

CSU STRATA Advanced Industries Proof of Concept Grants

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Advanced Industries Proof of Concept (AI POC) Program?

The AI POC Program is funded by the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) to advance innovations developed at Colorado research institutions in the advanced industries towards commercialization, leading to economic impact in the State of Colorado. These industries include: Aerospace, Advanced Manufacturing, Bioscience, Electronics, Energy and Natural Resources, Infrastructure Engineering, and Technology and Information.

In FY2024, \$782,000 has been allocated under the program specifically to fund POC projects in the Colorado State University System (CSU). This year, the maximum grant award is being set at \$120,000, plus matching funds. A 1:3 cash match is required. For more information on applying for CSU's allocated funding, please visit the CSU STRATA website: <https://csustrata.org/technology-transfer/startups/ai-poc-grant>.

Who administers the AI POC awards at CSU?

CSU STRATA, in collaboration with the Offices of Sponsored Programs.

Who is eligible to apply as the primary investigator for an AI POC award at CSU?

AI POC grant funding is available to any Colorado State University non-temporary, salaried, stated classified or general faculty employee. An applicant may not have more than one concurrently active AI POC award with timelines that overlap significantly. Please contact CSU STRATA with questions about specific cases.

What is the general application process?

- A Letter of Intent is required to begin the process. The Letter of Intent template is provided on the [CSU STRATA website](#). Letters of Intent are due by 4pm on September 8, 2023.
- Applicants who are invited to submit proposals to CSU STRATA based on their Letters of Intent will be emailed additional instructions for submitting their proposals; proposals are due by 4pm, October 23, 2023. **Due to a compressed timeline, no requests to extend the deadline will be granted.**
- Applicants whose full proposals are selected for funding by CSU STRATA following the October 23, 2023 submission will be notified and will need to complete the OEDIT full application in the OEDIT application portal by November 29, 2023 to receive funding.

Who do I contact with questions about the grant process?

All questions regarding AI POC grants at CSU should be directed to Sarah Belford via email, sarah.belford@colostate.edu.

What do you mean "1:3 cash match is required"?

- OEDIT has set up the AI POC Program with a 1:3 cash matching requirement. This means that \$1 of matching funding must be supplied by the applicant for every \$3 provided by the State.
- For example, applicants requesting the full \$120,000 from the State must provide a minimum of \$40,000 in matching funds, for a potential total project budget of \$160,000.
- CSU STRATA may provide a portion of the matching funds for a limited number of projects; however, applications that have matching funds identified will receive priority status in the review process.
- Matching funds must be in cash (not in-kind) and cannot be other State of Colorado funds or funds from existing sponsored projects. Other internal funds, funds provided by industry sponsors or

CSU STRATA Advanced Industries Proof of Concept Grants

Frequently Asked Questions

investors, and donor contributions can be used as match. Matches may come from multiple sources. Faculty effort is not allowed as a match.

- For a limited number of interested applicants that do not have a source of matching funds identified, CSU STRATA can help to set up a meeting with Wade Troxell, Associate Professor of Engineering at CSU and former Mayor of Fort Collins, who is with familiar local companies in the advanced industries and may be able to assist with identifying an industry partner. Please contact CSU STRATA to discuss this option.

Anticipated Timeline:

Date	Who is Required to Participate	Activity
9/8/2023	All potential applicants	Letter of Intent due by 4 pm MDT
9/20/2023	All potential applicants	Notice of request to submit proposal
10/23/2023	Final Applicants	Proposal due by 4 pm MDT
10/30/2023- 10/31/2023	Final Applicants	Applicant Pitches will be scheduled by CSU STRATA on these days
11/8/2023	Final Applicants	Notification of award
11/29/2023	Awardees	Full proposals due to OEDIT in OEDIT application portal