



Spring Grant Programs Info Session

Physical Infrastructure &
Regional Node

April 3, 2024

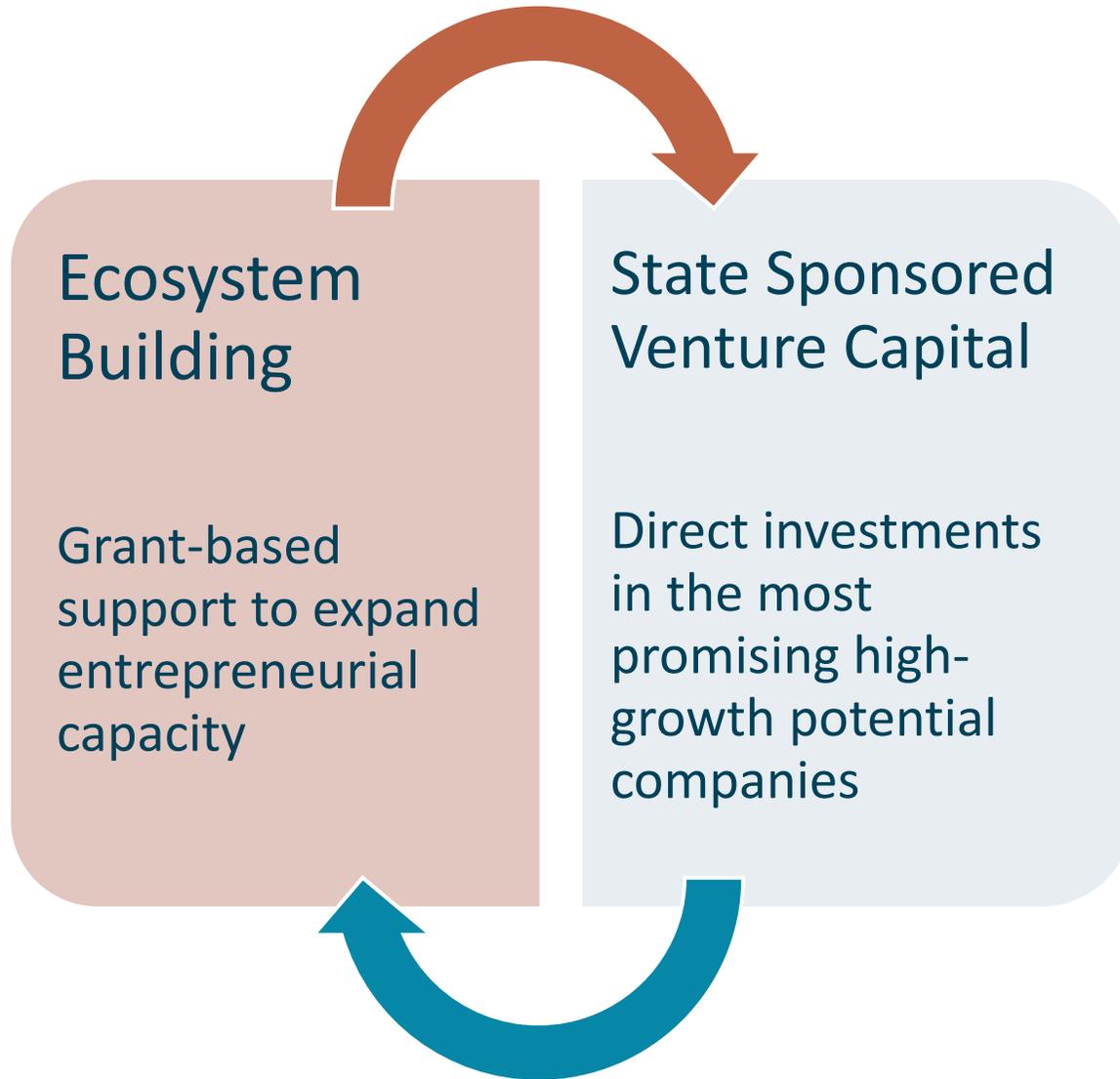




The Missouri Technology Corporation (MTC) is a public-private partnership created by the Missouri General Assembly to promote entrepreneurship and foster the growth of new and emerging high-tech companies

Our mission is to provide leadership and make strategic investments that help entrepreneurs create and grow technology-based Missouri businesses.





MTC plays a vital role in providing financial support for Missouri's entrepreneurs

Ecosystem Building activities create more "investable" companies, which strengthens MTC's Venture Capital portfolio, which generates financial returns that go back into funding Ecosystem Building activities.

