
Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC)

**Office of Technology Commercialization
(\$K)**

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted¹	FY 2027 Request	FY 2027 Request vs FY 2026 Enacted
Office of Technology Commercialization	17,000	10,000	24,555	+14,555
Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation	3,000	3,000	2,000	-1,000

Proposed Appropriation Language

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for carrying out the activities of technology commercialization, \$26,555,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$19,500,000 shall be available until September 30, 2028, for program direction.

Mission

The mission of the Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC) is to expand the commercial and national security impact of the Department of Energy's research investments. OTC provides National Lab commercialization expertise and entrepreneurial skills training, catalyzes industry partnerships with the National Labs, funds innovative small businesses and incubators, produces market-informed commercialization analytics, and serves as the DOE's central manager of partnership intermediary agreements. OTC collaborates across DOE Program Offices and the National Laboratories to develop and launch lab-to-market and other technology commercialization strategies and programs. OTC manages the DOE's Small Business Innovation Research-Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR-STTR) program, Technology Commercialization Fund (TCF), Energy I-Corps (EIC), Energy Program for Innovation Clusters (EPIC), and Lab Partnering Service (LPS). OTC stewards DOE statutory technology transfer activities, including data collection and analyses, National Lab practitioner convenings, and strategic communication and amplification of DOE technology transfer success stories. OTC acts as the liaison to the Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation (FESI), which works with DOE to carry out its critical mission and to accelerate the commercialization of new and existing energy technologies.

In FY 2026 Enacted, OTC was moved from a standalone expenditure account to the Departmental Administration account, but consistent with historical practice, the FY 2027 Budget proposes reinstating a standalone expenditure account for OTC.

Overview

OTC's FY 2027 budget represents a vital investment in unlocking the Department's commercialization potential. The budget targets the following areas:

- **Catalyzing Startups and Small Businesses:** Startups are America's primary engine of job creation and small businesses disproportionately contribute step-change innovation that propels America's technology leadership. Through the statutory SBIR-STTR program and the EPIC incubator program, OTC manages DOE's strategic portfolio of investments in small businesses and the incubators that empower and equip them to thrive.

¹ In the FY 2026 Enacted budget, appropriations for OTC and FESI appear within the Departmental Administration account.

- **National Lab Commercialization:** DOE’s National Labs have strong commercial potential, as evidenced by DOE’s #1 global ranking in utility patents by the National Academy of Inventors. Through the statutory TCF program, OTC directs DOE’s investments in strategic public-private partnerships to unleash National Lab innovation into the marketplace. OTC fosters an entrepreneurial National Lab workforce through its EIC program and connects industry to the National Lab enterprise through the LPS. OTC also convenes National Lab technology transfer practitioners and stewards best practice sharing, success story reporting, and business process improvements to accelerate partnerships across the National Labs.
- **Support for FESI:** An independent, 501c3 non-governmental organization, FESI’s statutory aim is to support the mission of DOE and accelerate the commercialization of new and existing energy technologies by raising and investing funds through engagements with the private sector and philanthropic communities.

To advance these priorities and fully execute statutory responsibilities, the Department requests \$26,555,000 for OTC in FY 2027, of which \$2,000,000 is for a separate funding line to support FESI in its efforts to enhance the DOE mission. OTC’s \$24,555,000 funding level will allow the office to implement statutory authorities under the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Energy Act of 2020 and CHIPS and Science Act of 2022.

DOE Realignment

In November 2025, DOE functionally realigned SBIR-STTR program management responsibilities to the Office of Technology Commercialization. In the FY 2027 Budget Request, all staff and programmatic work required to successfully implement the SBIR-STTR program has been consolidated into the Office of Technology Commercialization budget request.

