

Regional Investment Initiative Implementation Phase Round II Awards Summary

BACKGROUND

California Jobs First was designed to support regional governance and strategy development, pre-development of regional projects, and direct investments into industry-specific and regionally driven projects. Central to California Jobs First is the Regional Investment Initiative (RII) designed to fund signature investments in key industries across California.

The RII invested into regional economies via five phases:

Phase 1: \$5 million in regional planning dollars to each of the 13 regions (\$65 million total)

Phase 2: \$39 million in eight pilot projects

Phase 3: \$14 million in pre-development funding to each of the 13 regions (\$182 million total)

Phase 4: \$15 million in funding to 14 tribal communities for pre-development and implementation projects

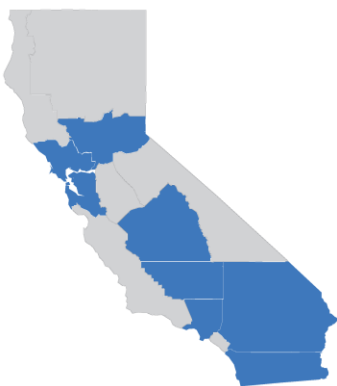
Phase 5: \$128.5 million in funding over two rounds to support ready-to-go projects

The RII implementation Phase includes \$128.5 million in funding over two rounds to fund interconnected projects that advance “Accelerate” or “Bet” sectors.



Each regional cluster must include at least two project types from the following categories: ecosystem support, infrastructure, workforce development, or other anchors. Applicants pitched projects at the second annual California Jobs First Investment Summit in April.

ROUND II AWARDED CLUSTERS



The Council Co-Chairs confirmed \$48.5 million in funding for seven proposed clusters, focused on the following sectors and subsectors: aerospace and defense, advanced manufacturing, high-tech, shipbuilding, space, defense & satellites and quantum. Together, these projects have targeted creating 20,000 direct and indirect jobs across eight of the 13 economic regions (Bay Area, Capital, Central San Joaquin Valley, Inland SoCal, Kern

County, Los Angeles County, Orange County and Southern Border) covering 33 counties.

Regional Cluster #1

- **Coalition Lead:** San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance
- **Sector Focus:** Advanced Manufacturing
- **Regional Focus:** Central San Joaquin
- **Award Amount:** \$10,444,930
- **Leveraged Funds:** \$5.57M¹
- **Projects:**

Award	Project Type	Project Description
California State University, Fresno: The Forge		
\$4,360,500	Infrastructure	Renovate an existing facility to house shared laboratories, prototyping spaces, and testing environments.
San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance: Central San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Ecosystem		
\$3,060,000	Ecosystem Support	Provide industry coordination, upskill K-16 educators, and establish a revolving loan fund.
San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance: CNC Machining Program		
\$1,702,380	Workforce Development	Develop industry-informed training and a scalable Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machining certificate.
Reedley College: FAME Advanced Manufacturing Technicians and State Expansion		
\$1,322,050	Workforce Development	Expand an existing earn-and-learn training program for Advanced Manufacturing Technicians (AMTs)

Regional Cluster #2

- **Coalition Lead:** Valley Vision
- **Sector Focus:** Advanced Manufacturing

¹ \$1.4M (Good Jobs Challenge), \$1.4M (Strong Workforce Program), \$1M (Employer-Sourced Wages), \$750K (Fresno State), \$500K (California Jobs First Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund), \$460K (Fresno-Madera K-16 Collaborative), \$420K (Fresno County EDC), \$75K (California Jobs First Catalyst-Supported Sector Intelligence Work)

- **Regional Focus:** Capital
- **Award Amount:** \$7,309,509.67
- **Leveraged Funds:** \$54.85M²
- **Projects:**

Award	Project Type	Project Description
University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources: Capital Region Biomanufacturing Alliance (CapBIO) Infrastructure Project “The Plant”		
\$4,080,600	Infrastructure	Scale an industrial grade biomanufacturing facility for shared use, enabling companies to stay and grow in the Capital Region.
Valley Vision: CapBIO Ecosystem Project		
\$1,842,750	Ecosystem Support	Develop regional marketing and provide commercialization and capital readiness technical assistance.
Sierra College: CapBIO Workforce Project		
\$1,386,159.67	Workforce Development	Create a cohesive biomanufacturing talent pipeline by expanding career awareness, credential instruction, and paid internships.

