

## New Funding Opportunities for Research and Innovation in the Life Sciences

### OVERVIEW

On December 12, 2016, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced \$650 million in new State funding to support the formation of a new life science cluster in New York through a combination of tax breaks, grants, and matching funds. The funding is intended to bring and retain top life sciences talent to New York at locations throughout the State, in order to accelerate future private sector development.

In addition, on December 13, 2016, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced LifeSci NYC, a \$500 million City funding initiative for life sciences research and innovation. LifeSci NYC support will also come in the form of a combination of tax breaks, grants and matching funds. The funding is primarily directed toward generating more modern and affordable lab space in New York City, with the intent to attract life sciences talent and jobs.

Both programs provide funding for up to 10 years. More information on the New York State initiative is available [here](#). Information on LifeSci NYC is available [here](#).

### NEW YORK STATE LIFE SCIENCES INITIATIVE

The as yet un-named State initiative includes the following lines of support:

- \$250 million in tax incentives for life sciences companies:
  - Existing businesses would be eligible for \$10 million annually in Excelsior tax credits.
  - New businesses would receive a 15 percent refundable tax cred on qualifying research and development expenditures, while small businesses would be eligible for a 20 percent credit.
  - Angel investors would receive a credit of 25% on their investment, to a maximum of \$250,000 per investor.
- \$200 million in State capital grants for development of wet-lab and innovation space
- At least 3.2 million square feet of research space and 1,100 acres of developable land available tax free at colleges and universities across the state, including but not limited to:
  - SUNY University at Buffalo (584K sq. ft.);
  - SUNY Downstate Medical College (557K sq. ft.);
  - SUNY Poly (337K sq. ft., 253 acres);
  - Cornell University (195K sq. ft., 79 acres);
  - SUNY University at Albany (189K sq. ft., 55 acres);
  - SUNY Stony Brook University (158K sq. ft., 240 acres); and
  - Hudson Valley Community College (148K sq. ft., 11 acres).
- \$100 million in investment capital for early stage initiatives, matched by private sector funding:

- Funds for startups will be matched by private sector at 100% rate for operational support; and
- Regional launch competitions will be held for firms to compete for \$25K grants, with winners to compete statewide for five \$100K prizes.
- Research and entrepreneurial talent development, including but not limited to:
  - A life sciences internship program to link life sciences students to paid internships; and
  - Entrepreneurial advisory panels to match entrepreneurs with mentors.

## LIFESCI NYC

LifeSci NYC has been estimated by the City to generate 16,000 jobs and 1,000 paid internships, and includes the following lines of support:

- \$300 million in tax incentives for investments in commercial lab space;
- \$100 million to build a new Applied Life Sciences campus on the East Side of Manhattan or in Long Island City;
- \$50 million to expand and enhance existing life sciences research facilities;
- \$20 million annually in matching capital funds for startups;
- \$10 million for up to five new incubators or innovation centers located near existing research centers;
- \$7.5 million for internships, including linkages with firms and new curricula;
- \$7.5 million for a Life Sciences Management Corps to connect startups with mentors; and
- \$3.8 million to expand training programs for entrepreneurs, expanding on the existing Bio and Health Tech Entrepreneurship Lab and the Small Business Innovation Research Impact program.

The initiative also plans to modernize land use regulations to explicitly allow life sciences research in the majority of commercial zones and launch the Life Sciences Advisory Council to advise the City on new programs and strategic partnerships.