**Office of Technology Commercialization
Funding by Budget Control (\$K)**

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	FY 2027 Request vs FY 2026 Enacted	
				\$	%
Program Direction	11,500	10,000	19,500	+9,500	+95%
Technology Commercialization Programs	5,500	-	5,055	+5,055	N/A
Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation	3,000	3,000	2,000	-1,000	-33%
Total, Technology Commercialization	20,000	13,000	26,555	+13,555	+104%

Program Direction

Overview

Program Direction fully funds federal salaries and benefits, official travel, training, DOE Working Capital Fund, Energy Information Technology Services (EITS), associated support services contracts, fellows and interns, and all program implementation expenses to execute the OTC mission, comply with authorizing statutes, and coordinate commercialization activities across the Department, including the National Laboratories.

In FY 2027, Program Direction resources reflect changes in the scope and organization of OTC's responsibilities. This funding supports communications, commercialization analysis, National Lab convening, tech transfer data collection and reporting, targeted stakeholder outreach and partnering efforts, support for Departmental use of partnership intermediary agreements, and oversight and management of all OTC programmatic activities, including TCF, EPIC, EIC, and LPS, as well as the DOE's consolidated SBIR-STTR program.

Highlights of the FY 2027 Budget Request

Communicating Successes – OTC develops and disseminates communications content that provides stakeholders with a clear understanding of the capabilities, impact, and opportunities associated with the National Laboratories and the broader DOE research portfolio. OTC identifies and amplifies technology transfer and commercialization success stories from across the DOE enterprise to support stakeholder engagement and broaden participation in DOE programs and partnerships. A subset of success stories is reported to Congress annually to meet statutory requirements. FY 2027 funding sustains communications activities that highlight the commercial impact of DOE investments and support external engagement with the National Laboratories.

Data Collection and Reporting – In accordance with DOE Policy 482.2, *Laboratory Technology Transfer Data Collection and Management*, OTC gathers, verifies, and validates unclassified technology transfer partnership and metrics data for all 17 DOE National Laboratories and four production facilities on an annual basis. This effort supports annual statutory reporting on National Laboratory utilization and provides unique visibility into the commercial impact of DOE's investments in the National Laboratories and Facilities and the breadth of beneficiaries and partners across the Nation. FY 2027 funding supports data collection, management, analysis, and reporting at a sustained level.

Market & Commercialization Analysis - In FY 2027, OTC will continue its market and commercialization analysis activities to illuminate technology market trends, supply chains risks, and other drivers to accelerate the commercialization and scale-up of DOE-developed technologies. OTC also facilitates the development and use of market analysis content, methodologies, and data services across the Department and convenes members of the National Laboratory community to promote market awareness and information sharing around resources and methodologies to enhance commercialization opportunities for DOE technologies.

Partnership Development - OTC pursues purposeful stakeholder engagement to increase awareness of the opportunities for partnership with the DOE and the National Laboratories. By working with a diverse group of capital providers and market actors with various investment time horizons, risk appetites, organizational structures, and constituencies, OTC is well-positioned to identify effective ways to help maximize the impact of the Department's research investments. FY 2027 funding sustains both broad and targeted partnership development activities.

National Lab Convening - OTC convenes the Technology Transfer Policy Board comprising DOE program office representatives responsible for stewarding DOE’s technology transfer activities. OTC also oversees the activities of and coordinates with the Technology Transfer Working Group (TTWG) comprising technology transfer and partnership development professionals across National Laboratories, plants, and sites and DOE site office representatives. OTC actively engages the TTWG executive board, subcommittees, communities of practice (COPs), and other working groups, to better enable feedback to DOE to inform process and outcome improvements.

Innovative Partnership Mechanisms – OTC will also continue to elevate and enable using innovative funding and partnership mechanisms, such as prizes and partnership intermediary agreements (PIAs), to make it easier for external entities to participate in DOE programs and engage with DOE Laboratories. In FY 2027, OTC will continue to manage the execution of the DOE-wide PIA service aimed at increasing DOE outreach and engagement with small businesses, universities, and other non-traditional partners, and will launch several activities in collaboration with DOE program offices. OTC will also continue to serve as the Departmental liaison to the Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation.

Program and Project Management – Funding supports HQ oversight and management of all programmatic activities, including the Technology Commercialization Fund, Energy Program for Innovation Clusters, Lab Partnering Service, Energy I-Corps, and other commercialization activities that support OTC’s mission. Program and project management requirements will increase in FY 2027 due to the consolidation of SBIR-STTR program management under OTC.

