



NCDIDI
NORTH CAROLINA DEFENSE INDUSTRY DIVERSIFICATION INITIATIVE

CONNECTING THE DOTS, EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES

The [North Carolina Defense Industry Diversification Initiative \(NCDIDI\)](#) is excited to announce the launch of their newest initiative, the Universal Production Growth Resiliency and Diversification Extension Program (U.P.G.R.A.D.E). NCDIDI will conduct a growth and diversification project designed to help North Carolina's defense contractors diversify into alternative markets. The project will consist of engaging twenty small to medium size aerospace related businesses that are receiving significant revenue from DOD contracts or subcontracts and have recently experienced a loss, or are under imminent threat of a loss of sales due to reduced DOD expenditures.

NCDIDI will select twenty aerospace related manufacturing and professional services companies in North Carolina on which to conduct a CoreValue assessment. Each company is responsible for providing approximately \$1000.00 in cost share for the services provided throughout execution of the project. Based on the results of the assessment, NCDIDI will provide a portfolio of management and business productivity training programs to improve management procedures, increase production, lower costs and increase capacity in the businesses so they can grow and diversify.

Past companies have not only seen a halt in the loss of employees, but have seen upticks on average of 15% in new hires based on the pilot project investments.

Applying to the NC DIDI Pilot Program is easy and there is no cost to find out if you qualify! To help you determine your eligibility, our staff has developed a list of criteria for self-evaluation. Each company will receive on average of \$50,000 in funding.¹

Your company qualifies if:

- Your company is an independent company or wholly owned subsidiary with headquarters in North Carolina.
- You are prime or sub-prime company in the Department of Defense (DoD) supply chain affected by defense budget reductions or impending budget reductions.
- At least 10% of your business revenue is derived from DoD contracts or subcontracts.
- Your business has seen at least a 5% decrease in sales, production, or employment due to reduction in defense contracts in the past 36 months OR has reason to believe that it will see a 5% decrease in the next 36 months.
- You are current on all state tax obligations.

Access the application along with the policies and procedures at WWW.NCDIDI.COM

This project will be conducted as part of a grant-funded project awarded to the State of North Carolina by Department of Defense (DoD) Industry Resiliency (IR) Program of the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA). The initiative is being managed through a partnership of NC State Industry Expansion Solutions and the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The goal is to understand, support, and respond to the needs of North Carolina's defense businesses at the state level.

¹ NCDIDI does not provide a reimbursement or payment to the participants, but rather pays for the cost of the services of the commercialization projects.