

2026-01-08 ITV – Industrial Technology Validation Program Office Hours Q&A's

Q: Great program! As you consider selecting an application for funding, what are your top three priorities? What is your top priority? Thank you for your help!

A: Please refer to the [Opportunity Page](#) for the four criteria that we are looking for, which are suitability for validation, technology replicability, technology impact, and importance of program participation.

Q: Our testing partner may not be able to participate. We have an affordable hydroelectric system. Is there anything ITV can suggest to find a testing location?

A: We have a [Teaming Partner list](#) on the [Opportunity Page](#). It is not required that your partner be a part of the [Teaming Partner list](#), but we suggest utilizing this database if you do not have a partner lined up and are looking for one.

Q: Are reductions in CO2 emissions and harmful pollutants metrics of interest?

A: No, greenhouse gas emission reductions are not explicitly of interest in this Opportunity. Technologies should benefit operations, optimize performance, or improve competitiveness in the industrial sector.

Q: Is there an allowable indirect cost rate?

A: All awards are a firm fixed price. You will need to line item all portions of your cost in the spreadsheet that's attached. There are no indirect or direct costs for this award.

Q: For the Multi-Org activities tab in the budget, should the milestones be identical for Host Site and Tech Dev but with different award/cost share levels?

A: An incorrect version of the budget template spreadsheet was initially uploaded. A corrected version, which does not require applicants to list specific milestones, has been uploaded. Please use this version instead.

Q: Can the technology provider submit the application or does it need to be the host site?

A: It can be either the technology provider or host site filling out the application, so long as the other provides a letter or commitment.

Q: Could you explain best practices for filling in the four tabs in the budget spreadsheet template? There seems to be some duplicative information requested

A: An incorrect version of the budget template spreadsheet was initially uploaded. A corrected version, which does not request duplicative information, has been uploaded. Please use this version instead.

Q: Can the award be used for a portion of a larger project / budget for the installation at the host site?

A: Yes, as long as all cost share requirements are met.

Q: Does the technology have to replace existing technology at the host site, or can this be technology the facility does not already have?

A: It does not have to be a "one-for-one" replacement of an existing piece of equipment. However, there must be a baseline period of performance that can be compared to the post-installation performance that allows for a measurable, quantifiable improvement as a result of the technology's adoption.

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Q: Are greenfield installs acceptable?

A: There must be a baseline period of performance that can be compared to the post-installation performance that allows for a measurable, quantifiable improvement as a result of the technology's adoption. Greenfield installations of a new technology that do not have a baseline period to compare to are not eligible for this opportunity.

Q: Can you explain if a profit margin for the tech developer is allowed since they can act as a vendor to the host site? How would this be reported in the budget?

A: This is allowed. DOE does not provide restrictions or guidance on the financial relationship between the host site and technology developer.

Q: Can the host site and developer be the same?

A: The host site and the technology developer cannot be the same institution or same entity. Please review the [Opportunity Page](#) for eligibility criteria.

Q: When would awards be paid out after the award date in Spring 2026? (scheduling purposes)

A: All payments are milestone based. Each milestone should be a complete product of the deliverable submitted in combination with the invoice. All work will be submitted and paid for on the completion of the required deliverables being submitted, which will be clearly mapped out and defined.

Q: If the tech developer devotes staff time to install/testing, can these hours (when properly documented) count as cost share provided by the host site?

A: Yes, costs for installation or integration of the technology at the host facility are eligible to count towards the project's total cost share, so long as those costs are pre-approved and properly documented.

Q: Can a milestone have \$0 in gov award and cost share if it's just "signing participation agreement and commitment to the program?"

A: Signing the Terms and Conditions Agreements (TCAs) occurs in the first phase, and there is no requirement for cost share in Phase 1. Phase 1 is purely milestone-based.

Q: Is leasing a space specifically to assemble components of the project an allowable cost?

A: Yes. Generally, any costs incurred specifically to install the new technology are eligible. Please find more detailed language on the [Opportunity Page](#) regarding links relevant to cost share.

Q: In the first tab of the budget template, how detailed should the itemized cost description be? Can costs like "equipment" be bundled?

A: Please provide sufficient detail to allow for a reasonable evaluation of the costs of various components of the project, within reason. One line including all equipment costs would be considered insufficient detail. As an example: if the project will require installation of new piping to bypass an existing piece of equipment, it is not necessary at this stage to list out the specific length of pipe and the exact number of each type of fitting that will be required. A line totaling "bypass piping costs" would be sufficient. Please use your best judgment.

