

What is the Michigan Innovation Equipment Depot?

The Michigan Innovation Equipment Depot (MIED) is the result of the collaborative efforts of Pfizer, Ann Arbor SPARK, MichBio and Michigan's Smart Zones. The mission of the program is to provide life science start-up companies throughout Michigan with equipment resources to further their growth.

What is the purpose of the MIED?

The purpose of the MIED is to accelerate commercialization by providing access to previously used laboratory equipment critical to a company's product research, development and manufacturing.

Who qualifies to receive equipment from the MIED?

Many factors will be taken into consideration when choosing companies who receive equipment through the MIED. Criteria include:

- o Must be based in Michigan (equipment must be used in Michigan)
- o The critical need for the equipment
- o The stage of commercialization for which the instrument will be predominantly used, e.g., target or lead identification, lead modification, pre-clinical validation, safety pharmacology, product development, etc.
- o Whether the equipment will be used exclusively or shared with other companies, institutions or programs
- o The anticipated benefits of having access to the equipment
- o The needed resources to operate the equipment are in place or committed, i.e. software, hardware, service enhancements and agreements, business funding, etc.
- o Will new jobs be created, how many and when

Who makes the decisions regarding equipment donation through the MIED?

Each SmartZone will be responsible for due diligence of the companies and their requests, and submit only those requests meeting the outlined criteria. MichBio will help evaluate requests to determine best use of equipment for the benefit of Michigan's fast growing life science sectors.

Suitable applications will be forwarded to an independent review committee. The committee will consist of scientists and entrepreneurs representing a cross-section of geography, public and private interests, in various life science industry sectors.

Ann Arbor SPARK will serve as the program administrator, assuming responsibility for receiving donated equipment/instruments, providing warehouse facilities, and distributing items to the companies.

How do I apply to obtain equipment from the MIED?

Equipment requests can only be brought through a Michigan SmartZone. **The Application Form will be on each SmartZones' Web site as well** as the MichBio Web site (www.MichBio.org).

Any qualified applicant outside a SmartZone geography (i.e. Flint, Traverse City, Saginaw) must select a SmartZone (by geography and expertise) for managing the application. The local SmartZone will authorize each request. The local SmartZone may also prioritize among multiple applications seeking the same instrumentation.

In addition to completing an online form, what other information must be provided for consideration to receive equipment from the MIED?

The application package must include:

- Executive summary of the applying entity with purpose/mission
- Current and prior year financial history and projections
 - Financial statements (P&L)
 - Balance Sheet
 - If incorporated, a Certificate of Good Standing from the State of Michigan
- Strategy for future funding

An entity may apply for multiple pieces of equipment/instruments or systems. However, a separate application form must be filled out for each item with a fair market value of \$3,000 or more. The package of supporting documents mentioned above needs to be submitted only once.

How long does the application process and granting process take?

The online application and granting process will occur monthly and involve these steps:

- Completed application forms and package are due to the local SmartZone by the 1st of each month.
- All authorized equipment request forms will be submitted by the local SmartZone to Ann Arbor SPARK, the program administrator, by the 10th of each month.
 - Smart Zones send applications & packages electronically to Ann Arbor SPARK
 - Ann Arbor SPARK will forward application and package to MichBio to distribute to the Review Committee and receive feedback
 - MichBio will forward responses to Ann Arbor SPARK for distribution, and to SmartZones
- The Review Committee will accept or reject applications by the 30th of each month.
- Accepted applications that cannot be honored immediately will be retained and remain active for 6 months unless the applicant rescinds the request in writing. The applicant will not have to go through the approval process again.

To begin go to the Ann Arbor SPARK web site:

<http://annarborspark.org/business-resources/business-growth-expansion/spaceexpansionequipment/>

What you'll see is a brief explanation of the program. In the column to the right are 3 links. The first link is to the FAQ document. You can link to it at:

<http://www.annarborspark.org/business-resources/business-growth-expansion/spaceexpansionequipment/mied-faqs/>

The next link is for the equipment inventory list. The link to this is:

http://www.annarborspark.org/media/files/MIED_Eqp_Inv.xls

This list is constantly updated as equipment moves in and out of the warehouse.

The last link is the application:

<http://www.annarborspark.org/business-resources/equipment-depot/>