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FuzeHub Announces COVID-19 Manufacturing Grants

\$400,000 in grant funding available to increase manufacturing of ventilators, personal protective equipment in New York State

ALBANY, N.Y. – FuzeHub, the statewide New York Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NY MEP) center, announced the launch of a competitive grant program that will award \$400,000 in COVID-19 Manufacturing Grants.

“Across New York State, manufacturers are rising to meet the challenges of this unprecedented time. They are playing a critical role in the fight to stop the spread of this virus and save lives,” said FuzeHub Executive Director Elena Garuc. “FuzeHub created the COVID-19 Manufacturing Grants program to expand resources available to help manufacturers accelerate the production of essential supplies needed on the frontlines of this battle to restore public health.”

FuzeHub’s COVID-19 Manufacturing Grants are designed to aid existing New York State-based, small to medium-sized manufacturing companies that can meet prevailing FDA requirements and can quickly accelerate production of personal protective equipment and respiratory care equipment that has been depleted due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

“These grants will serve as a resource to assist manufacturers with increasing capacity in current operations as well as to pivot production in an effort to build and assemble critically needed items — specifically, N-95 masks and ventilators,” said Everton H. Henriques, NY MEP Solutions Director for FuzeHub. “Our objective is to help manufacturers access necessary funding to quickly expand production of the supplies we need most right now.”

The program will offer two tracks:

- 1.) **Prevent the Spread:** Four \$50,000 grants will be awarded to increase manufacturing capacity of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), specifically N95 masks.
- 2.) **Save Lives:** Two \$100,000 grants will be awarded to increase manufacturing capacity of respiratory care equipment, specifically ventilators.

The application deadline is Friday, April 17. To apply, manufacturers should visit <https://fuzehub.com/coronavirus-grant/>.

Due to the urgent need for more respirators and ventilators, the panel reviewing applications will prioritize projects that are clearly defined and ready to be undertaken immediately. Projects will be expected to be completed as quickly as possible to help address emerging shortages of supplies. Further eligibility requirements are listed at FuzeHub's website.

The COVID-19 Manufacturing Grants will be allocated through FuzeHub's Jeff Lawrence Innovation Fund, which annually awards about \$1 million to bolster New York's manufacturing, technology and startup ecosystems.

As the statewide NY MEP center, FuzeHub is a nonprofit organization that works with small and mid-sized manufacturing companies to solve challenges, increase competitiveness and create jobs. Across the state, there are 10 regional NY MEP centers that support the growth of manufacturers in their communities.

The NY MEP is a state and federally funded program that is overseen by Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology and Innovation ([NYSTAR](#)).

About FuzeHub

FuzeHub is a nonprofit organization that connects New York's small and mid-sized manufacturing companies to the resources, programs and expertise they need for technology commercialization, innovation, and business growth. Through its custom assessment, matching, and referral platform, FuzeHub helps companies navigate New York's robust network of industry experts at Manufacturing Extension Partnership centers, universities, economic development organizations, and other providers. FuzeHub is the statewide New York Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program center, supported by Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology & Innovation (NYSTAR). For more information, visit www.fuzehub.com.

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