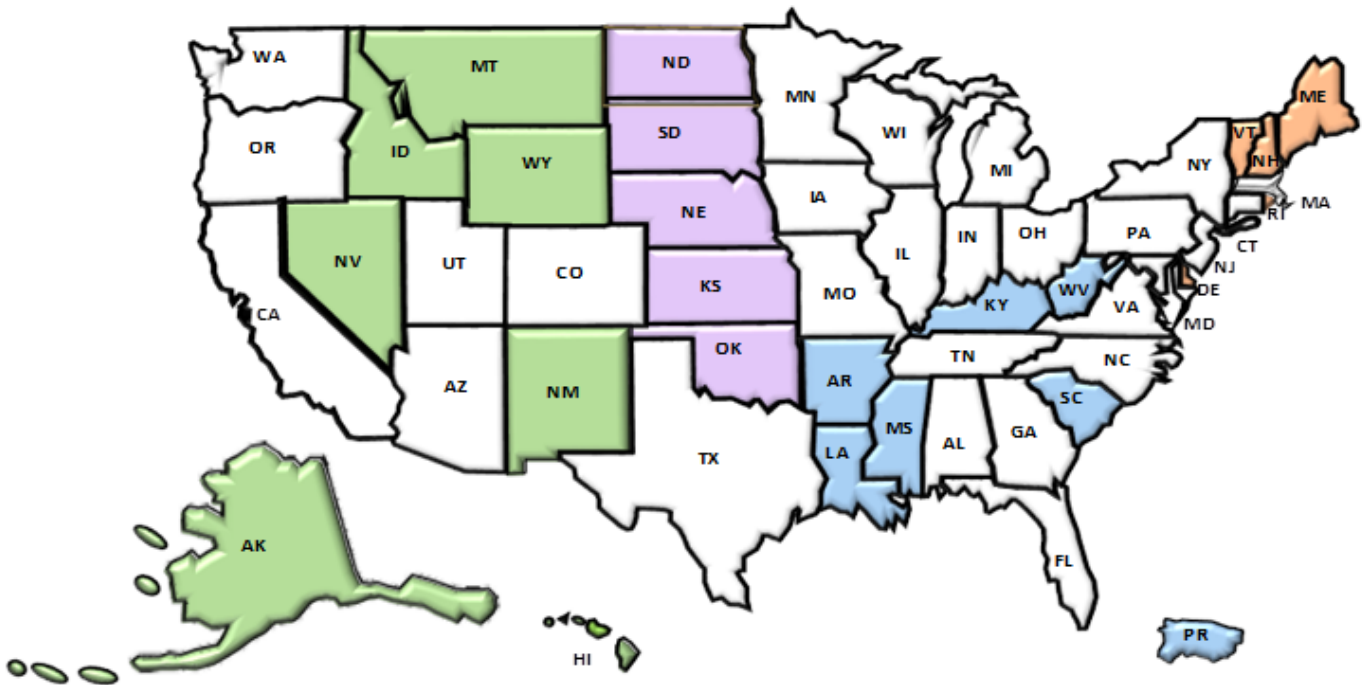




# Directory of STTR Regional Technology Transfer Accelerator Hubs for IDeA States



# 2018

Division for Research Capacity Building (DRCB)  
National Institute of General Medical Sciences  
National Institutes of Health

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# STTR Regional Technology Transfer Accelerator Hubs for IDeA States



