
15 U.S. Code § 3722

Regional innovation program

(a) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Eligible recipient

The term “eligible recipient” means—

- (A) a State;
- (B) an Indian tribe;
- (C) a city or other political subdivision of a State;
- (D) an entity that—
 - (i) is a nonprofit organization, an institution of higher education, a public-private partnership, a science or research park, a Federal laboratory, a venture development organization, or an economic development organization or similar entity that is focused primarily on improving science, technology, innovation, or entrepreneurship; and
 - (ii) has an application submitted under subsection (c)(4) that is supported by a State or a political subdivision of a State; or
- (E) a consortium of any of the entities described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

(2) Regional innovation initiative

The term “regional innovation initiative” means a geographically-bounded public or nonprofit activity or program to address issues in the local innovation systems in order to—

- (A) increase the success of innovation-driven industry;
- (B) strengthen the competitiveness of industry through new product innovation and new technology adoption;
- (C) improve the pace of market readiness and overall commercialization of innovative research;
- (D) enhance the overall innovation capacity and long-term resilience of the region;
- (E) leverage the region’s unique competitive strengths to stimulate innovation; and
- (F) increase the number of full-time equivalent employment opportunities within innovation-based business ventures in the geographic region.

(3) State

The term “State” means one of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or any other territory or possession of the United States.

(4) Venture development organization

The term “venture development organization” means a State or nonprofit organization that contributes to

regional or sector-based economic prosperity by providing services for the purposes of accelerating the commercialization of research.

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