



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Contact:** Lisa Colbert at (614) 466-6212  
[Lisa.Colbert@development.ohio.gov](mailto:Lisa.Colbert@development.ohio.gov)

## **Ohio Advancing Early-Stage Software Companies** *Third Frontier Investing in HR Tools and Healthcare Software*

Today the Ohio Third Frontier continued its commitment to supporting entrepreneurs and startup companies, building on the state's strong technology economy. The Advisory Board and Commission reviewed past projects and lasting technology infrastructure, with the Commission approving \$2.2 million to companies commercializing software solutions for the HR and healthcare industries.

"We are supporting the problem-solvers and businesses that are building a new Ohio," said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency and chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission. "Our investments are the foundation, creating new opportunities for Ohio technology companies that could save lives and change the way we work and live."

**Moving forward, the Ohio Third Frontier is focusing on technology entrepreneurs, startups and early-stage companies. This includes companies in the growing industries of medical technology and IT.**

- This evolution of innovation in Ohio maximizes the opportunity to create companies and jobs.
- These are the businesses producing the greatest return on taxpayer investment, and strongest economic development returns for Ohio.
- The Ohio Development Services Agency is working to identify and connect these technology companies with additional state resources to help them grow.

The **Commercial Acceleration Loan Fund** bridges the gap between an entrepreneur's need for capital and the traditional sources of financing primarily reserved for established businesses. The program supports companies showing potential to grow substantially in size and value over a relatively short period of time. It provides financing alternatives to help early-stage companies commercialize their products and get them to the marketplace.

**Blackbook HR, LLC**, located in the city of Cincinnati (Hamilton County), was awarded a \$1.2 million loan to commercialize its suite of software products, helping companies measure and manage employee engagement, flight risk and other key human resource metrics.

**Homeward Health, LLC**, located in the city of Toledo (Lucas County), was awarded a \$1 million loan to launch software to identify patients' risk of readmission, with the goal of reducing costs for the healthcare system.

Sign up for [TechOhio](#) to learn how Ohio Third Frontier is helping grow Ohio's technology economy. It tells the stories of Ohio's entrepreneurs, sharing the breakthrough technologies, cutting-edge research and innovative companies being developed across the state.

Office of Communications & Marketing • 77 South High Street • P.O. Box 1001 • Columbus, Ohio 43215 • U.S.A. • 614 | 466 2609  
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