



Third Frontier

Innovation Creating Opportunity

Entrepreneurial Signature Program

The Ohio Third Frontier Entrepreneurial Signature Program (ESP) is significantly increasing technology-based entrepreneurial commercialization outcomes throughout Ohio. The program focuses on strategic technology-based sectors that offer exceptional economic development prospects for Ohio's six regions. Each ESP represents a comprehensive, coordinated network of high-value services and assistance providers that is visible and easily accessible to technology-based entrepreneurs and small tech-based companies throughout its region. Each ESP provides an approach that tightly integrates sources of deal flow, entrepreneurial support, and capital to effectively grow the technology-based entrepreneurial commercialization outcomes throughout its region.

The FY2012 program targets activities that have achieved measurable economic benefits for Ohio. The RFP offers support to the ESP lead applicant organizations and their collaborators to establish requirements for additional funding to continue successful and regionally-supported elements of their programs. They may also desire funding for new service activities to address an identified need within the region.

Specific goals of the FY2012 program are to provide regional entrepreneurial services with demonstrated value through the six ESP regional networks; maintain an entrepreneurial assistance climate that supports the creation, retention, and attraction of investable technology companies in Ohio; build a pipeline of technology company deal flow that increasingly attracts the resources of venture capital firms both within and outside of Ohio; and provide support and a network of universal assistance for technology companies within their geographic region.

Lead Applicants

Existing ESP Grantees: Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, Dayton Development Coalition, JumpStart, Inc., Ohio University, Rocket Ventures, LLC, TechColumbus

Funding/Cost Share

- Program funds of \$40 million are available from the Ohio Third Frontier to continue needed ESP services through FY2014.
- Cost share commitments are to be a minimum of 50 percent cash and must be at least \$1 per every \$1 of program funds requested.

Entrepreneurial Signature Program Organizations

- Northeast - JumpStart, Inc.
(216) 363-3400
www.jumpstartinc.org
- Northwest - Rocket Ventures, LLC
(419) 530-6230
www.rocketventures.org
- Central - TechColumbus
(614) 487-3700
www.techcolumbus.org
- West Central - Dayton Development Coalition
(937) 222-4422
www.daytonregion.com
- Southeast - TechGROWTH Ohio
(877) 476-9681
www.techgrowthohio.com
- Southwest - CincyTech
(513) 263-2720
www.cincytechusa.com

Program Website:

www.thirdfrontier.com/EntrepreneurialSignatureProgram.htm

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