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State Resources for Technological Innovation

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Technology and Innovation Division

- In 2025, the Legislature passed Chapter 133 (House Bill 20) to create the Technology and Innovation Division at the Economic Development Department (EDD). The division is responsible for supporting technology transfer and commercialization, identifying federal grant opportunities, developing a statewide technology and innovation strategic plan, and representing New Mexico at conferences and trade shows. The division will absorb the existing Office of Strategy, Science, and Technology (OSST) and Office of Entrepreneurship.
- The division will work with the Technology and Innovation Network Advisory Board, also created in Chapter 133, which is responsible for representing and engaging industry in the division's programs and initiatives.
- For FY26, the division's general fund operating budget is \$6.3 million, split between \$1.3 million for staffing and \$5 million in the other costs category to support the division's activities and grants. The agency submitted a budget adjustment request early in the fiscal year to move \$800 thousand from the other cost category into contractual services for its business assistance program, general costs to establish the new division, and technical assistance contracts. The division is expected to have 9 full-time staff members. EDD is currently hiring for the division.

State Programs, Grants, and Initiatives to Support Technology Innovation

- The state has a variety of programs and grants available to support technological innovation, mostly administered through the Technology and Innovation Division, formerly OSST.
- The division's grant programs focus on technologies in advanced computing, advanced energy, aerospace, bioscience, intelligent manufacturing, and water technologies. Available grants include the quantum technologies award pilot program, advanced energy award pilot program, science and technology business startup grant, and New Mexico small business innovation research (SBIR) matching grant. Funding for these programs comes

- from a variety of one-time appropriations and the agency’s operating budget. During the 2025 session, the Legislature appropriated \$8 million for the advanced energy award pilot program and \$4 million for the science and technology business startup grant program.
- The division will also be responsible for administering the Research, Development, and Deployment Fund Act, enacted in Chapter 133 (House Bill 20). The Legislature appropriated \$40 million to the fund with the intent of providing early-stage capital and financial support to emerging technologies, start-up businesses, and research initiatives. This fund complements the Higher Education Department’s existing technology enhancement fund, which funds research projects at higher education institutions.

One-Time Appropriations Related to Technology and Innovation Division 2025 Legislative Session	
Research, development & deployment fund	\$40,000
Talent recruitment in science & tech fields	\$10,800
Quantum venture studios	\$10,000
Quantum space	\$10,000
Advanced energy award pilot program	\$8,000
Innovation hubs	\$5,000
Incubators and venture studios	\$5,000
Science and technology business startup grants	\$4,000
Total	\$92,800

Source: LFC Files

Business Incubators

- In 2025, the Legislature appropriated \$15 million for operational support for entrepreneurship incubators, accelerators, and venture studios, including \$10 million for quantum venture studios. These organizations support startups and the broader entrepreneurial system. The agency is currently reviewing proposals for the quantum venture studio and physical space. EDD expects the contractor(s) to create or attract at least three quantum startups or supply chain firms and deploy at least \$4 million in private capital.

Awards to Date from \$3 Million Appropriation for Incubator Support

Program Name	Total Awarded
Clovis Enterprise Business Center	\$130,925
Enterprise Center at San Juan College	\$200,000
Taos Country Economic Development Center	\$99,876
WEST Enterprise Center	\$200,000
Santa Fe Business Incubator	\$200,000
Arrowhead Sprint Accelerator Programs	\$180,000
South Valley Economic Development Center	\$200,000
NewSpace New Mexico	\$100,000

Note: Appropriation from 2023 session. EDD has until FY26 to spend funds.

Source: LFC Files

- In 2023, the Legislature appropriated EDD with \$3 million in one-time funding to support the expansion and maintenance of business incubator programs from FY24 to FY26. As of July 2025, EDD has spent \$1.3 million on awards to certified facilities ranging from \$50 thousand to \$100 thousand.

Roadrunner Venture Studios

- Roadrunner Venture Studios was established in 2023 to develop and support technology-focused startups. The studio provides entrepreneurs with funding, operational support, and access to research to accelerate company formation. The studio’s focus areas include energy, advanced manufacturing and materials, and computing. The State Investment Council has committed up to \$50 million to Roadrunner Fund I. Roadrunner. In previous statements, Roadrunner Venture Studios has indicated the funds are utilized for the company’s operations and to help Roadrunners’ companies get access to capital earlier in the process.