Ben Franklin
Technology PArtners
Southeastern Pennsylvania

FABNET FUND

2020-2021 APPLICATION

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Southeastern Pennsylvania sponsors FabNet, a partnership for rapid prototyping network, focused on transforming early-stage ideas and inventions based on or enabled by advanced manufacturing into prototypes of commercial products. The network aims to do this by reducing the time and expense of prototype construction through access to specialized facilities, instrumentation, equipment and expertise required for design, characterization, synthesis, simulation and fabrication of products.

Funding will be provided in the form of awards through a FabNet Partner facility identified by a PA company for work needed to move their technology towards commercialization. If the FabNet Partner facility resides outside Philadelphia's surrounding five-county territory, funding will be in the form of awards to the Applicant Company. Activities will focus on advanced manufacturing-based innovations using regional partners and experts of advanced instrumentation and capabilities.

Funding for this program is made possible by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority.

FABNET PARTNERS

1776 Front & back end development, mobile app design and development	Philadelphia Contact
AddLab @ University of Penn Additive manufacturing and fabrication	Philadelphia Contact
Archimedic Design, develop first-gen devices	Philadelphia Contact
Center for Functional Fabrics @ ExCITe Digital fabrication, advanced textiles	Philadelphia Contact
Creative Mechanisms Design, engineering and prototyping	Warminster Contact
EFE Laboratories Contract manufacturing, engineering	Horsham Contact
Fox Chase Chemical Diversity Center Biomedical development	Doylestown Contact
IMET Corporation Design, engineering, prototyping, manufacturing	Southampton Contact
Inteprod, Inc. Contract manufacturing, engineering	Eagleville Contact
MTS Ventures Design, prototype and testing	Allentown Contact
NextFab Studio, LLC Design, engineering and prototyping	Philadelphia Contact
ONExia, Inc. Machine automation, motion control, robotics, precision positioning	Exton Contact
Richman Chemical Custom synthesis, toll manufacturing, raw material sourcing	Lower Gwynedd Contact
Singh Center for Nanotechnology Quattrone nanofrabrication, nanoscale characterization	Philadelphia Contact
Singularis Solutions Mechanical system design, analysis, product development	Philadelphia Contact
Uncommon Individual Foundation 3D printing, video production	Devon Contact

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Funding Period:	July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021
Submission Deadline:	Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and will be reviewed upon receipt.
Eligibility:	Applicant Companies must be legal entities with an IRS Employer Identification Number (EIN) registered in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and be located in, or be willing to relocate to, Southeastern Pennsylvania.
Size of Award:	Up to $5,000 per project
Match Requirement:	A minimum of 1:1 cash match by the project company is required.
Sponsorship:	When the Company (FabNet Awardee) raises a minimum of $200,000 in follow-on funding, the Company agrees to charitably donate $5,000, as a recognized Program Sponsor, to the Ben Franklin FabNet Program for use in providing support to new FabNet awardees.
Budgeting:	100% of the funds will go to the designated FabNet facility to be used exclusively for Company expenditures.
Submission Format:	Online/Email
Email PDF Application Materials to:	**Kate Srinivasan**, Program Administrator kate@sep.benfranklin.org and **Mark Trabbold**, Director, Business Development mtrabbold@sep.benfranklin.org

Selection Criteria: Projects must demonstrate the progression of a technology towards commercialization. They must also show why a specialized FabNet facility is needed.

Repeat Awards: Companies who have been awarded through the FabNet Fund may reapply for funding up to one time (a maximum of two awards) for the same project. The second application for follow-on funding must be executed and work completed through an alternate FabNet facility.

Who Should Apply: Companies who wish to utilize prototyping and design facilities and services to advance a current technology or to build a prototype of a new product idea.

For Information Contact:

Mark Trabbold, Director of Business Development
mtrabbold@sep.benfranklin.org
215-972-6700 ext. 3010

Kate Srinivasan, Program Administrator
kate@sep.benfranklin.org
215-972-6700 ext. 3226

NOTE—Ben Franklin maintains the confidentiality of applications. The Ben Franklin staff sign internal non-disclosure agreements annually. Applications should include enough information for reviewers to make informed decisions on the merits of the proposed work. All proprietary information should be clearly marked.