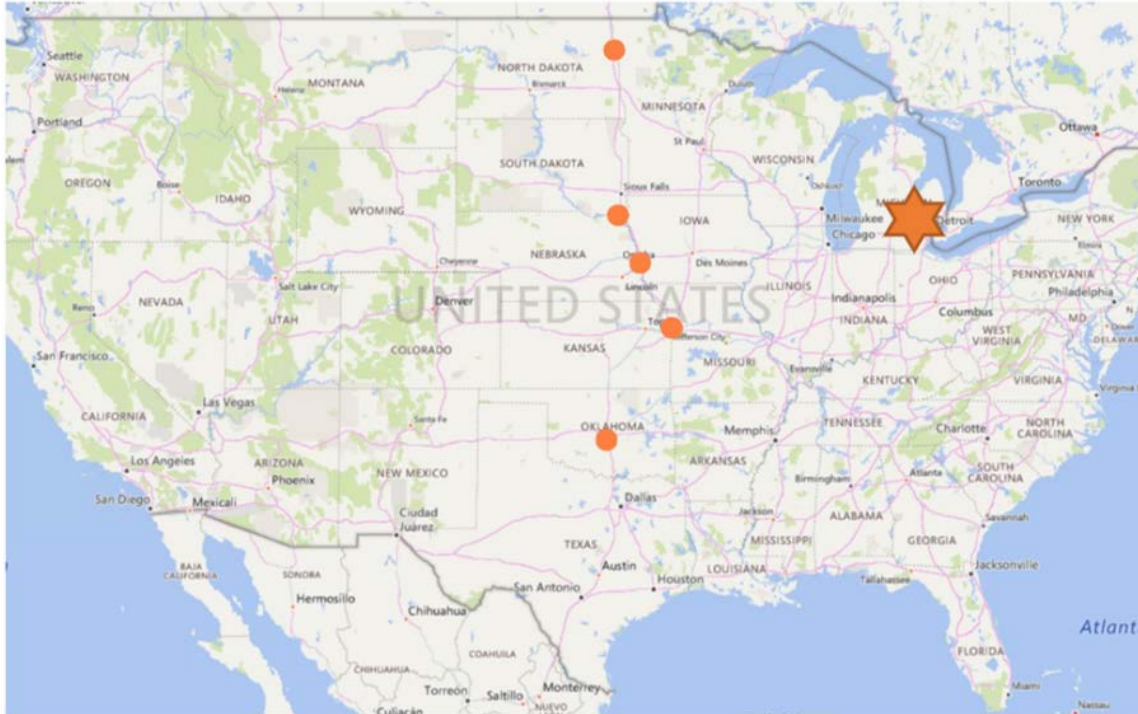
A collaborative endeavor, the accelerator hubs would act as regional consortia to provide infrastructure and build an entrepreneurial culture at the IDeA institutions in that region. The goal of the program is to promote entrepreneurship, technology transfer, management, small business finance, and other skills needed to move discoveries and technologies out of the lab and into commercial products that address human health.

*For details on this program, see the funding opportunity announcement (RFA-GM-18-001) or contact Dr. Krishan Arora, [arorak@nigms.nih.gov](mailto:arorak@nigms.nih.gov), 301-827-5323.*

# Central Region

UT2 GM130175

The Sustainable Heartland Accelerator Regional Partnership (SHARP) Hub



## Principal Investigators

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## Partner Institutions

- **The University of Oklahoma**
- **University of Nebraska Medical Center**
- **University of North Dakota**
- **University of South Dakota**

## **Abstract Text:**

**Project Summary** Despite the investment of billions of dollars in biomedical research each year from NIH, barriers remain in effectively translating basic science discoveries from academia to commercial products that benefit patients. These barriers include a funding gap between basic research and commercial developments, a lack of knowledge by innovators on how to bring products to market, and a lack of sufficient commercialization resources required for early-stage developments. To address this need, this project will develop a five-state biomedical technology transfer accelerator hub serving the Central Region IDeA states (Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, North Dakota, and South Dakota). This accelerator hub will be called the Sustainable Heartland Accelerator Regional Partnership (SHARP) Hub. Led by BBC Entrepreneurial Training and Consulting LLC (BBCetc) and the University of Kansas (KU), SHARP Hub will implement a three-pronged approach to include a mentoring program, an entrepreneurial training curriculum, and networking and outreach tools. These resources will be available to universities or regional consortia to develop technology commercialization capacity in the health sciences. The long-term goal is creation of a self-sustaining, regional biomedical technology transfer accelerator that will increase the number of biomedical technologies translated and new startups formed. In the first phase of the project, we will use the extensive training experience of BBCetc and the life science expertise at KU to build the leadership and governance framework of the accelerator hub, and establish the mentoring program, training curricula, and networking infrastructure at KU. During the first phase, we will also build relationships with targeted universities in the other four states of the Central Region, sign a memorandum of understanding with these universities, and host a regional conference. In the second phase of the project, we will roll out the mentoring program, training curricula and networking resources to the other four states. During the second phase, we also aim to implement a grant program to selected pilot projects using matching funds from outside of NIH dollars. To sustain SHARP Hub at the completion of the second phase, we intend license materials and protocols to biomedical technology transfer offices at universities nationwide with incremental services for a fee.

