



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
**GROWTH &  
 OPPORTUNITY**  
 IN EACH REGION  
 REGIONAL COUNCIL 9

GO Virginia is an economic development initiative designed to diversify and strengthen regional economies by offering grants that drive collaboration between **business, education, and local government.**

## Grant Opportunities Identified in Region 9 Growth Plan Update - 2023

*The Region 9 Council is seeking grant proposals that drive opportunities identified in the Region 9 Growth & Diversification Plan Update, as summarized below. For deadlines and details go to [www.GOVirginia9.org](http://www.GOVirginia9.org).*



### Talent Development

1. Build a comprehensive regional workforce coalition or initiative to drive collaboration and efficiency in the Region 9 talent development ecosystem for target sectors.
2. Drive target sector talent pathways planning efforts as described in the Region 9 Request for Letters of Interest for the Talent Pathways Initiative (TPI) planning grants.
3. Develop sector driven credentialing, apprenticeship, and internship programs for target industries.
4. Evaluate and/or drive strategies to address regional demand for Software Developers (SOC 15-1252).



### Growing Existing Businesses

1. For each target cluster, re-evaluate industries within each cluster as defined in 2017 and identify gaps in growth to develop recommendations for future implementation grants. (i.e. using Cluster Based Economic Development Model, DHCD, 2023)
2. Support implementation grants from gaps identified through planning grants or other regional reports such as the CEDS Plans to be published in 2024.
3. Support sector led verticals to address business-identified and validated sector gaps to traded sector growth.
4. Support implementation of a biotech wet lab accelerator/incubator model to support expansion in the sector.

Project Types	T a r g e t i n g
Talent Development	
Growing Existing Businesses	
Startup/Innovation/ Commercialization	
Site Readiness	
Target Industries	
Biomedical & Biotechnology	
Financial & Business Services	
Food & Beverage Manufacturing	
Information Technology & Communications	
Light Manufacturing	



## Startups/Innovation/Commercialization

1. Support recommended implementation grants that catalyze growth in target sector entrepreneurship as prioritized in the Regional Entrepreneurship Investment (REI) Plan in development.



## Sites

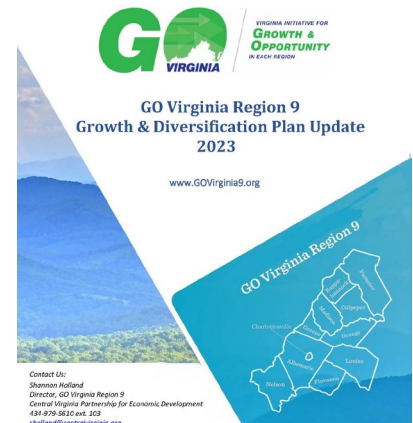
1. Develop a plan for regional site development with a goal of identifying priority target sector sites in the region and a sustainable plan for advancing a portfolio of sites and a regular cadence for site projects.
2. Support future planning and/or implementation projects identified in the regional sites plan.
3. Evaluate strategic advantages for site development collaboration
4. Drive the continued development of regionally prioritized sites.
5. Evaluate RIFA development opportunity.



## Other

1. Support planning grants to assess, map, and support the development of emerging industries for which this region may have a competitive advantage using Cluster Based Economic Development Model, DHCD, 2023) (i.e., Ag-Tech, Clean Energy, etc.)
2. Support implementation grants identified in the above report.

Download at [www.GOVirginia9.org](http://www.GOVirginia9.org)



### Program funding:

GO Virginia has funded 196 projects and awarded approximately \$75.6 million to support regional economic development efforts since 2017

Region 9 has awarded 26 projects totaling over \$6,300,000

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