The Idaho Global Entrepreneurial Mission (IGEM), under the direction of Idaho Commerce, funds commercialization research where business experts partner with university researchers to bring viable technologies to market.

The IGEM grant program is a powerful tool in advancing Idaho’s economy. Through its support, IGEM invests in the development of new businesses and supports Idaho’s research facilities. This dual investment creates new products, new companies, and high-value jobs while increasing the research capacity and caliber of Idaho’s three public research universities:

- Boise State University
- Idaho State University
- University of Idaho

Idaho Commerce can help partner industries with an Idaho university best positioned to conduct its research and development needs.

Similarly, Idaho Commerce can help connect Idaho universities with a strategic business partner to take their viable technologies to the next level.

Managed by Idaho Commerce under the direction of the IGEM Council, IGEM-Commerce may award up to $1 million per year for research geared towards commercialization initiatives brought forth by university and industry partnerships.

To be eligible for IGEM-Commerce funding, a joint partnership between an industry and an Idaho research university must exist, with the research focused on advancing the new technology toward commercialization.

IGEM-FUNDS INDUSTRY AND UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS THAT BRING NEW IDEAS, CONCEPTS AND FUTURE PRODUCTS TO THE WORLD MARKET.

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ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

Boise State University, Idaho State University and the University of Idaho are the only eligible recipients of IGEM-Commerce funds.

The university must be partnered with a business (preferably an Idaho business) to conduct research with the intent of propelling a product or concept toward commercialization.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

IGEM offers a year round open application period. Intermittent submission dates for review are as follows:

- October 4, 2019
- January 24, 2020*
- April 17, 2020*

*Subject to available funds.

FUNDING GUIDELINES

IGEM funds expenses associated with conducting research necessary for propelling a product or concept toward commercialization.

Costs include research time, supplies and expert time (regulatory compliance guidance and expertise). In some cases, equipment can be funded.

IGEM will not fund costs associated with research conducted outside of Idaho, research conducted at a private Idaho university, or political, religious, or government research.

Please note: These are not exhaustive lists.

FUNDING LIMITS

IGEM’s total funding budget is approximately $950,000 annually.

While there is no limitation per grant recipient, discretion will be used by the IGEM Council to maximize the return on investment of public funds, while minimizing risk.

IGEM project costs are reimbursed directly to the eligible recipient: Boise State University, Idaho State University, or the University of Idaho.

By Idaho code, IGEM funds cannot be paid to the industry partner or business.

INDUSTRY PARTNER INVESTMENT

IGEM requires the Industry Partner to contribute some type of an investment (match). Cash investment is preferred, however other contributions can be leveraged. Examples include: use and availability of materials, labs, equipment, resources; use of industry experts (guidance in regulatory/compliance), etc.

In kind investment will be examined on a case-by-case basis.

Please note: This is not an exhaustive list.

DECISION MAKING

The IGEM Council, a 12-member body appointed by the Governor, determines which applications will receive IGEM funding.

Please note: These are not exhaustive lists.

For information on IGEM-Commerce, contact Carmen Achabal
carmen.achabal@commerce.idaho.gov | 800.842.5858 | igem.idaho.gov