budget summary)
- A brief bio of the principal investigator or a weblink to biographical information.

Incomplete applications will be returned to the investigator.

Full applications must be no more than one file, no longer than 7 pages – including appendices and figures/tables--and must be submitted to the Chief Research Officer and a representative of the Tech Transfer Office by January 4, 2023.

For questions please contact: Ramprasad

Balasubramanian, Rbalasubrama@umassd.edu and Catherine Ives, cives@umassd.edu.

Confidentiality

It is the policy of OTCV to keep your information confidential, but we cannot guarantee its security. Application materials are shared with a panel of independent reviewers and may be subject to public disclosure requirements in the future. Applicants should only submit publicly available and other non-confidential information about their technology in the proposal. Generally, technology can be described in broad terms that do not require submittal of proprietary information. Limited information on the actual technology or experimental data should be included in the proposal to allow reviewers to assess the maturity and validity of the technology. Discuss any concerns with your technology transfer office and work with them on the contents of the proposal.

Evaluation and Selection

The evaluation and selection of finalists and awardees will be made by the System Chancellor for Academic Programs and Senior Vice President for Economic Development, with assistance with advice and recommendations from qualified volunteers from outside the University (which in the past have included investors and entrepreneurs). Where appropriate, consultation may be used with other scientific and technical experts within or outside the University. As part of the evaluation process, finalists will be asked to make a short presentation to OTCV office directors and external reviewers. The decision of the System Chancellor is final and not subject to further review.