



FUND FACTS

**25**  
PARTICIPANTS

MORE THAN  
**\$18**  
MILLION  
IN LOANS AWARDED

**NEW**  
**IP**  
DEVELOPED  
IN NORTH  
DAKOTA

The Innovation Technology Loan Fund (LIFT) is an innovation loan fund that supports technology advancement by providing financing for commercialization of intellectual property within the state of North Dakota. The following industries qualify for these funds:

- Advanced computing and data management
- Agriculture technology
- Autonomous and unmanned vehicles and related technologies
- Energy
- Health care
- Value-added agriculture
- Value-added energy
- Any industry or area specifically identified by the committee as an industry that will contribute to the diversification of the state's economy

**LIFT LOAN TERMS INCLUDE:**

- 0% interest for the first three years of the loan.
- 2% interest for the next two years of the loan.
- An interest rate equal to a standard Bank of North Dakota loan for all subsequent years.

The use of the loan funds are available to enhance capacity and to the extent possible, leverage state, federal and private sources of funding. Loan funds may be used to conduct applied research, experimentation or operational testing within the state. Loan funds may not be used for capital or building investments or for research, academic or instructive programming, workforce training, administrative costs, or to supplant funding for regular operations of institutions of higher education.

Approval for LIFT applications shall be made by the LIFT Committee with the following considerations:

1. Deliver applied research, experimentation or operational testing in one or more of the diversification sectors to create information or data to enhance North Dakota companies or industries or companies making investments in North Dakota.
2. Lead to the commercialization or patent of an innovation technology solution.
3. Result in the development of a new company or expansion of an existing company that will diversify the state's economy through new products, investment or skilled jobs.

More info can be found by visiting [NDCC Chapter 6-09.18](#) or contacting Carla Valentine at [crvalentine@nd.gov](mailto:crvalentine@nd.gov).

INDUSTRIES REPRESENTED

ADVANCED COMPUTING AND DATA MANAGEMENT

AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY

ENERGY AND VALUE-ADDED ENERGY

HEALTH CARE

VALUE-ADDED AGRICULTURE

UAS

## LIFT SUCCESS EXAMPLES

**Access Point Technologies EP Inc.** — A global supplier of innovative medical devices focused on meeting the needs of the large and fast-growing electrophysiology (EP) market, estimated at \$5 billion today with an 11% compound annual growth rate. APT EP designs and develops new catheters and systems for treating cardiac arrhythmias. It is building a new research and development center in Horace which will be ready in Q1 2021 and plans to develop both catheters and systems in this new facility. In addition, the company plans to hire and train local engineering talent and partner with ND physicians to develop significant bioscience intellectual property.



**Checkable Medical Corp.** — Developing an at-home strep test to be manufactured in North Dakota and launching an at-home rapid COVID-19 antibody test. LIFT support allowed it to move the founding team to the state and partner with a North Dakota clinical research partner to execute its trial. The company plans to create high-paying jobs in the bioscience industry in the next couple years.



**First-I LLC (KSI Video)** — Currently contracting its software services from a North Dakota company and recently established an office in Grand Forks as base for the development and manufacture of a new UAS product designed to assist first responders and emergency management personnel. The company is applying for matching funding from other sources and plans to have a commercially viable prototype available later in 2021. To date it has created one job in Grand Forks with plans for additional hires once it reaches commercialization.



**Three Farm Daughters** — A value-added ag start-up creating high-fiber, low gluten food products utilizing GoodWheat varieties grown in the USA and milled at the North Dakota State Mill. Three Farm Daughters has launched three pasta products and a 100% wheat flour for sale online and in stores in North Dakota and Minnesota. In doing so, Three Farm Daughters utilizes three North Dakota logistics companies, a North Dakota food-grade warehouse facility and collaborates with a Grand Forks local chef for recipe development.



**TracFrac Inc.** — A Bismarck-based company developing a patent pending scheduling platform that coordinates activities between operators and service companies in the oil and gas industry. Currently working with two major energy companies in North Dakota, TracFrac adds reliability and automation to the oil and gas monitoring and notification system.