Regional Cluster #3

- **Coalition Lead:** California State University, Bakersfield
- **Sector Focus:** Aerospace & Defense
- **Subsector Focus:** Space, Defense & Satellites
- **Regional Focus:** Kern County
- **Award Amount:** \$6,846,000
- **Leveraged Funds:** \$3M³
- **Projects:**

Award	Project Type	Project Description
Mojave Air and Space Port: Infrastructure Improvements		

² \$50.3M (University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources), \$1.7M (Valley Vision, GSEC, Carlsen Center), \$1.45M (Sierra College), \$350K (Capital Impact), \$300K (AgStart Bio-Manufacturing Acceleration), \$300K (Regional Workforce Boards), \$250K (University of California, Davis), \$200K (Los Rios Community College District)

³ \$2M (Congressional Funding), \$1M (Investment in CSUB Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation)

\$3,106,000	Infrastructure	Repair existing aeronautical facilities to support the attraction of defense and aerospace firms.
Future Labs: TechGrid Expansion		
\$1,700,000	Infrastructure	Expand and enhance a maker-space style facility adjacent to China Lake.
California State University, Bakersfield: Mojave Institute Aerospace and Defense Innovation Hub		
\$2,040,000	Ecosystem Support	Provide regional cluster leadership, increase commercialization activity, and implement the "Aerospace Valley" regional identity.

Regional Cluster #4

- **Coalition Lead:** San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation
- **Sector Focus:** Aerospace & Defense
- **Regional Focus:** Southern Border
- **Award Amount:** \$3,950,000
- **Leveraged Funds:** \$95M⁴
- **Project:**

Award	Project Type	Project Description
San Diego State University: Mission Valley Innovation District Defense Hub		
\$3,950,000	Ecosystem Support	Create an accelerator space with cutting-edge equipment, a prototyping lab, and an investment fund.

Regional Cluster #5

- **Coalition Lead:** Solano County Economic Development Corporation
- **Sector Focus:** Aerospace and Defense
- **Subsector Focus:** Shipbuilding
- **Regional Focus:** Bay Area
- **Award Amount:** \$8,236,500

⁴ \$95M (San Diego State University)

- **Leveraged Funds:** \$20M⁵
- **Projects:**

Award	Project Type	Project Description
California State University Maritime Academy: Bay Area Maritime Innovation Campus		
\$4,360,500	Infrastructure	Transform Mare Island's historic shipyard into an applied research and technology acceleration campus.
California State University Maritime Academy: Bay Area Maritime Workforce Integration Network		
\$1,453,500	Workforce Development	Create an integrated talent pipeline through advanced technical training for maritime manufacturing.
Solano County Economic Development Corporation: Bay Area Maritime Industrial Base Ecosystem Backbone Organization		
\$2,422,500	Ecosystem Support	Establish regional coordination for the Bay Area's maritime industrial base.

Regional Cluster #6

- **Coalition Lead:** San Bernardino Community College District
- **Sector Focus:** High-Tech
- **Regional Focus:** Inland SoCal
- **Award Amount:** \$1,940,000
- **Leveraged Funds:** \$3.925M⁶
- **Projects:**

Award	Project Type	Project Description
Barstow Community College: High Tech Workforce Accelerator		
\$970,000	Infrastructure	Construct a cross-sector training facility with technical training labs and flexible instruction space.

⁵ Potential federal funding between \$15-25 million over three years, creating 1:4 leverage ratio (CalPoly).

⁶ \$3.6M (Barstow Community College), \$325K (In-Kind)

Inland Economic Growth & Opportunity: CMMC* Compliance Capitalization Project		
\$970,000	Ecosystem Support	Establish a catalytic revolving loan fund for Inland Empire manufacturers and entrepreneurs.

*CMMC - Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification

Regional Cluster #7

- **Coalition Lead:** University of California, Los Angeles
- **Sector Focus:** High-Tech
- **Subsector Focus:** Quantum
- **Regional Focus:** Los Angeles County, Orange County, and Southern Border
- **Award Amount:** \$9,742,070
- **Leveraged Funds:** \$30M⁷
- **Projects:**

Award	Project Type	Project Description
California State University San Marcos: SoCal Quantum Alliance for Development: Initialize		
\$2,137,920	Workforce Development	Increase accessibility to quantum education and training opportunities.
UCLA: SoCal Quantum Alliance for Development: Cohere, Entangle, Excite		
\$7,604,150	Ecosystem Support	Provide regional coordination, shared testing capabilities, and quantum-focused venture funding.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Individual projects, and the clusters overall, were evaluated based on the applicant's comprehensive vision, their strategy to promote industry growth, alignment with the State Economic Blueprint, and the ability to leverage outside capital. In addition, the California Jobs First Council Co-Chairs considered

⁷\$30M (Co-Investment)

whether each of the individual projects within the clusters were additive to each other or if they were standalone efforts, the physical location and proposed regional impact of the projects to ensure geographic equity, and the feasibility of the projects to promote job creation, attraction, and access.