**Program Direction
(\$K)**

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
Salaries and Benefits	6,197	5,925	11,600
Travel	250	200	210
Support Services	3,781	2,875	5,190
Other Related Expenses	1,272	1,000	2,500
Total, Program Direction	11,500	10,000	19,500
Total FTEs	33	28	58

**Program Direction
Activities and Explanation of Changes
(\$K)**

FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Explanation of Changes FY 2027 Request vs FY 2026 Enacted
Program Direction		
10,000	19,500	+9,500
<i>Salaries and Benefits</i>		
<i>5,925</i>	<i>11,600</i>	<i>+5,675</i>
Funding supports 28 onboard FTEs responsible for managing OTC's commercialization portfolio and providing essential operations support. This includes management of all OTC programs, office operational support, tech transfer policy and lab-convening, communications, and staff focused on creating public-private partnership opportunities, enabling access to innovative partnering mechanisms, and managing market and commercialization analyses.	Funding supports scale up to 58 FTEs responsible for managing OTC's ongoing commercialization portfolio including the consolidated SBIR/-STTR program and providing essential operations support. Also accommodates anticipated Within-Grade Increases (WGI) increases, cost-of-living increases, and associated FERS increase in Calendar Year 2026.	Supports an additional +30 FTEs for the management of the consolidated SBIR-STTR program, anticipated WGI increases, and 1% cost-of-living increase in civilian salaries in Calendar Year 2026, and associated FERS increase.
<i>Travel</i>		
<i>200</i>	<i>210</i>	<i>+10</i>
Funding supported travel requirements associated with DOE's commercialization portfolio, such as engagement with the National Laboratories, outreach at industry events, and project management oversight of OTC's awardees.	Continuation of activities in FY 2027 with increase to reflect consolidation of DOE's SBIR-STTR program under OTC.	Increase reflects anticipated travel needs in FY 2027 due to SBIR-STTR consolidation.
<i>Support Services</i>		
<i>2,875</i>	<i>5,190</i>	<i>+2,315</i>
Funding supported contractor support associated with management of OTC's programs portfolio, all communications support, access to tools and information for more informed industry engagement, market and commercialization pathways analysis, enabling use of innovative partnering mechanisms, developing guidance and policies, implementing the Administration's technology transfer and commercialization priorities and best practices, and conducting other	Continuation of activities in FY 2027 with increase to reflect consolidation of DOE's SBIR-STTR program under OTC.	Increase due to expanded contract support requirements to enable successful implementation of consolidated SBIR-STTR program under OTC.

FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Explanation of Changes FY 2027 Request vs FY 2026 Enacted
required data collection, verification, validation and reporting.		
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<i>Other Related Expenses</i>		
<i>1,000</i>	<i>2,500</i>	<i>+1,500</i>
Funding supported the business costs associated with the DOE’s Working Capital Fund (office space, phones, utilities, etc.); Energy IT Services (IT equipment and support); specialized software licensing; security investigations; and staff development and training to maintain and enhance work related skills and capabilities.	Continuation of activities in FY 2027 with increase to reflect consolidation of DOE’s SBIR-STTR program under OTC.	Increase in other related expenses to support approved staffing level of 58 FTEs.
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Technology Commercialization Programs

Overview

In addition to the work of federal and HQ contractor employees funded through Program Direction, OTC requests \$5.055 million in Technology Commercialization Programs funding to support a \$2.555 million portfolio of National Laboratory commercialization activities and to continue the successful \$2.5 million regional incubator and accelerator program.

