

Funding Opportunity Title

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PCIEERD HEIRIT
(Higher Education Institution Readiness for
Innovation and Technopreneurship) TBIs
(FOR 2024 - 2026 FUNDING)**

Key information

Type of funding	Grant
Funding Agency	DOST-Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology (DOST-PCIEERD)
Add link to start the application	DOST Project Management Information System (DPMIS): http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph

Timeline

Event	Date	Time
Opening date	March 13, 2024	8:00 A.M.
Closing date	March 19, 2024	5:00 P.M.
Evaluation Period	March 20 – April 15, 2024 (17 Working Days)	
Start of projects	June 2024	

Overview

According to the article “Issues and Challenges of Technology Business Incubators in the Philippines” published in the *International Journal of Emerging Trends and Engineering Research*, **the creation of various technology centers** such as innovation center, incubation center, fabrication laboratory and science technology park is **perceived to have a crucial role in the creation of jobs and social and economic empowerment**. Technology business incubation (TBI) is the current trend in capacitating the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and start-up companies. (Esponilla, 2019).

A TBI provides focused support to entrepreneurs through a supportive environment that helps them establish their business ideas, develop their concepts into market ready products, supports the acquisition of business knowledge, facilitates the raising of necessary finance, introduces the entrepreneurs to business networks, all of which should substantially reduce the level of failure. TBIs have attracted significant support from governments throughout the world and in a wide variety of developmental contexts (*Global Practice in Incubation Policy Development and Implementation/Infodev, 2010*).

The DOST has been supporting the establishment of university based TBIs to promote technopreneurship, especially in the regions. The DOST-PCIEERD has already supported thirty-two (32) TBIs across the country, each supports ten to fifteen incubatees or startup companies per year. However, there are still several regions that lacks an incubation facility and these region’s HEIs and SUCs need assistance in building their capability in establishing and running an incubator. Most of these regions have several startups and startup-related activities but has the potential to increase entrepreneurial activities given an environment where startups, mentors and advisers and industry partners converge. Additionally, universities in regions where a TBI is lacking, do not have enough trained personnel to operate and manage an incubator.

The Council’s Higher Education Institution Readiness for Innovation and Technopreneurship (HEIRIT) Program is a structured program that is intended to prepare select universities committed to establish a technology business incubator in their university to cater to the needs of the students, faculty members, and SMEs in terms of guidance in entrepreneurship and establishing their startups.

In partnership with the UP UPGRADE TBI, the HEIRIT Prep Program was already being implemented to all **27 HEIs/SUCs** across the country. This program is needed to guide and equip the personnel of each HEIs and SUCs to plan, execute, build, and help catalyze the emerging startup community in their region. **17 out of the 27 HEIs/SUCs were already provided a funding support under the Council.**

Opportunity summary

The Full-Blown Proposal should fall as a non-research and development project. This call is for **qualified HEIs and SUCs that undergone the HEIRIT Track 1 training (10 HEIs and SUCs)** provided by the UP UPGRADE TBI.

The Council shall provide funding support to the proponent for **two (2) years**.

Who can apply

This call for proposal is open to all qualified **remaining HEIRIT Track 1 HEIs/SUCs**. **The university or college is qualified if:**

- Has attended and participated in the UP UPGRADE TBI customized incubation training program.
- Has participated and completed the HEIRIT Proposal Writeshop.
- Has the knowledge and experience in operating a technology business incubation program.
- Has the capacity to design and execute different programs for the startup teams.
- Has the capability to assist startup teams in connecting to possible mentors/partners.
- Has the ability to organize activities and promote the services and programs of the TBI.

What we're looking for

The proposal should cover different programs and activities for startup teams.