MTC's Historic Financial Support

Ecosystem Building

- Since 2008, MTC has provided **nearly \$50 million** in grant-based financial support to over 60 non-profit and university organizations across the state. Specifically, MTC has awarded **over \$30 million** in grants to enhance the entrepreneurial capacity of the state, which has greatly benefited numerous organizations that have successfully served thousands of small businesses.
- Since 2011, MTC has provided **over \$27 million** in direct and grant-based financial support to regionally focused entrepreneurial projects including support of physical infrastructures to ensure entrepreneurs throughout the state have access to the physical resources required to launch and grow their businesses. This includes funding the state's **Innovation Centers** and more recently through the **Physical Infrastructure** and **Regional Node** grant programs.

State-Sponsored Venture Capital

- Since 2010, MTC has invested **nearly \$50 million** in more than 150 early-stage Missouri-based high-growth technology-focused companies. Since 2018, our portfolio companies have gone on to raise **over \$1.6 billion** in additional private capital.

Catalyzing Innovation Report & Implementation Plan

- TEconomy Partners developed a report based on their data-driven quantitative and qualitative analysis that recommends five bold and compelling strategies for the future.
- This report will help set the direction for policies, programs, and initiatives that foster and support the further growth of entrepreneurs and the advancement of innovation and technology across the State of Missouri.
- Outlines how MTC will either lead or support in the implementation of the strategies and actions recommended by TEconomy Partners in the Catalyzing Innovation Report.
- The Implementation Plan will be publicly available and updated annual for transparency and accountability.



[The Catalyzing Innovation Report and FY24 Implementation Plan can be found on MTC's website.](#)

TEconomy Partners recommends five strategies to support innovation and entrepreneurship in Missouri



Connect

Overcome physical and cultural barriers to better connect Missouri's communities with each other and with the world.



Inspire

Encourage more Missourians to participate in innovation and entrepreneurship.



Fund

Deploy greater levels of risk capital to help meet the demand of the growing entrepreneurial base across the state by increasing the supply of capital at all levels of the capital stack.



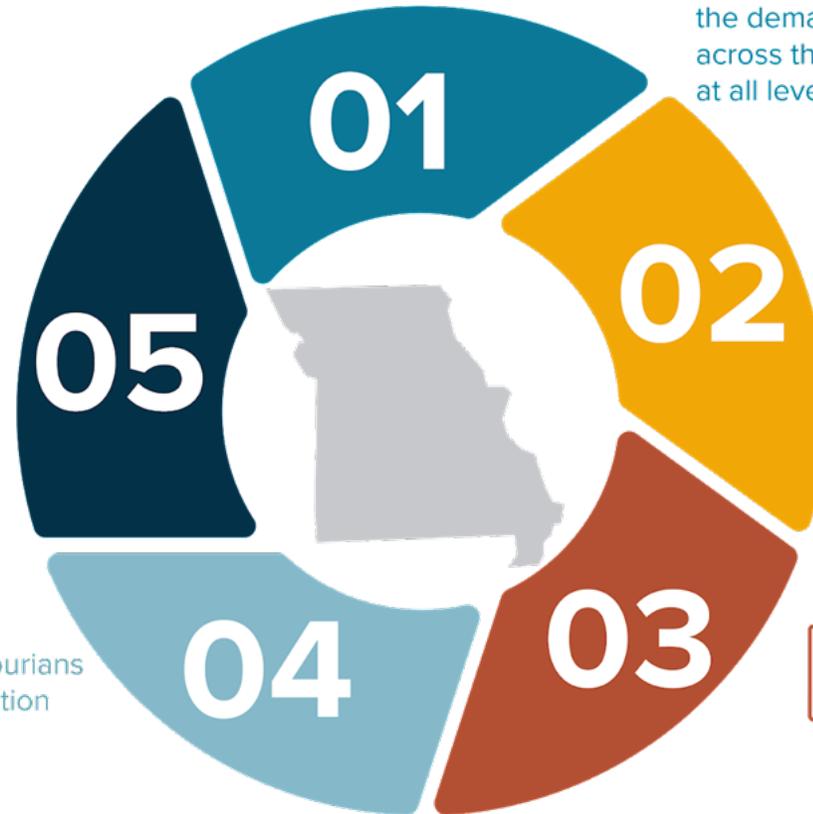
Grow and Scale

Increase access to quality entrepreneurial support services throughout the State of Missouri to ensure companies are able to grow and scale.



Launch

Take advantage of Missouri's research strengths by converting the state's intellectual assets into new jobs and businesses.



Strategy Two: Grow and Scale – Increase access to quality entrepreneurial support services throughout Missouri to ensure companies are able to grow and scale.

Action 5. Foster regional efforts to provide quality entrepreneurial support services to high-potential, high-growth, traded-sector startups.

In order to support Missouri's high-growth, traded-sector startups programs must be available to all growth-oriented entrepreneurs. Missouri's high-growth, traded-sector startups must be able to access the following entrepreneurial support service programs:

- **Physical Hub Program:** to support the physical places that serve as a region's entrepreneurial focal point.