AWARD PROCEDURES

Funding Agreement

If approved, Ben Franklin will provide an executed copy of the application to all participating organizations. At that time, work may begin. Award funds can only be applied as of the date of award notification and must be completed within six months of award date.

Funds will be distributed to the designated FabNet Partner facility to be used exclusively for company expenditures at that facility. Funding is only applied to the work product of a FabNet Partner facility. Funds may not be used to cover salary, rent or other overhead expenses.

If the facility is not located within the five-county Southeastern PA territory (Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties), a separate contract will be executed between the Applicant Company and Ben Franklin. FabNet funds will be provided directly to the Applicant Company for payment to the FabNet Partner after project is completed.

Sponsorship

If, within five years after execution of this Agreement, the Company (FabNet Awardee) raises a minimum of $200,000 in follow-on funding, the Company agrees to charitably donate a minimum of $5,000 to the Ben Franklin FabNet Program on an unrestricted basis in furtherance of Ben Franklin's public economic development mission. Funds will be earmarked for use in providing support to new FabNet awardees and the Company will be recognized as a Program Sponsor for the calendar year in which the charitable donation is provided. In the event that the Company does not raise a minimum of $200,000, such a charitable donation is welcome but not required.

Fund Disbursement Requirements

The Company (FabNet Awardee) is responsible for payment(s) required by the FabNet Partner facility to initiate and maintain the project. Ben Franklin funds (half the project costs, not to exceed $5,000) will be released upon completion of the project and receipt of:

1. Final Report – created by company or provider at project completion
2. Invoice to Ben Franklin – created by FabNet Partner for amount not to exceed $5,000
3. AR/AP report – created/signed off by FabNet Partner documenting payment from the Company that details project expenditures

All funds disbursed by Ben Franklin will be paid directly to the FabNet Partner facility unless the facility is not located within the five-county Southeastern PA territory.

Properly documented invoices are processed and funds are distributed to the FabNet Partner within 2-3 weeks.

Reporting Requirements

1. The FabNet Partner shall be responsible for compiling the Ben Franklin Annual Impact Survey on behalf of all funded project companies. The Impact Survey shall be compiled and delivered to Ben Franklin within thirty days of its receipt thereof, and in a form provided by Ben Franklin, for each of the five years following the expiration of the Project Period. The recipient companies are required to provide this data to the FabNet Partner for each of the five years following the expiration of the Project Period. This requirement does not apply for Partners outside the five-county territory, where responsibility for the Ben Franklin Annual Impact Survey will be provided by the Applicant Company.

2. A final project report must be produced by the funded project company and delivered to Ben Franklin within one month following project completion or by **June 30, 2021,** whichever is sooner. The final project report is a brief narrative description of the project objectives, project accomplishments relative to the milestones described in the application, and future project plans. A project report template is provided with this application. Please include with the narrative any interesting images showing either the beginning and/or ending product/prototype.

Project Tracking & Management

Ben Franklin will actively monitor the projects during the funding period. A Ben Franklin staff member will be available to the FabNet Partner and Applicant Company for advice and consultation. A project update may be requested and milestones reviewed. Each project timeline should be no longer than six months from the date of award notification. In the event a project must extend beyond a period of six months for any unforeseen reason, please notify Ben Franklin.

Your application must include the following items below. Templates have been included on the next pages for your convenience.

- Applicant Information Form (This form will be sent to you by email)
- Non-Confidential Executive Summary (1 page maximum)
- Technical Description (3 pages maximum)
- Commitment Letter from Applicant Company
- List of Deliverables Approved by FabNet Partner
- Project Budget & Timeline
- Agreement Signature Page (page 7)
- Company and Fabnet Partner Signatures (page 12)

Signature of Authorized Official at Applicant Company:

I have read and agree to the terms and award procedures as described above.

Signature:_____Date: _____

Type or Print Name and Title:

_____

NON-CONFIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE SUMARY TEMPLATE

Provide a one-page maximum, non-confidential Executive Summary of the project addressing the following:

1. Description of the proposed project. Clear describe how the technology qualifies as pertaining to advanced manufacturing. Include the Project Title, Company Name and Facility Name.

