CEIS Center for Emerging & Innovative Sciences

To: Faculty Researchers

From: Mark F. Bocko – CEIS Director

Re: CEIS Short Term Applied Research (STAR) Request for Proposals (RFP)

Date: July 1, 2026

The Center for Emerging and Innovative Sciences, CEIS, is soliciting proposals for the Short Term Applied Research (STAR) Program for the 2026/27 program year.

The accompanying forms constitute a solicitation of research proposals for consideration for funding in the 2026/2027 program year (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027). CEIS is a NYSTAR (Empire State Development Division of Science, Technology and Innovation) designated Center for Advanced Technology (CAT) funded by NY State. Proposals will be reviewed throughout the year and awards made subject to the availability of funds. The goal of the CEIS STAR program is to stimulate economic growth in NY State by promoting technology transfer from our universities to New York companies. Proposed projects must involve a NY industry partner that is actively engaged with the research, financially sponsoring the research, and willing to provide ongoing economic impact reporting for the project.

Who may apply: The STAR program is open to Principal Investigators (PIs) from the faculties of the University of Rochester, the Rochester Institute of Technology and other NYS universities. Persons eligible to be PI's must be full-time faculty or hold a similar position in their university. Note that only university PIs are eligible for STAR funding. CEIS does not award funds directly to companies.

Types of projects considered: CEIS support traditionally spans a broad range of optics, photonics and imaging , semiconductors and advanced electronic technologies, sensing, biomedical technologies, acoustics and audi, and other technical areas that support economic activity in the State.

SHORT TERM APPLIED RESEARCH (STAR)

- Up to $10,000 with a flexible match requirement (**new)**
- Address the needs of businesses in technical and business development areas
- Solve critical short-term problems
- In Collaboration with NY State based businesses
- Submission accepted on a rolling basis
- Delivers economic gain for the company and community

How to Apply:

Go to www.ceis.rochester.edu/pages/star.html for STAR proposal forms. For further information please contact Margaret Urzetta by email, margaret.urzetta@rochester.edu, or phone (585-275-2104).

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CEIS STAR PROGRAM
PROJECT REQUEST FORM

Project # (Assigned by CEIS): Technology ☐ Business ☐

Start Date: Completion Date:

Project Title:

PI Name/Contact Information:

Company: Company Contact:

E-mail for Contact:

Company Address:

Company Phone: Company Fax:

Funding: Contribution from Company: Match from CEIS/STAR:

Project Summary:

CEIS STAR PROGRAM
PROJECT REQUEST FORM

Statement of Work including Deliverables and Milestones:

Projected Economic Impact:

New Jobs _____ (number) Retained Jobs _____ (number)

Increased Company Revenues _____ (dollar amount)

Cost Savings _____ (dollar amount) Source of Savings _____

Funds Acquired _____ (dollar amount) Funding Source _____

Capital Expenditures _____ (dollar amount) Description _____

CEIS Proposal Budget STAR Program

PI Name	Project Title:	Date:	Administrator, Phone Number

NYSTAR Grant Dollars: $

Names must be provided for each Salary Category.	% of FTE	CEIS/NYSTAR Funds Requested	NYS Company Match/ Contribution	Total Funds
Senior Personnel Salary	**Required**			
Principal Investigator(s):				$0.00
				$0.00
				$0.00
	Subtotal	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other Personnel Salary - Provide Names for each				$0.00
Graduate Students # [ ]				$0.00
Undergraduate Students # [ ]				$0.00
	Subtotal	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
	Total Salary	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Fringe Benefits for Sr. Personnel (Rate @ %)				$0.00
Fringe Benefits for Other Personnel (Rate @ %)				$0.00
	Total Salary and Fringe Benefits	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Stipend - Graduate Student	**Total Stipend**			$0.00
Materials and Supplies				
Laboratory and Instructional				$0.00
Office				$0.00
	Total Materials and Supplies	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Travel				$0.00
Total Direct Costs		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Indirect Costs **15%**		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Grand Totals		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00

BUDGET NOTES (if applicable)

CEIS Economic Impact Categories:

New Jobs

- Permanent, full-time positions
- Created as a result of business expansion due to Center collaboration

Retained Jobs

- Must be at risk due to company partner considering relocation due to high operating costs or incentives offered by another location or production contraction or plan closure.
- Company's collaboration with Center was a significant reason for retention.
- Documentation must substantiate that jobs were at risk with specific details regarding situation potential relocation or closure.

Increased Company Revenues

- Accruals due to company partner's collaboration with the Center in new product development or existing product improvements.

Cost Savings

- Accruals due to company partner's collaboration with the Center.
- Sources of cost savings include

    - lower cost or research performed at University saved
    - production process improvements
    - the value of accessing specialized equipment
    - expertise or analytical testing, and
    - CAT/University helped a company find a new better supplier at a company xxx dollars
    - other research savings

Cost savings is the difference between a particular activity's cost to the company minus the actual cost as a result of the collaboration with the Center including match contributed.

Funds Acquired (both Federal and Non-Government)

- Funds must be awarded to the company partner.
- Federal Funds Acquired includes grants from Federal Government agencies including Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) or Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) funds.
- Non-Government Funds Acquired includes venture capital, angel investor, stock proceeds, foundation grants and other business investments.
- New York State Government funds do not count as impact.
- Must demonstrate that the Center played a substantive role in helping the company obtain the funds.

Capital Expenditures

- Capital Expenditures include purchases of new capital equipment, and infrastructure improvements including construction or renovation of facilities.
- Expenditures must be made by company partner and specifically initiated as a result of the Center project(s).
- Documentation must specify that the Center played a substantive role in leading the company to make these investments.