

# Eligible Implementation Project Categories

The Regional Investment Initiative Program will provide funding within, but not limited, to the following categories: Innovation Ecosystem, Entrepreneurship and Access to Capital, Infrastructure and Community Facility Development, Social Infrastructure, and Workforce Development, as defined below.

## *Innovation Ecosystem*

Projects address innovation gaps in an industry, such as fostering an entrepreneurial culture, bringing ideas to market by supporting product or commercialization development, market-relevant R&D investment, support for businesses to incorporate new products or processes, and related supply chain advancements.

## *Entrepreneurship and Access to Capital*

Projects support firms and entrepreneurs with the capital and technical assistance required for new and expanding businesses, such as incubators and accelerators and revolving loan funds, among others.

## *Infrastructure and Community Facility Development*

Projects support targeted value chain investment for cluster growth, such as tailored or supportive infrastructure development, and multipurpose real estate development.

## *Social Infrastructure*

Projects that remove barriers for communities to access opportunities such as equity initiatives, capacity or network building, or wrap-around safety net supports that enable participation in local and regional economic initiatives.

## *Workforce Development*

Projects that support workforce training and/or supportive services, in sustainable career pathways, and align with both the priority industries, as defined in the relevant regional Jobs First Strategy and the goals of the 2024 Master Plan for Career Education<sup>12</sup>:

- Training programs are defined as participant-serving programs where participants receive skill development and/or experience and are expected to be placed in employment following training.

Investments in new fossil fuel extraction infrastructure or activity or in enhancements to expand fossil fuel production will not be eligible for Regional Investment Initiative Implementation funding.

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Activities funded by this grant program must comply with applicable, local, state, and federal laws and regulations, including the California Environmental Quality Act and local permitting requirements. Interagency staff may assist the applicant with verifying applicable compliance with state and local policies; however, the applicant is solely responsible for project compliance. Applicants must be prepared to submit any permits, surveys, or reports that support the status of their environmental compliance.