- A HEIRIT Trainee endorsed by UPGRADE
- A university endorsed by the DOST Regional Office
- The project team should be able to execute the knowledge and skills on incubation design, operations, management, and sustainability of the TBI acquired during the HEIRIT Preparatory Program
- With at least seven (7) startup teams to be mentored under the program
- A HEIRIT university with a proposed facility for an established or upgraded TBI

Expected Output and Deliverables:

The proposal should include the following expected outputs:

Year 1

- A regional internal and external needs analysis
- A regional and university ecosystem map
- At least 2 validated prototype/technology
- At least 1 benchmarking report and analysis
- At least 7 startup teams startups mentored
- A confirmed list of partners and mentors for the TBI
- A TBI business model and sustainability plan
- Established a TBI facility

Year 2

- Approved TBI Team by the University
- Incubation program design launched
- Draft TBI Operations manual
- At least 3 Regional Partners and 5 mentor contracts
- At least 7 startup teams mentored and ready for incubation
- At least 5 TBI provincial and regional events organized
- At least 2 graduates

How to apply

Step 1: Prepare a Full-Blown Proposal containing the following:

1. Title of the proposed project
2. Duration of the proposed project
3. Description of the banner program and activities that will support the establishment of the TBI
4. Objectives and scope of the proposed project
5. Methodology and expected outputs
6. Work plan or Gantt Chart of activities
7. Curriculum vitae of the project leader
8. Line-Item-Budget
9. Endorsement letter from the Agency Head
10. Endorsement letter from the DOST Regional Office

Step 2: Submit the Full-Blown Proposal to the **DOST Project Management Information System (DPMIS)** through this link: <http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph> starting **March 12, 2024 to March 19, 2024.**

When submitting your application, please follow these steps:

1. Register and create an account in the DPMIS
2. Log in to your DPMIS account
3. Select Type of Proposal: PCIEERD GIA Program/Project (2023 Funding)
4. Select Classification: New Proposal

The following will automatically be disapproved:

- 1) **Proposals from institutions that are not qualified to submit during this Call.**
- 2) **Proposals submitted to any other call route/Council/s.**
- 3) **Proposals not submitted through DPMIS.**

Documents Required

As a summary, your application should include the following documents.

- 1) DOST Proposal Form
- 2) Supplementary Files:
 - Workplan
 - Endorsement of Head of Agency
 - Gender and Development (GAD) Score Sheet
 - Line-item Budget
 - Scientific/Theoretical Framework

No additional attachments are permitted.

How we will assess your application

A. Review and Selection Process

Proposals shall be evaluated according to a set of criteria for each level of evaluation: Division Level, PCIEERD Management Team (PMT) level, Technical Panel (TP) level, Governing Council (GC) level, and the DOST Executive Committee (EXECOM) level (for proposals for DOST GIA funding) as shown below. Applicants should directly and explicitly address these criteria as part of their proposal submission.

The project proposal shall be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. **Management Capability**
 - Commitment of the project team to execute the and implement programs and activities for startup teams

Technical and managerial capacity of the proponent
Demonstrates a competent and experienced project team
Availability of competent and reliable workforce and facilities

2. Manageable Timeframe
Appropriate workplan to execute the proposed program designs and activities
3. Network Linkage
Partners, mentors, and trainers to be involved in the project

Contact

DOST-PCIEERD Project Managers are available to provide appropriate assistance to potential applicants interested in competing for this Call for Proposals. This may include assistance to potential applicants in determining eligibility of the applicant or the applicant's proposed project for funding, questions about administrative issues relating to the submission of a proposal, and clarifications on the announcement.

Contacts:

Research Information and Technology Transfer Division (RITTD)

Ms. Russell M. Pili - rmpili@pcieerd.dost.gov.ph

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Additional information

[PCIEERD Eligibility Criteria Checklist](#)

[PCIEERD Technical Panel \(TP\) Evaluation Criteria/Score sheet](#)

[PCIEERD Management Team \(PMT\) Evaluation Criteria/Score sheet](#)

[PCIEERD Governing Council \(GC\) Criteria/Score sheet](#)

List any supporting documents you will provide

References for PCIEERD-supported projects:

<https://pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/2-uncategorised/59-technology-business-incubation-program>

<https://pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/news/latest-news/310-pcieerd-and-up-s-heirit-program-kicks-off>

List any related content links

HEIRIT Kick-off Event: <https://pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/news/latest-news/310-pcieerd-and-up-s-heirit-program-kicks-off>

Overview of PCIEERD's TBI Program:

https://pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/images/downloads/presentation_materials/2017/1tbi/Russell-Pili-Overview-of-PCIEERD-TBI-Program_Russ-TBI-Summit.pdf