To best assist high-potential and high-growth startups, Missouri should establish two avenues to support the delivery of quality entrepreneurial support services:

- **Regional Node Funds** are intended to incentivize more of Missouri's communities to successfully coalesce their assets to best support innovation and entrepreneurship through strategic, coordinated partnerships among entrepreneurial service organizations.

Physical Infrastructure Grant Program



Physical Infrastructure Grant Program

- Ensure entrepreneurs have access to the physical infrastructure and resources required to launch and grow their businesses.
- Seeks to achieve the following goals:
 - flexible and below-market-rate commercial office space in regions where entrepreneurs lack access to these resources;
 - specialized or sector-specific services, facilities, and other infrastructure that would otherwise be unavailable in an area/region; and
 - infrastructure that is broadly recognized as a center for entrepreneurship for the community/region, helping elevate the role of innovation and entrepreneurship in the economy.





Eligible Proposal Types

- Financial support of operating expenses, including but not limited to rent and utilities, professional services, and management and administrative salaries that are directly related to the operation of the physical infrastructure.
- Financial support for the renovation of space, tenant improvements, or enhanced amenities (high-speed internet, upgrading shared-use technologies, etc.).
- Financial support for the purchase or repair of shared-use equipment or resources.

Eligibility

- Public or private **non-profit** Missouri research institutions, including institutions of higher education.
- **Non-profit** entrepreneurial support or related organizations.

All Applicant Organizations must either own or actively manage the physical infrastructure that is the subject of the Physical Infrastructure Grant Program.



Program Terms

- Grant proposals can be submitted for up to three years of funding.
- The grant period commences on September 1, 2024, and terminates on August 31, 2025/2026/2027.
- All grant activities must be completed prior to August 31, 2025/2026/2027.

Additional Notes

- Requires matching funds.
- Physical Infrastructure Grant funding will be limited to the **lesser of**
 - (a) \$200,000 or
 - (b) 25% of the Applicant Organization's average annual operation expenses
- Applicant Organizations that actively manage more than one location may submit separate applications for each location.
- Operating expenses should be limited to the operating expenses of the physical infrastructure seeking funding.



Key Dates

Application Period Open – Wednesday, May 6, 2024

Final Submission Deadline – Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 11:59pm

Presentation to Investment Committee – Late June 2024

Award Notifications – Early August 2024



Regional Node Grant Program



Regional Node Grant Program

- Create regional “nodes” that coordinate partnerships among entrepreneurial service organizations and eliminate silos.
- A successful node will serve as a front door for the regional entrepreneurial community, allowing entrepreneurs to more easily access the resources they need to launch or grow their businesses.
- Partnerships formed through the regional nodes will spur economic development and growth in the region.
- Grant funding should be used to develop the node’s infrastructure and operations.





Eligibility

- Applicant Organization
 - Public or private **non-profit** Missouri research institutions, including institutions of higher education.
 - **Non-profit** entrepreneurial support or related organizations.
- Each grant proposal is required to include at least 3 partner organizations/node members.
 - Applicant Organization (fiscal agent)
 - Core/Primary Node Member (financial beneficiaries)
 - Node Participants/Affiliates (non-financial beneficiaries)

Budget Restrictions

Population Node Represents	Maximum Grant Award
200,000 or less	\$100,000
200,000 – 500,000	\$150,000
500,000 – 1,000,000	\$200,000
1,000,000 or more	\$250,000



Additional Notes

- Requires matching funds.
- Two-year grant program, commencing on September 1, 2024, and terminating on August 31, 2026.
- Is not intended to provide financial support for any of the node member organization's programmatic activities.
- Recipients of a Regional Node Grant are not required to have applied for or been awarded a Regional Node Planning Grant.
- Applicants that applied for funding under the Regional Node Planning Grant Program may submit an application with different partner organizations.



Key Dates

Application Period Open – Thursday, March 21, 2024

Final Submission Deadline – Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at 11:59pm

Presentation to Investment Committee – Late June 2024

Award Notifications – Early August 2024



Questions?

Evaluation Criteria

- Alignment with Goals and Objectives
- Applicant Grant Proposal
- Applicant Organization Experience
- Economic Impact
- Finance Plan
- Sustainability





Reporting

- If awarded funding, bi-annual reports are required.
- Forms providing structure for these reports will be provided once the grant is awarded.
- Annual economic development reporting will be required once annually for five years, beginning in the summer of 2025 (FY25 Annual Reporting).

How to Apply

- All forms are available on the MTC website on either the [Physical Infrastructure](#) or [Regional Node](#) Grant Program pages.
- To submit an online application, you need to have a Google account.

