

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DECD Innovation Cluster

Economic Development Administration

02/26/2025

Funding request: The funding amount is up to \$100,000,000 and the length is five years.

Governor Ned Lamont and the DECD are making available up to \$100 million to support the growth of innovation clusters towards “the catalytic advancement of key economic sectors, including (but not limited to) biotechnology, financial services and technology, advanced manufacturing, renewable energy, insurance services and technology, software development, artificial intelligence, quantum technology and advanced computing,” as set forth in the DECD RFI for the grant program.

There are three finalists selected to submit full applications, one in the New Haven region (the Quantum & Bioscience Cluster) and one each in the Stamford and Hartford regions. DECD has selected the following partners as part of our region’s project team, QuantumCT, Yale University, UCONN, University of New Haven, Quinnipiac University, Cambridge Innovation Center, Ancora L&G, Winstanley Enterprises, Cure Rare Disease, BioCT and the City of New Haven.

As envisioned, the Quantum & Bioscience Cluster can be a globally competitive innovation district building on the state’s life science infrastructure, so as to solidify the State of Connecticut’s leadership in bioscience and foster growth in quantum technologies. The proposed cluster will focus on longstanding priorities by completing the New Haven Downtown Crossing project and by adhering to inclusive growth, connecting residents to opportunities in emerging job sectors. This will include investments in workforce and cultural equity as well as new public infrastructure of promenades, bike and pedestrian paths, and streetscape enhancements, aligned with other projects including Union Square and the State Street Redesign.

The Quantum & Bioscience Cluster grant writing team looks forward to discussing the new program at an upcoming committee hearing.