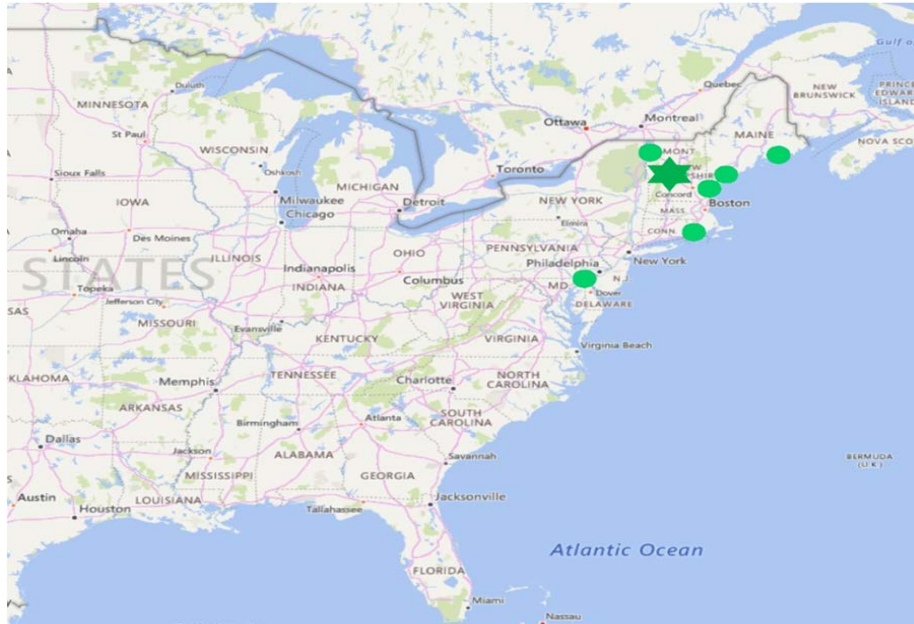
## **Public Health Relevance Statement:**

**Project Narrative** In this Fast-Track STTR project, BBCetc and the University of Kansas will develop a biomedical technology transfer accelerator hub serving a network of institutions in the Central region IDeA states (Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and South Dakota). This hub will act as a regional consortium to develop infrastructure and promote a collaborative entrepreneurial culture to effectively translate basic science discoveries from academia into commercial products that benefit patients.

# Northeast Region

UT2 GM130176

DRIVEN: Accelerating Medical Entrepreneurship in the Northeast



## Principal Investigators

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## Partner Institutions

- *Brown University*
- *Maine Medical Center*
- *MBI Biological Laboratory*
- *Simbex*
- *Dartmouth College*
- *University of Delaware*
- *University of New Hampshire*
- *University of Rhode Island*

## **Abstract Text:**

***Project Summary*** This project describes the formation, launch and operation of the DRIVEN Accelerator Hub, with the express goal of reducing morbidity and mortality by increasing the number of medical entrepreneurs and their level of competency. The Hub is focused on the Northeast and, in collaboration with similar Hubs, will contribute nationwide. It will, in a facile, complete, and accessible way, provide the knowledge, skills, and training necessary for technically savvy innovators to become successful entrepreneurs. The overarching task is to codify a sufficient set of translatable best practices and knowledge resources, then organize, disseminate, and support the consumption of same, using methods that are scientifically valid and ultimately, sustainable.

