

gional Innovation Engine that include multiple regional partners as described in subsection (e)(2).

(4) Geographic distribution

In making awards under this section, the Director shall take into consideration the extent to which the proposals expand the geographic distribution of the Regional Innovation Engines, including by giving special consideration to rural-serving institutions of higher education.

(5) Resource availability

The Director shall ensure that any eligible entity receiving an award under this section shall—

(A) provide information on relevant currently existing resources available to the proposing team from all internal and external sources, including all partner organizations; and

(B) include letters of collaboration from partner organizations that include information on resource contributions committed by such partners.

(f) Collaboration with regional technology hubs

Each Regional Innovation Engine established under this section may collaborate and participate in, as appropriate, the activities of any regional technology hub designated under section 3722a of title 15, as added by section 10621.

(g) Duration

(1) Initial period

An award under this section shall be for an initial period of 5 years.

(2) Renewal

An established Regional Innovation Engine may apply for, and the Director may award, extended funding for periods of 5 years on a merit-reviewed basis.

(h) Competitive, merit-review

In making awards under this section, the Director shall—

(1) use a competitive, merit review process that includes peer review by a diverse group of individuals with relevant expertise from both the private and public sectors; and

(2) ensure the focus areas of the Regional Innovation Engines do not substantially and unnecessarily duplicate the efforts of any other Regional Innovation Engine or any other similar effort at another Federal agency.

(i) Collaboration

In making awards under this section, the Director may collaborate with Federal departments and agencies whose missions contribute to or are affected by the technology focus area of the institute.

(Pub. L. 117–167, div. B, title III, § 10388, Aug. 9, 2022, 136 Stat. 1581.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 10621 of this division and section 10621, referred to in subsecs. (e)(2)(B)(iii) and (f), mean section 10621 of div. B of Pub. L. 117–167.

§ 19109. Translation Accelerator

(a) In general

The Director shall establish Translation Accelerators to further the research, development, and commercialization of innovation in the key technology focus areas.

(b) Partnerships

(1) In general

Each Translation Accelerator shall be comprised of a partnership including 2 or more of the following entities:

(A) An institution of higher education.

(B) A for-profit company.

(C) A nonprofit organization.

(D) A Federal agency.

(E) Another entity, if that entity is determined by the Director to be vital to the success of the program.

(2) Institutional or organizational level

The Director shall work to ensure that such partnerships exist at the institutional or organization level, rather than solely at the principal investigator level.

(3) Cost share

Not less than 25 percent of the funding for an institute shall be provided by non-Federal entities.

(4) Number of centers and institutes established

The Director shall endeavor to establish a balance in the number of Regional Innovation Engines and Translation Accelerators.

(c) Authorization of appropriations

From within funds authorized for the Directorate for Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships, there are authorized to carry out the activities under this section and section 19108 of this title \$6,500,000,000 for fiscal years 2023 through 2027.

(Pub. L. 117–167, div. B, title III, § 10389, Aug. 9, 2022, 136 Stat. 1584.)

§ 19110. Test beds

(a) Program authorized

(1) In general

From amounts made available for the Directorate, the Director, in coordination with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Secretary of Energy, and other Federal agencies, as determined appropriate by the Director, shall establish a program in the Directorate to make awards, on a competitive basis, to institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, or consortia thereof to establish and operate test beds, which may include fabrication facilities and cyberinfrastructure, to advance the development, operation, integration, deployment, and, as appropriate, demonstration of new, innovative critical technologies, which may include hardware or software.

(2) Coordination

In establishing new test beds under this section, the Director shall ensure coordination