

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is the [Manufacturing 4.0 Technology Investment Program](#)?

The Manufacturing 4.0 Technology Investment Program, administered by the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA), was passed by the 2021 Iowa Legislature and signed into law by Governor Kim Reynolds on June 6, 2021. The intent of the law and funding for the program is to help Iowa manufacturers with the adoption and integration of smart technologies into existing operations located in the state.

### Who is eligible to apply for the program?

Businesses applying for the grant program must meet all requirements outlined in [Senate File 619](#) and in the [administrative rules](#). Requirements include that a business must:

- Be incorporated or authorized to do business in Iowa
- Employ a minimum of three (3) and fewer than 75 full-time individuals across all locations
- Gain at least 51% of its revenue from the sale of manufactured goods
- Have been operating for at least three years
- Designate with NAICs codes falling between 31 and 33

### What types of projects are eligible for grant funding?

Two types of grants are offered through this program:

- **Manufacturing Innovation Equipment Grants – up to \$50,000**
  - Eligible projects for this type of grant include:
    - Machinery acquisition, such as a 3D printer
    - Specialized equipment for automation, such as collaborative robotics
    - Advanced and autonomous robotics
    - Equipment for process improvements
- **Manufacturing Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) Infrastructure Investment Grants – up to \$25,000**
  - Eligible projects for this type of grant include:
    - IIoT infrastructure hardware, such as enhanced server equipment to enable more cloud computing
    - Cybersecurity software
    - Predictive maintenance software
    - Sensor integration into industrial tools and shop floor machinery to determine wear or flaws
    - Industrial wearable technology integration to prevent injury
    - Data analytics software/engineering
    - Data visualization software
    - Augmented reality equipment
    - Sensor-driven transmission of real-time information from factory-floor to customers or suppliers
    - Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tagging software and equipment to track inventory

## **What is the maximum award available to a qualified business?**

Companies can apply for a combined amount of \$75,000 between the two grants over the lifetime of the business. Funds are available each fiscal year until depleted. Therefore, a company may apply for both an IIoT Infrastructure Investment grant for \$25,000 and an Innovation Equipment grant for \$50,000, but would no longer be eligible for further grant dollars in subsequent fiscal years.

## **Is there a match requirement and what are the requirements for providing the match?**

**YES.** A 1:1 match is required for each grant submitted. The project can be over the total amount of the grant, but the 1:1 match is only required for the IEDA amount of the project. The amount must be contributed in cash by the applicant and cannot be provided by an outside source of funds.

## **What are the prerequisites to applying for a grant?**

An Industry 4.0 assessment provided by the Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS) is required to apply for the grant. To schedule a Manufacturing 4.0 Assessment that is required to be submitted along with your grant application, click [here](#).

## **Is there a required format for my application?**

**YES.** Use the online Manufacturing 4.0 Grant Application Form available [here](#) or on the [Manufacturing 4.0 Technology Investment Program webpage](#). for either the IIoT Infrastructure Investment grant or the Innovation Equipment grant. You will be able to select the type of grant you are applying for. You must submit a separate grant application for each project (IIoT or equipment). The link to the 'live' application is available beginning September 27, 2021. **Note:** No paper or handwritten applications will be accepted. Ensure you have an email address with the ability to access it long-term. You will need this email address for use on the application and must have access to it to receive updates about your application.

## **Can I save the application and return to complete it later?**

**NO. All online applications must be completed in a single session.** The online form cannot be saved and restarted. Please plan ahead by reviewing the list of required documents below that you will need to have available as a digital upload [before](#) starting your application.

## **What is the application deadline?**

There is no deadline. The application window is open on a continuous basis until funds are depleted. Once funds are exhausted, the [Iowa Manufacturing 4.0 website](#) will be updated, and all applicants with pending applications will be notified.

## **What is the process after the application is submitted?**

You will receive an automated response to let you know that your application was received. The date and time of the submission will be logged by the application system. Once received, the application will go into a queue for an initial review as to whether the application has met the initial requirements of the grant. If you have not submitted all documents, your application will not be eligible for further review.

## **How are applications reviewed and evaluated for funding?**

The scoring committee comprised of representatives from IEDA will evaluate the applications and give each application a score based on established criteria in the program rules. Reviewers will be looking for applicants that indicate an intent to make a long-term shift toward implementing and integrating Manufacturing 4.0 technologies company-wide that have not been able to do so due to financial limitations. Each application, with a recommended funding amount, will be referred to the IEDA Board who will make the final funding decisions. If the review team does not recommend an application to the board for an award, the applicant will be notified in writing and will be eligible to submit another application incorporating reviewers' feedback if funds have not been exhausted.

## **How and when will the business be notified if they have been awarded a grant?**

The IEDA Board meets monthly and will review applications as available following the reviews conducted by the scoring committee. Typically, if an application is eligible for an award, it would be presented at a board meeting for approval within two months of submission. Successful applicants will be notified in writing of an award of financial assistance, including any conditions and terms of the award after final approval from the board.

## **Documents Required for Application:**

You will need to have the following available prior to beginning the application:

- Iowa withholding tax permit number
- Iowa sales tax permit number
- US DOT Number, if applicable
- State of Incorporation and Date of Incorporation
  - If the business is incorporated in Iowa or authorized to do business in Iowa, this information may be available from the [Secretary of State's website](#)
- Number of employees at each location of the business
- List of business' owners and percent ownership
- Any license issued by the Department of Inspections and Appeals, Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship or others if applicable and/or if name on license is different from the applicant
- License number issued by the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division, if applicable and if name on license is different from the applicant
- Total project budget and uses of funds
- Amount of financial assistance requested from IEDA
  - The business should request no more than grant match to meet the matching requirement of the program; the maximum award amount that can be claimed by one applicant between both grant programs is \$75,000 for the lifetime of the business
- Three months of company financials (to verify the ability to provide a cash match for the grant)
- Amounts of other sources of funds for the project and documentation of any commitments of those funds
- Assessment by the Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS)
  - A [CIRAS Manufacturing 4.0 Assessment](#) must be completed before applying for grant funds and is a required submission on the application