

FAU# 0912030141

New York State Department of Health
and the
Empire State Stem Cell Board

Request for Information

Emergence of a Stem Cell Research Industry in New York

Schedule of Events

Responses Due: March 31, 2010 5:00 PM

Contact Information

Submit Responses:

Please send responses electronically to: economicRFI@NYSTEM.org

or by mail to:

NYSTEM
Stem Cell Research Industry RFI
NYS Department of Health
Room C345
Empire State Plaza
PO Box 509
Albany, NY 12201-0509

PURPOSE:

The New York State Department of Health's Stem Cell Science Program is requesting information from interested parties regarding New York's biotechnology industry and emerging stem cell research industry. Information may include: the role of state government in developing commercially viable products and clinical tools; recommendations to improve government policies relative to the translation of scientific discovery to commercial markets; and identification of economic measures to track growth and benefits of public investment of stem cell research. The information gathered as a result of this Request for Information (RFI) will be provided to the Empire State Stem Cell Board (ESSCB) and may be used to formulate the Board's strategic planning, funding proposals and broader policies related to the Empire State Stem Cell Trust Fund. This RFI is not a solicitation for funding proposals.

BACKGROUND:

New York State is committed to supporting innovative basic, translational, and clinical stem cell research. New York State Stem Cell Science (NYSTEM) is a program of the New York State Department of Health's Wadsworth Center, whose purpose is to administer stem cell research funding based on stringent peer review and recommendations of the ESSCB. Information about the ESSCB and NYSTEM can be found at: <http://stemcell.ny.gov>.

To date, the ESSCB has approved \$123.7 million in awards to support research that enhances the understanding of stem cell biology, accelerates the potential of cell-based therapies to treat life-threatening diseases, and positions New York to benefit economically from the emerging biotechnology field. Beyond responsibility for making funding recommendations, the ESSCB is committed to analysis and evaluation of the program's goals and outcomes. Towards developing its analysis, the ESSCB convened a Workgroup consisting of Board members, individuals engaged in commercial stem cell research development, the pharmaceutical and biotechnology business sectors and state government employees known for their practical experience developing capital investment strategies and public/private business partnerships.

The Workgroup was asked to provide comments and guidance intended to facilitate: evaluation of the economic and other benefits derived from New York's investment in stem cell research; analysis of NYSTEM program goals and strategic planning; and consideration of intellectual property and technology transfer policies that would ensure broad access to the results of state-funded research and optimum benefits to New York State and its residents. NYSTEM acknowledges the importance of gathering input from a broad constituency and is inviting interested parties to submit comments related to these specific topics. Comments, data and recommendations collected through this process may be used to inform NYSTEM program development.

Information requested:

- Name
- Affiliation
- Phone Number
- e-Mail Address

The following questions were developed in an effort to provide guidance to respondents in framing comments and opinions, and are intended to reflect a solicitation of views directly related to: developing a model to evaluate the economic and other benefits derived from New York's investment in stem cell research; identifying an appropriate matrix to assess NYSTEM program goals and strategic planning; and considering state intellectual property and technology transfer policies that will ensure broad access to the results of state-funded research and apply the

principles of distributive justice to the resulting clinical applications. **Based on your experience, please submit a response to as many of these questions as possible:**

- Is there adequate research laboratory space available in New York State to support commercial development of potential stem cell-based therapies? Is the geographic location of available space appropriate/useful? Please elaborate.
- What funding policies and funding mechanisms would be most effective for promoting commercial competition and innovation while helping to establish/create a more robust biotechnology infrastructure in the State?
- Should NYSTEM consider establishing a Small Business Innovation Research program or other funding mechanism specifically to support small businesses engaged in stem cell research and stem cell-related technology development? If yes, please describe details of the ideal funding mechanism.
- What types of business models and funding mechanisms could be implemented to effectively encourage and support private-sector investment in NYSTEM supported research?
- What types of intellectual property/technology transfer policies create disincentives for collaborations between academic research institutions and private industry? Between the scientific community at large and private industry?
- Is there a role for state government in transferring technology resulting from publicly funded collaborations to commercialization? If yes, what should that role be?
- Should the State recover a return on its investment? If yes, what percentage should be returned?
- What metrics should be used to accurately assess the economic and other benefits derived from the NYSTEM program?

Please provide any additional input you think might be useful.

Responses:

Responses are required by 5:00 PM Eastern Time March 31, 2010.

Please send responses electronically to: economicRFI@NYSTEM.org

or by mail to:

NYSTEM
Stem Cell Research Industry RFI
NYS Department of Health
Room C345
Empire State Plaza
PO Box 509
Albany, NY 12201-0509

Results:

Information from the responses to this RFI **may** be used by the Department of Health/NYSTEM and ESSCB to formulate strategic planning, funding requests and broader policies related to the Empire State Stem Cell Trust Fund, although no guarantee can be made that any such funding request will be issued. THIS IS NOT A SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS.

For further information, contact:

Ms. Martha G. McHugh
NYSTEM
New York State Department of Health
Wadsworth Center, Room C345, ESP
PO Box 509, Albany, NY 12201-0509
Phone: 518-486-2893
E-Mail: economicRFI@NYSTEM.org