Highlights of the FY 2027 Budget Request

National Laboratory Commercialization Programs

Technology Commercialization Fund (TCF) - In FY 2027, OTC will continue to implement the TCF, first authorized in Section 1001 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and amended by the Energy Act of 2020 Section 9003(e) to promote “promising energy technologies for commercial purposes.” The TCF represents the single biggest annual investment by the DOE in National Lab commercialization and involves contributions from and close collaboration with multiple DOE funding offices. Through the TCF, OTC invests in forming crosscutting collaborations among DOE National Laboratories that improve the commercialization ecosystem and increase opportunities for industry partners. TCF funding also enables National Labs to build on existing partnerships and establish new partnerships with industry. The current TCF project portfolio includes over 140 industry Industry-Lab partnerships and OTC expects to continue this level of investment in FY 2027. Since OTC started tracking outcomes in 2022, TCF projects have resulted in 226 commercialization successes involving Lab technologies.

Energy I-Corps - Energy I-Corps (EIC) is a 10-week training program pairing National Laboratory scientists and engineers with industry mentors to define technology value propositions, conduct stakeholder discovery interviews, and develop viable market pathways to accelerate commercializing DOE National Laboratory-based technologies. EIC fosters an entrepreneurial, market-oriented DOE National Laboratory workforce. OTC funding primarily supports curriculum development, program management, and efforts to help labs develop a pipeline for teams to participate in EIC. OTC also provides an opportunity to support the most promising EIC program graduates in their next step in technology commercialization. DOE programs opt in by funding the cost of participating researcher time to complete the program and/or proposals for pre-training pipeline and post-program follow-on. Since EIC’s inception in 2015, 270 teams from 16 National Laboratories, plants and sites, funded by 21 non-OTC DOE Offices and partner agencies, have conducted over 19,760 interviews and worked with many industry sectors to discover the commercial impact of technologies they have developed at the National Laboratories. Following the program, these technologies have reached a point of commercial viability that has attracted over \$234 million in follow-on funding from both federal and private sources, 27 new companies have been launched, and over 99 licenses of DOE-funded technologies have been executed.

Lab Partnering Service (LPS) - OTC’s LPS fulfills the Energy Act 2020 mandate to: “Establish a Lab Partnering Service Pilot Program to provide services that encourage and support partnerships between the National Laboratories and public and private sector entities...” LPS provides information and engagement pathways to entrepreneurs; small businesses; corporate entities; State, local and Tribal officials; investors and other external stakeholders seeking to connect with DOE National Laboratory capabilities. Specifically, LPS facilitates access to National Laboratory expertise, technologies, facilities, and success stories, and streamlines discovery of capabilities distributed across the National Laboratory enterprise. In FY 2027, OTC will sustain efforts to maintain LPS content, track impact, and support stakeholder engagement, particularly in areas of high commercial relevance and strong alignment with U.S. economic, energy, and national security priorities.

Other Lab Commercialization Activities – OTC continuously assesses the spectrum of commercialization activities across the Department and seeks to seed gap-filling programs and activities with small, targeted investments.

Catalyzing Startups and Small Businesses

Energy Program for Innovation Clusters (EPIC) – EPIC is a competitive funding program for incubators to build regional innovation clusters and increase the commercialization success of energy technology entrepreneurs and startups. In FY 2027, OTC requests that \$2.5M be directed to this important mission. The funds are used to support a portfolio of geographically diverse incubators focused on bolstering energy technology startups. OTC invests in creative new programs and services offered by incubators to enable the startups to propel America’s technology leadership. The program was continuously funded from FY 2020 through FY 2025 and has funded 77 regional incubators, representing over 45 states, supporting over 230 startups that attracted over \$138 million in follow-on funding.

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) – In FY 2026, the DOE consolidated its ~\$300 million SBIR-STTR program under OTC. In FY 2027, OTC will continue to implement the reauthorized SBIR-STTR program. OTC plans to optimize SBIR-STTR management for increased efficiency at DOE, improved applicant and awardee experience, and improved programmatic outcomes with a focus on commercialization. New FY 2027 funding for OTC to implement the SBIR-STTR program is requested in the form of Program Direction funding for staff dedicated to SBIR management.