2. Description of the anticipated scientific, technological, and commercial impact of the project. The latter must provide the specific market need and opportunity for the technology and the specific commercial application(s). Include a description of the anticipated results of the project and next steps.

3. Description justifying the need for access to the specialized facilities of the FabNet Partner.

4. A brief budget justification explaining the expenses. The justification should clearly show how FabNet funds will be used to achieve project goals.

5. Impact in PA: If your business will provide impact in Pennsylvania, such as social, economic or environmental impact, briefly explain how it will be done, and how it will be measured.

Note—Award recipient-information provided in this Executive Summary may be used as needed by Ben Franklin and the FabNet Partner in public communications about programs and initiatives. FabNet applicant and partners acknowledge that information provided in the Executive Summary may be made available to the public at any time and by any method.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION TEMPLATE

Address each of the following. Use a maximum of three (3) pages.

1. Briefly state the goals and objectives of the proposed project.

2. Describe the technological application(s) that forms the basis of the project, including the commercial relevance and context of the proposed work, i.e. explain how this project will advance your business/product development toward commercialization.

3. Describe the specific work to be carried out. Provide an itemized list of the deliverables to be provided by the FabNet Partner facility.

4. Clearly specify the role of each partner facility, why access to the facility is required, specific resources of that facility to be utilized, and who will perform the work.

5. List the key personnel in the project. Summarize the relevant qualifications and experience of the project participants.

6. Include any literature references and/or Intellectual Property associated with this project.

COMMITIMENT LETTER FROM APPLICANT TEMPLATE

(On company letterhead)

Dear_____:

This letter represents a commitment by [Company] located at [company address] for the project entitled "_____". Technical discussions between [company representative] of [company name] and [partner facility representative] of [partner facility name] have (1) established the feasibility of the proposed project, (2) estimated the cost of the project, and (3) reached agreement regarding issues of intellectual property.

The Company represents that its principal place of business is located in Pennsylvania and will remain in Pennsylvania for the duration of the Funding Period. If any product is developed with the Funds and subsequently manufactured or produced, a significant portion will be manufactured or produced within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania during the first five years following project completion. In the event of a process improvement with the Funds, the Company will remain or maintain a significant presence in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for a minimum of five years after project end.

Sincerely,

Title

BUDGET & PROJECT TIMELINE TEMPLATE

A. Ben Franklin Request (Max. $5,000)	$ _____
B. Company Match (Min. 1:1 Cash)	$ _____
Total Project Cost (A+B)	$ _____

Provide a detailed outline your expected timeline and project milestones:

Disclaimer—The submission of the application shall not create any rights on behalf of the submitter, contractual or otherwise. The submission of an application does not constitute or create any legally binding or enforceable agreement or commitment on the part of Ben Franklin other than to maintain the confidentiality of application information identified as confidential. No past or future action, or course of conduct by Ben Franklin, will give rise to or serve as a basis for any legally enforceable duties or obligations on Ben Franklin other than to maintain the confidentiality of application information identified as confidential.

FINAL REPORT TEMPLATE

Company Name:

Partner Name:

Award Amount:

Date of Project Completion:

Has match requirement been met?

Are there outstanding invoices to partner?

I. Technical Progress

Summarize the technical progress of your project during the period of Ben Franklin support. Specify the milestones for the project and describe how targeted goals and objectives were met. Identify activities which may require further time or resources. Include photographs of new devices, equipment. Use up to two pages.

II. Commercialization

Provide information on commercialization activities related to the project. Identify the estimated date of commercialization. Provide any additional information that may be relevant to the commercialization of your product. Use up to two pages.

III. Other Assistance

Indicate areas in which your firm may need assistance in order to successfully commercialize your product. Please be specific. In particular, indicate if you intend to seek seed stage capital funding from the Ben Franklin Technology Partners or another source.

SIGNATURE PAGE

Signature of Authorized Official at Applicant Company:

Signature:_____Date:_____

Type or Print Name and Title:

_____

Signature of Authorized Official at FabNet Partner Facility:

Signature:_____Date:_____

Type or Print Name and Title:

_____

This Section for Ben Franklin Use Only:

Amount Approved: $_____

Ben Franklin Approval: _____Date:_____

RoseAnn B. Rosenthal, President & CEO