Q: Can the baseline data be from a different site?

A: No. There are too many variables and differences from site to site to allow for rigorous M&V evaluation if baseline data comes from an entirely different facility.

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Q: How should we go about reporting and documenting staff time for cost share? What are allowable methods and rates?

A: Selectee's cost share must come from non-federal sources. Acceptable sources include project partners, state or local programs, or private financing. DOE loan guarantees, other federal awards, discounts, foregone fee/profit, and any costs incurred before selection do NOT count. Typical eligible cash contributions include but are not limited to direct labor, fringe, materials, equipment, travel, and approved indirect rates—documented per 2 CFR 200.306. More detail on [the FAQ page](#)

Q: Is the intent to install a permanent piece of equipment or can the equipment be smaller in scale for a pilot?

A: We are expecting to have a mix of both awarded in this Opportunity.

Q: Can the host site and developer be similar entities? with common ownership?

A: The host site and technology developer must be two separate, independently operated organizations. Common ownership is not necessarily a disqualifier, but applications should note this if it is the case and provide justification/explanation of how the two entities operate independently of one another.

Q: Can we make a proposal with multiple host sites?

A: A Host Site may team with several Technology Developers, and a Developer may partner with several Host Sites, provided each team submits a separate, unique, and self-contained application. However, a technology developer is discouraged from submitting multiple applications that propose validation of the same (or substantially similar) technology at different host sites, as only one award will be made per unique technology.

Q: How many projects do you plan on selecting?

A: This will depend on the size of awarded projects. However, we expect to announce approximately 8-10 awards.

Q: We have contacted the applicable test facilities on the list. We have contacted other entities but since late in the process any suggestions to find a partner?

A: We suggest utilizing the [Teaming Partner list](#).

Q: Is it acceptable to validate the technology using smaller-size products processed on full commercial manufacturing equipment rather than full commercial-size products, when the smaller format still represents the same process & performance but keeps costs within Phase II budget?

A: Potentially, yes. We expect to have a range of scales of technology readiness and size of projects, which may include partial-scale installations. However, you should be prepared to justify why and how the smaller-scale process is representative of the commercial process, and why its reasonable to extrapolate results from that validation to a larger-scale system.

Q: Do the \$300k and \$10k installation include the 50% cost share? Or is the amounts received from DOE?

A: This is the maximum amount that DOE will pay. Phase 2 is the only phase that requires cost share. The host site is eligible to receive payments of up to \$300,000 and technology developer up to \$10K in this phase. DOE will pay half of total project costs, up to \$310K, split 300/10 to the host site/developer.

- If total costs are \geq \$620K total cost \rightarrow DOE pays \$310k maximum; team covers remainder.

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- If total costs are < \$620K, DOE will only pay up to half the total cost. Ex. If total costs are, for example, \$310K → DOE pays \$155K; team pays \$155K

Q: Gratefully, there are a few universities that have offered to be a host site. Are they considered to be industrial in this case?

A: To respond to several specific cases that have been raised, this would not include in-field agricultural sites, hospitals, health centers, utilities, and universities. We don't generally consider a university as an industrial facility, unless there is a unique situation where it meets all the requirements. Please refer to criteria in the opportunity announcement.

Q: Can a municipal utility be considered as a host? In prior presentation a Municipal Utility was mentioned acceptable as Industrial if they have commercial applications that they operate and are appropriate.

A: Water or wastewater treatment utilities are eligible, but power-generating or distributing utilities would not be eligible

Q: The presentation stated early 2026 selected participants will be notified. Approximately when is the award announcement?

A: We do not have a more specific date than early 2026.

Q: Would a business park or industrial park be considered industrial site?

A: A business park including industrial sites could be eligible. A business park including only commercial buildings would not be eligible. Eligible host sites must be an operational industrial site, e.g., a manufacturing facility, water or wastewater treatment plant, or a data center. There are no specific industrial sectors of interest.

Q: Where will the follow-ups / confirmations be posted?

A: Please find the recording, transcript, and follow-up Q&A on the [Opportunity Page](#)

Q: Can a state owned infrastructure be a host site for validation?

A: Both technology developer and host site must qualify as a domestic entity. To qualify as a domestic entity, the entity must be organized, chartered, or incorporated (or otherwise formed) under the laws of a particular state or territory of the United States. The entity must have majority domestic ownership and control and have a physical place of business in the United States.