Explanation of Changes for Technology Commercialization Programs

- Supports resuming the EPIC program to directly invest in incubators across the country that catalyze a vibrant and successful startup community of energy technology disruptors. In FY 2026, OTC received no program funding in the enacted budget and was only able to support a limited program with prior year carryover funding.
- Supports resuming full operation of the Energy I-Corps program, including running two annual training cohorts. In FY 2026, OTC received no program support funding in the enacted budget and was only able to support one training cohort with prior year carryover funding. The second planned cohort was cancelled.
- Supports continued operation of LPS to maintain up to date content and continue to promote its use to potential partners and users.

Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation

Overview

Under the CHIPS and Science Act (P.L. 117-167), the Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation (FESI)—an independent nonprofit organization—aims to enhance energy security and innovation by channeling private resources and philanthropic contributions toward supporting DOE’s mission and accelerating commercialization through collaborations with energy researchers, institutions of higher education, non-profits, and philanthropic organizations. The Budget request provides \$2,000,000 for FESI, to support core staff and operating expenses. Funds for FESI shall not retain their federal character. The bulk of its long-term funding will be raised from philanthropic and private sources.

FESI was created to help unleash American energy solutions. Through its unique authority and capabilities, FESI can help DOE accelerate the development and commercialization of critical energy technologies, foster public-private partnerships, and provide additional resources to partners and communities across the country supporting solutions-driven research and innovation that strengthens America’s energy and national security goals. Given the importance and complexity of technology commercialization, the Department supports funding for an independent, nonprofit FESI as authorized by the CHIPS and Science Act (P.L. 117-167).

Highlights of the FY 2027 Budget Request

The CHIPS and Science Act provides FESI with broad authority to support the mission of the DOE and accelerate the commercialization of energy technologies. To accomplish this mission, Congress provided FESI with various authorities, including, engaging with the private and philanthropic sector to raise and invest funds that complement DOE investments and efforts to “create, characterize, develop, test, validate, and deploy or commercialize innovative technologies that address crosscutting national energy challenges” To enable FESI, the CHIPS legislation includes authorizations for establishment and initial activities to support mission-aligned organizational functions, capabilities, and programs to carry out its mission.

Explanation of Changes for Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation

- The Department’s FY 2027 Request for FESI is intended to convey support for FESI to continue its operations in support of DOE’s mission.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Funding by Site Detail

TAS_0346 - Office of Technology Commercialization - FY 2027

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
Argonne National Laboratory			
Technology Transitions Program Office	89	0	0
Total Argonne National Laboratory	89	0	0
Brookhaven National Laboratory			
Technology Transitions Program Office	49	0	0
Total Brookhaven National Laboratory	49	0	0
Golden Field Office			
Technology Transitions Program Office	72	0	0
Office of Technology Transitions Program Direction	18	0	0
Total Golden Field Office	90	0	0
Idaho Operations Office			
Technology Transitions Program Office	87	0	0
Total Idaho Operations Office	87	0	0
National Laboratory of the Rockies			
Technology Transitions Program Office	3,540	0	0
Total National Laboratory of the Rockies	3,540	0	0
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory			
Technology Transitions Program Office	50	0	0
Total Pacific Northwest National Laboratory	50	0	0
Savannah River National Laboratory			
Technology Transitions Program Office	44	0	0
Total Savannah River National Laboratory	44	0	0
SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory			
Technology Transitions Program Office	50	0	0
Total SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory	50	0	0
Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility			
Technology Transitions Program Office	100	0	0
Total Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility	100	0	0
Washington Headquarters			
Technology Transitions Program Office	343	0	0
Office of Technology Transitions Program Direction	11,482	0	20,555
Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation	3,000	0	0
Total Washington Headquarters	14,825	0	20,555

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Funding by Site Detail

TAS_0346 - Office of Technology Commercialization - FY 2027

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
Y-12 National Security Complex			
Technology Transitions Program Office	100	0	0
Total Y-12 National Security Complex	100	0	0
Undesignated LPI			
Technology Transitions Program Office	976	0	5,000
Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation	0	0	1,000
Total Undesignated LPI	976	0	6,000
Total Funding by Site for TAS_0346 - Office of Technology Commercialization	20,000	0	26,555