



Growing and Developing Central New Jersey's Bioscience Workforce

What will Bio-1 do for Central New Jersey?

Bio-1's goal is to make Central New Jersey (CNJ) the next "hot spot" for the global bioscience industry, by creating more high-quality, high-paying jobs and a highly skilled workforce. The five-county Bio-1 partnership is named for the Route 1 corridor from Rutgers to Princeton, around which most of CNJ's biotech firms are clustered. The CNJ region, comprising Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Somerset counties, has received \$5 million, available under the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) program from the United States Department of Labor (USDOL). The WIRED grant will be used to transform the rich array of existing bioscience education and training and economic development initiatives into a world class bioscience talent development system.

The partnership has its roots in an initiative created by Governor Jon Corzine as part of his statewide economic strategy. This is the third WIRED investment in New Jersey, making it "the most WIRED state" in the U.S.

How will Bio-1 achieve its goal?

In collaboration with representatives of all key players in the biosciences in CNJ, the Bio-1 initiative will focus on six key strategies:

1. Excite young people about the bio-sciences, especially focusing on underrepresented groups.
2. Create a consortium of biotechnology educators from the high school through university levels and beyond that will facilitate smooth career pathways through articulation agreements, mentoring and professional development.
3. Transform graduate education with the development of professional science master's degrees that integrate business and science, and interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs in biotech areas.
4. Increase bioscience workforce development with education and training opportunities. A "flak jackets to lab coats" initiative, for example, will focus on training and job placement in the bioscience industry for returning veterans.
5. Enhance linkages between education and industry through internships, cooperative education and mentoring.
6. Facilitate globally competitive "biobusinesses" by encouraging collaboration between business and education, supporting bioscience start-ups and leveraging existing global networks.

Who are the Bio-1 partners?

Industry groups:

BioNJ, Inc. (formerly Biotechnology Council of NJ, representing more than 200 member companies), HealthCare Institute of New Jersey (representing 26 pharmaceutical and medical device companies)

Individual companies:

Johnson & Johnson, Celgene, PTC Therapeutics, Elusys, Vicus, Chromocell, Roche, Genmab, MedNest, Merck, sanofi-aventis, Bristol-Meyers Squibb, MDL, Humigen, Kelly Scientific, ImClone Systems Incorporated

Workforce Investment Boards (WIB):

Middlesex County WIB, Monmouth County WIB, Greater Raritan Valley WIB (Somerset and Hunterdon counties), Mercer County WIB

Colleges and universities:

Rutgers University, Princeton University, Monmouth University, Rider University, The College of New Jersey, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ), Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS), DeVry University, Consortium of County Colleges including: Raritan Valley Community College, Brookdale Community College, Middlesex Community College, Mercer County Community College

Research institutes:

Cancer Institute of NJ, Stem Cell Institute, W.M. Keck Center for Collaborative Neuroscience, Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine (CABM), Biotechnology Center for Agriculture and the Environment, Waksman Institute, Center for Advanced Food Technology

Secondary education schools:

Over 40 CNJ high schools and middle schools, Biotechnology High School (Monmouth County), Waksman Scholars – 20+ high schools, Rider University partner high schools

Government and non-profit organizations:

NJ Economic Development Authority, New Brunswick Innovation Zone, Edison Venture Fund, NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development, NJ Department of Education, State Employment and Training Commission, NJ Commission on Higher Education, NJ Commission on Science and Technology, Governor's Life Science Workforce Advisory Council, The Biotechnology Institute, Somerset County United Way, Princeton SCORE

How can I find out more?

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