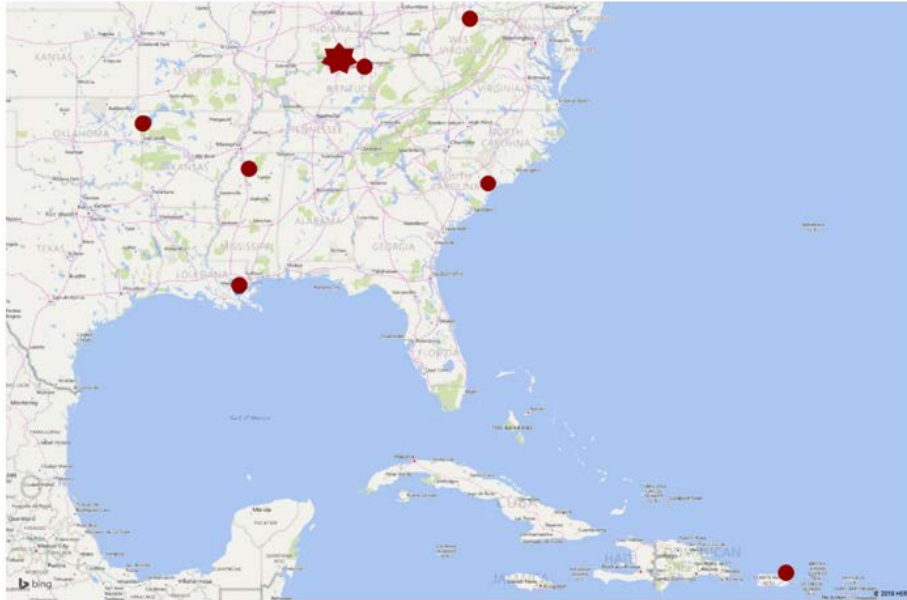
## **Public Health Relevance Statement:**

***Project Narrative*** Medical entrepreneurship yields new therapies, diagnostics, devices, and other valuable products that improve human health. The project will increase the number of medical entrepreneurs, and their sophistication, by providing a variety of training resources throughout the region. The result will be job creation, economic growth, and improved human health by the creation of more startups that are better equipped to succeed.



# Southeast Region

## UT2 GM130174 Southeast Xlerator Network



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## Partner Institutions

- *Coastal Carolina University*
- *Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust*
- *The University of Mississippi*
- *Tulane University*
- *University of Arkansas*
- *University of Kentucky Research Foundation*

## Abstract Text:

**Project Summary** The Southeast XLerator Network proposes to create a networked and easily accessible regional technology transfer accelerator hub (“XLerator Hub” or “Hub”) to share best practices, disseminate education content, and offer products, services, facilities, and other resources connected through both physical and online platforms for innovators and trainees in the Southeast IDeA states. Led by XLerateHealth, LLC, an SBA award-winning healthcare-focused technology accelerator, the Hub will 1) bridge the divide between great ideas and the marketplace by leveraging and connecting existing resources and unique expertise assets across all participating entities in the Southeast IDeA state region, 2) fill the gaps that constitute barriers to efficient commercialization among partner institutions, and 3) deliver the necessary resources, education, and business networks to foster and sustain a culture of entrepreneurship across the region. This project will address significant disparities and lack of access to resources, talent, and capital in respective local commercialization ecosystems for biomedical technologies that are pervasive across the Southeast IDeA state region, making the rates of technology transfer and commercialization of academic research discoveries in this region suboptimal. The Hub objectives/core functions are: 1. To improve knowledge and understanding by innovators about how technologies are brought to market. 2. To improve knowledge and understanding by accelerators and technology transfer offices about the unique commercialization pathways of various biomedical technologies 3. To facilitate access to technology/product development and commercialization resources required for early-stage technology advancement and later-stage product development 4. To help close the gap(s) in funding (a) between basic research discoveries and scientific proof of feasibility, and (b) between exhaustion of grant funding and private capital required to generate products and revenues. 5. To commercialize innovation in pharmaceuticals, medical devices, healthcare IT and electronics, and other biomedical technologies through entrepreneurship, licensing, and partnerships with established companies, and additionally commercialize the Hub’s platform, programs, and materials through access by other regions. The impact of the Hub will be increased market-ready technologies and patents, more successful startups, and increased biomedical technology acceleration.

