



For Immediate Release

Colorado's Elevate Quantum Consortium Wins \$127 Million for Quantum Technology Development and Workforce Expansion

Community Funding Accelerator coordinated consortium that won federal Tech Hubs program and also secured state and private funding

[Denver, CO, July 2, 2024] With support from the Community Funding Accelerator, Colorado's Elevate Quantum will receive \$127 million, including \$41 million through the federal Tech Hubs program, the [U.S. Economic Development Administration announced today](#). The project, focused on the Mountain West, will also receive \$86 million in state and private funding.

[Elevate Quantum's](#) proposal calls for inclusive regional economic growth across Colorado, New Mexico, and Wyoming that will help launch more than 50 startups and attract over \$2 billion in funding. The wide-ranging effort is intended to help upskill more than 30,000 workers, with at least 40 percent representation from underrepresented communities. There is also a heavy emphasis on K-12 education and preparing students for the jobs of the future.

The [Community Funding Accelerator](#) (CFA) helped develop the winning proposal through strategic advisory, grant writing, consortium engagement, and development of Elevate Quantum's workforce and governance models. CFA's expertise was crucial in navigating the federal grant application process and ensuring the success of Elevate Quantum's bid.

"Elevate Quantum's collaboration with Community Funding Accelerator is a case study in two workforce development organizations bringing together complementary skill sets to create opportunities that will benefit communities for years to come," said Zachary Yerushalmi, the CEO of Elevate Quantum. "The Community Funding Accelerator's support was integral in us assembling our diverse consortium and putting forth a forward-looking – and winning – proposal."

The Economic Development Administration's Tech Hubs program is designed to foster innovation and technological growth across the United States by supporting regions to become centers for research, development, entrepreneurship, and job creation. The \$41 million in funding will help cement the Mountain West's position as the global epicenter for quantum information technology (QIT).

To win the grant, Elevate Quantum and the Community Funding Accelerator developed a broad network of support from industry, K-12 and higher education, economic development and workforce organizations, and local and state governments. The cross-sector governing board of the Elevate Quantum Workforce Collective included leaders from Lockheed Martin, AFL-CIO, the Ute Mountain Tribe, Denver Public Schools, and many others.

The winning proposal focused heavily on developing the next generation of talent in quantum computing, calling for more than 600,000 students to engage in quantum information technology experiences. These interactions will range from direct enrollment into educational programs to exposure and awareness experiences. Overall, more than 45 education partners committed to either implementing K-12 programming or providing explicit support for students.

In total, the winning proposal calls for a deep talent pipeline that begins in K-12 and stretches into higher education and upskilling opportunities for the current workforce. Notably, the proposal [advances inclusive innovation](#), which is a hallmark of this round of Tech Hubs funding.

Key initiatives will include:

- integrating quantum-specific modules through established educational programs,
- training teachers and counselors to guide students toward quantum careers,
- providing hands-on learning experiences with access to advanced quantum hardware and experiments,
- offering apprenticeships and stackable credential programs, and
- implementing mobile quantum education programs to reach remote areas.

The [quantum ecosystem in the Mountain West](#) includes four Nobel laureates in quantum physics, three National Labs, and over \$1 billion already raised in venture capital. About 3,000 Colorado workers are employed in the quantum workforce today, supporting the growth of more than 30 companies leading advancement in quantum tech, which is the largest cluster of quantum companies in the nation. Over the next decade, the number of jobs is projected to grow 10 times, to 30,000, many of which will not require an advanced degree. There are also numerous commercial deployments for applications including next-gen GPS, timing, and clean energy.

Today's announcement of the \$41 million grant follows the October 2023 designation by the EDA of [the Mountain West as a Tech Hub](#) focused on the advancement of the quantum industry.

For more information:

- Visit elevatequantum.org for the Elevate Quantum consortium.
- Visit communityfundingaccelerator.org for the Community Funding Accelerator.

About the Community Funding Accelerator

The Community Funding Accelerator (CFA) helps underserved communities access competitive federal grants. With a focus on K-12 education and workforce pathways, CFA identifies relevant grant opportunities, builds coalitions, and provides deep technical assistance to submit winning applications. CFA also supports implementation to create innovative education and workforce solutions in communities across the U.S. CFA is led by Delivery Associates, a public sector consulting firm.

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