



IGEM

Idaho Global Entrepreneurial Mission

ABOUT

Idaho Commerce's Idaho Global Entrepreneurial Mission (IGEM) program drives economic development by funding research and development.

R and D helps Idaho businesses bring new products, technologies, and services to market! By identifying industry R & D needs and leveraging the expertise and resources at Idaho's public research universities - Boise State University, Idaho State University, and the University of Idaho; IGEM grants can be a strategic funding source for Idaho companies. This public-private partnership between industry and Idaho universities is at the heart of the IGEM program.

At the helm of the IGEM-Commerce program is the IGEM Council, a twelve-member body appointed by the Governor as prescribed in Idaho Code section 67-4726. The IGEM Council's diverse and experiential make-up consists of the brightest business, research, policy, strategy, and financial minds in the state. The IGEM Council thoroughly vets each IGEM grant application, selecting projects that present the best return on investment for these public funds.

Each grant award is based upon researcher personnel costs, project duration, and expenses needed to conduct R & D. While there is no fixed grant amount, IGEM's annual budget of \$950,000, makes this funding source competitive.

IGEM grants are non-dilutive as they are awarded to Boise State University (BSU), Idaho State University (ISU), or the University of Idaho (UI); not the industry partner. IGEM does require the industry partner to contribute some type of investment or match to the research project.

To learn more about the IGEM grant program, past funded projects, and how to apply for funding, please visit igem.idaho.gov.

IDAHO COMMERCE FUNDING

Since FY2013, IGEM-Commerce has invested over

\$8.7M

in Idaho industry and university research and development partnerships.

YEAR	FUNDED PROJECTS	AWARDED TOTAL
2021	7	\$1,020,240
2020	4	\$953,711
2019	5	\$1,016,728
2018	3	\$950,000
2017	4	\$979,569
2016	6	\$1,104,830
2015	3	\$950,000
2014	4	\$972,371
2013	7	\$844,093
TOTAL	43	\$8,791,542



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IGEM PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

HEMPITECTURE - UI



Hempitecture partnered with the University of Idaho, on an IGEM-Commerce grant for \$206,624 to conduct research on the development of their natural fiber insulation, HempWool. The team is conducting tests on HempWool's ability to insulate, its fire resistance and its thermal conductivity.

The future looks bright for the company with a new 20,000 square-foot manufacturing facility set to be developed in Jerome County, with goals to domesticate their supply chain and new hires to be onboarded in the coming months.

"We are really thrilled to have our business located in Idaho and we are feeling very appreciative of the resources that we are afforded here in Idaho, especially now as we are working through the IGEM program with the University of Idaho," Mattie Mead, Hempitecture CEO and Founder said. "There is a huge amount of opportunity afforded here in the state and it's really a pleasure to be located here to grow our business."



PITCH AERONAUTICS - BSU

Pitch Aeronautics partnered with Boise State University on an IGEM grant for \$248,034 for development of a novel cyclorotor drone. The grant enabled the team to design, conduct, and test its drone prototype. This project also received supplemental funding from IGEM-Commerce for \$49,011.

By leveraging the grant funding, Pitch Aeronautics has been able to design and build both sensor and drone, while also testing the drone in a real-world simulated flight.

"Our company would not be where it is without the help of the IGEM grant," Ian Gibson, Pitch Aeronautics President and Co-Founder said.



WASHIE- ISU

In 2019, Washie partnered with Idaho State University to conduct testing on the functionality and efficacy of Washie's patented sanitizing toilet seat. Interest in the company has skyrocketed after the project team received the IGEM grant. Washie has already started installing its products in hospitals and other buildings throughout Boise and Southeast Idaho, and the toilet is quickly gaining traction across the nation.

Recently, 14 Washie toilet seats were installed in the Pocatello airport — the place where it all began. Washie has also expanded to Utah, where it will continue to grow and be installed in public facilities.