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DAYTON BUSINESS JOURNAL

LATEST NEWS

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Dayton region lands \$22.5M in Third Frontier grants

Ohio's Third Frontier Project awarded 10 Dayton-area businesses and institutions \$22.5 million to develop and commercialize nanomaterials.

The funds are part of the [Wright Centers of Innovation](#) grant program and were announced Tuesday. The technology funding will be used to create the [Ohio Center for Multifunctional Polymer Nanomaterials and Devices](#). The money will be used to purchase advanced specialty equipment to develop the new materials aimed at improving the strength and durability of components eventually used in automobiles and other manufactured products, according to the release from Lt. Gov. Bruce Johnson.

The new center, which will include broad-based research, business and outreach programs, will be based at Ohio State University in Columbus, with several regional sites at the [University of Dayton](#), [University of Akron](#) and more than 50 company partners across the state.

The groups joining forces on the project are the Air Force Research Laboratories at [Wright-Patterson Air Force Base](#), [Cornerstone Research Group](#), [Crayex Corp.](#), the Dayton Area Graduate Studies Institute, EMTEC, [National Composite Center](#), University of Dayton, [Vector Composites Inc.](#), WebCore Technologies and [Wright State University](#) in collaboration with Ohio State University Research Foundation, as well as several other businesses around the country.

Researchers at Wright State University also will work with their researchers at the [Cleveland Clinic Foundation](#) and [Case Western Reserve University](#) as part of a \$6 million Biomedical Research and Technology Transfer Partnership Program grant. The work will be to develop a diagnostic test to help identify individuals at risk for adult macular degeneration, as well as to develop techniques for the early diagnosis and treatment of the disease.

Ohio's Third Frontier Project is a 10-year, \$1.1 billion initiative, the state's largest-ever commitment to high-tech research and promotion of start-up companies, according to the release.

Here are some other groups and organizations around the state that received additional funding Tuesday:

- OSU's College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and its business partners: an \$11.6 million grant to create the [Ohio BioProducts Innovation Center](#). The center will develop chemical conversion technologies to be used in the production of items such as lubricants and adhesives from raw materials grown within the state, including corn and soybeans.
- The Cleveland Clinic Foundation's Department of Cardiovascular Medicine: \$23 million to create the [Atrial Fibrillation Innovation Center](#). The work there will help develop both surgical and non-invasive treatments to prevent and cure dangerous heart electrical disturbances that often lead to strokes or death.
- Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland: \$4 million to support the development and commercialization of sub-atomic particles to help with early detection of breast cancer and new therapies for hemophilia.
- [OSU Research Foundation](#): \$4.25 million to develop and market new therapies involving the body's immune system to delay and control the onset of multiple sclerosis.
- The Cleveland Clinic Foundation: \$4 million to create the [Clinical Tissue Engineering Center](#) to develop new techniques to help repair and regenerate bone, cartilage, tendon and skin. The diseases targeted in the research will be osteoarthritis, fracture care, osteoporosis, degenerative tendon rupture and chronic soft tissue wounds.

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