

Multi-Tenant Laboratory/Office Incubator Space

Problem/Issue Statement

Kansas State University (K-State) is deploying its strengths in agricultural biosecurity including vaccine development, molecular diagnostics, and food and materials safety to address current and emerging problems. K-State and Manhattan, KS are in the unique position of having a full suite of Bio-Safety Level 1-4 research facilities available to university researchers and biotech/pharma companies that wish to collocate in the region.

The region has a thriving, formal, university/community economic development partnership to attract, retain and grow knowledge-based companies by leveraging the assets of K-State. However, company attraction and science-based new business formation have been seriously hampered due to total lack of lab facilities available for corporate occupancy.

We propose to remedy that by creating flexible space that can accommodate wet or dry laboratories and other R&D usage. Because multi-tenant flexible laboratory space is currently unavailable in the regional market, the addition of approximately 18,000 sq. ft. will instantly provide benefit.

Request Description

K-State will purchase and renovate a vacant building formerly used for research, development, and training into a combination of office/laboratory/conference spaces that will be fitted out to meet the needs of a variety of tenants including wet lab, dry lab, or cyber capacity. A study performed by CBRE outlines a need over the next 20 years for up to 400,000 sq ft of R&D space. Most of this space is predicted to be filled with private sector companies hiring 1 job per 1,000 sq ft with annual salaries of \$50-100k.

Request Goals and Expected Outcomes

- Attraction of international start-up businesses
- Facilities for university research spin-off companies
- Attraction of mature national and international firms wishing proximity to K-State/BRI/NBAF
- Collaboration space for university-industry research, technology advancement, talent development and professional training
- Retention of highly trained technical workers in the region/state
- Creation of 75-100 new, high-paying jobs

Community Project Funding Request

City of Manhattan, Kansas
Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce

Appropriations Subcommittee

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

Request Type

Funding Request Bill Language Request