



FUND FACTS

**\$104  
MILLION**  
PROJECTED  
ANNUAL GDP  
INCREASE

**\$168  
MILLION**  
PROJECTED  
ANNUAL  
ECONOMIC  
OUTPUT  
INCREASE

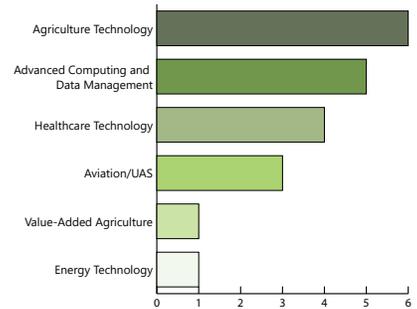
**\$52  
MILLION**  
ESTIMATED  
INCREASE IN  
PERSONAL  
INCOME

**828**  
AVERAGE  
EXPECTED JOB  
CREATION  
ACROSS ALL  
INDUSTRIES

As of February 2021, the Innovation Technology Loan Fund (LIFT) initiative has approved \$14.57 million (97%) of the appropriated funds (\$15 million)<sup>1</sup>. The program has also provided funding for 20 North Dakota businesses in specific sectors outlined in House Bill 1333. Businesses participating in the LIFT program have added 352 new jobs in the state, with an additional projected increase of 45% in 24 months. The North Dakota Department of Commerce utilized the Regional Economic Model Policy Insight (REMI PI+) to forecast the economic impacts of the LIFT funds over 2020-2024. The projected economic impacts include increases to the state's economy (as measured by the state gross domestic product (GDP) and output); payroll creation (as measured by wages and salaries); and new jobs created (as measured by employment). The estimates were adjusted for inflation using the 10-year inflation rate projections reported by the Congressional Budget Office on Feb. 1, 2021<sup>2</sup>. The analysis projected that from 2020-2024, the average annual economic impacts from the LIFT initiative for North Dakota in a given year would be:

- An increase in the size of the state economy of \$168 million in economic output and \$104 million in the state GDP.
- An increase of 828 jobs across all industries, with 772 jobs occurring in the private non-farm industries and 60% of those occurring in the technology industry. This estimate consists of full-time and part-time workers.
- An increase of \$52 million in personal income and \$45 million in wages and salaries, driven almost entirely by the growth in labor income derived from the jobs created across all industries. These results suggest wages per job of \$54,694, including both direct and indirect employment.

LIFT RECIPIENTS  
BY INDUSTRY



METHODOLOGY

The main idea behind economic impact analysis is that one more (or less) dollar spent in a local or regional economy results in a greater than one dollar change in economic activity in the area. The most common and widely respected method of examining such changes involves using economic models called input-output models. A key feature of input-output models is that they are ideally suited to capture the interdependence among different industries. That is, input-output models are designed to capture the effects of a change in one industry on other industries and households. The Department of Commerce utilized version 2.4 of the REMI PI+ model. Briefly, the REMI PI+ model is a sophisticated regional economic model that dynamically simulates the year-by-year economic effects of public policy initiatives and is widely used by state agencies and legislatures, universities and other organizations and experts. The REMI model is tailored to North Dakota using data from the Bureau of Census, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Energy Information Administration and other reliable data sources.

<sup>1</sup> For more information, contact Carla Valentine at [crvalentine@nd.gov](mailto:crvalentine@nd.gov)  
<sup>2</sup> The results are in real dollars.

## 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% CAGR. APT EP designs and develops new catheters and systems for treating cardiac arrhythmias. It is building a new R&D center in Horace ND 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 (IP) in the state.



**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.