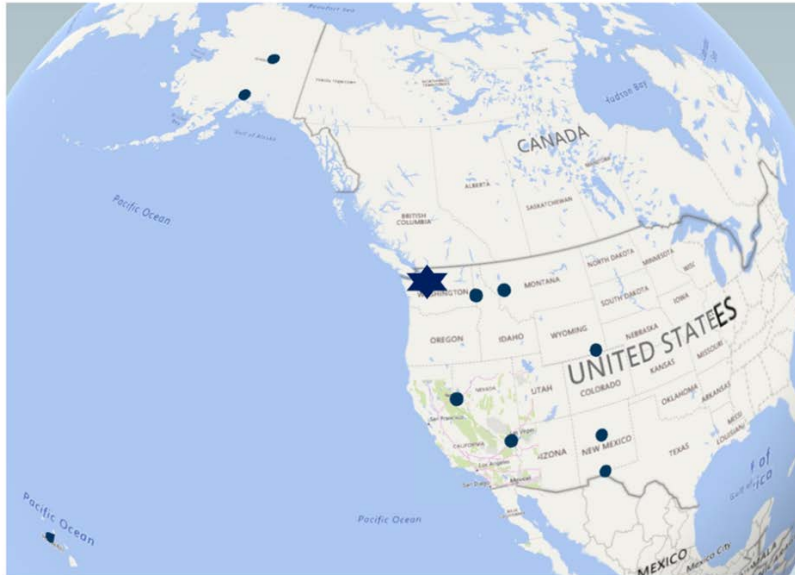
## Public Health Relevance Statement:

**Project Narrative** This project will significantly enhance commercialization knowledge, increase market-ready technologies and patents, create more successful startups, and as a result, accelerate biomedical technology commercialization in the Southeast IDeA region.

# Western Region

UT2 GM130166

ASCEND, Accelerating Solutions for Commercialization and Entrepreneurial Development in the Mountain West IDeA States



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## Partner Institutions

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- *University of Alaska Anchorage*
- *University of Alaska Fairbanks*
- *University of Hawaii at Manoa*
- *University of Idaho*
- *University of Montana*
- *University of Nevada, Las Vegas*
- *University of Nevada, Reno*
- *University of Wyoming*

## Abstract Text:

**Project Summary** The objective of this proposal is to create a Mountain West region technology Accelerator Hub to conduct research on developing, implementing, and testing a comprehensive collateral and consulting offering for promoting biomedical entrepreneurship, technology transfer, management, small business finance, and additional business skills needed to commercialize basic research to enhance human health. Many limiting factors hamper the ultimate goal of commercializing basic and translational science in IDeA states, including a gap in funding between basic research discoveries and scientific feasibility or validation studies required to define a product for early stage technology development, a lack of knowledge and understanding by innovators about how technologies are brought to market, a lack of access to sufficient technology development and commercialization resources for early-stage technology development, limited resources in Technology Transfer and Commercialization Offices, an insufficient number of local technology businesses to create a critical mass of entrepreneurial expertise and culture; a lack of exposure to commercialization education, training, and mentoring (including in patents, startups, business plans, venture capital and angel investing), a limited knowledge of technology transfer and SBIR/STTR programs; and a lack of awareness of available resources at the local, state and regional levels. To address these goals, we propose to create a regional technology Accelerator Hub throughout the Mountain West (Western) region of IDeA states that is closely networked with Mountain West IDeA state universities and their affiliated Technology Transfer Offices and small business partners. This network will provide the framework for effective communication and outreach that will create institutional change and build an entrepreneurial culture throughout this region. We will provide robust education and training of students and researchers and other entrepreneurs to accelerate development of commercialization activities, substantially increasing SBIR/STTR applications and facilitating communication between the NIH and IDeA institutions. The objectives of this application are to: 1) establish infrastructure, develop educational materials (curricula, texts, webinars, workshops and courses), and train staff; 2) accelerate entrepreneurialism through innovator mentoring, SBIR/STTR application submission, and increased partnering activity; 3) increase visibility of technological advancements, industry partnerships and licensing revenues through outreach, coaching and partnering activities, at each of the Mountain West IDeA state institutions. The product of this work will be the ASCEND solution, a comprehensive, sustainable educational and consulting services offering that will be leveraged across the Mountain West IDeA States-collaborating biomedical institutions and marketed to other institutions that want to accelerate biomedical entrepreneurship, thus ensuring the long-term sustainability, dissemination, and impact of this program.

## Public Health Relevance Statement:

***Project Narrative*** Many limiting factors hamper the goal of commercializing basic and translational science in IDeA states. The objective of this proposal is to create a Mountain West region technology Accelerator Hub focused on developing, implementing, and testing a comprehensive collateral and consulting offering for promoting biomedical entrepreneurship. The product of this work will be the ASCEND solution, a comprehensive, sustainable educational and consulting services offering to accelerate biomedical entrepreneurship.