



## CASI is a program of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education

Opportunity: Collaborative University / Industry Projects

**Managed by Colorado State University**

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Proposals submitted to CASI are based on business needs. They involve the participation of a member university and a Collaborating Company (business, industry, or public entity participant). The Collaborating Company may be a single firm or group of firms, a single public entity or group of public entities.

A Collaborating company may be:

- (a) A current dues paying CASI member
- (b) A new dues paying CASI member
- (c) A company who decides not to become a full dues paying member yet

Collaborating companies of type (a) and (b) have full voting rights on the CASI Operating Board and their proposal processing fee is paid from membership dues. Collaborating companies of type (c) do not have voting rights on the CASI Operating Board, must pay a \$100 processing fee and must become dues paying members if the project is funded.

You are invited to submit short business need descriptions. Email them to the CASI coordinator ([srogers@casi.org](mailto:srogers@casi.org)) or fill out the online web form located at:

(<http://www.cs.colostate.edu/casi/topics.html>). These descriptions permit members of the advanced software community to learn of the research interests of others. This first step in the cycle is an especially important one. In particular, it facilitates the pairing of university researchers and member companies. The Request for Proposals (RFP) for the next cycle will be published later this month. Proposals will be due in early January 2002.

### THE CASI PARTNERSHIP

The Colorado Advanced Software Institute (CASI) is a consortium between Colorado businesses and research universities.

## TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER SEED GRANTS

The CASI technology transfer concept is one of university-industry collaboration on projects with research interest for the university and practical value for the collaborating company. CASI's Technology Transfer Seed Grants are based on Colorado business and industry needs. Tying grants to business interests makes CASI-funded research responsive to business and effective in economic development. Each Technology Transfer seed grant requires the collaboration of a Colorado business, thus assuring CASI's active role in technology transfer.

Technology Transfer seed grants are awarded to university faculty who apply their advanced software expertise to the business problems at hand, working in conjunction with the Collaborating Company. As their contribution to technology transfer, CASI member universities waive indirect costs associated with our grants. Thus, the CASI partnership provides a great way to leverage research dollars.

CASI awards Technology Transfer seed grants through two programs: the Regular **Technology Transfer Seed Grant (TTG) Program** and the **Unsolicited Technology Transfer (UTT) Grant Program**.

In the TTG Program, Colorado business and industry needs are identified through CASI's Research Agenda, a compendium of research topics in advanced software categories suggested by researchers and businesses, are published in CASI's annual Request for Proposals. The researcher writes a proposal, which is reviewed. The CASI Operating Board ranks all proposals by quality. Funding decisions are made based on this ranking.

The UTT Grant program, which has a short proposal-to-project start-up time period, serves the urgent needs of business that cannot be accommodated by the TTG Program. CASI provides the same quality assurance activities as for the cost-shared projects. UTT Grant proposals may be submitted by a university researcher and Collaborating Company at any time of year and a funding decision is promised within two months.

The Collaborating Company cost-share portion in support of a TTG grant is determined by the company's membership level (see Membership). In the case of a UTT grant, the Collaborating Company pays the full amount of direct costs for the project.

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH / DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Colorado business is interested in baccalaureate, entry-level personnel with an advanced-software background. CASI's Undergraduate Research / Development Grant Program extends CASI's research mission to include undergraduate campuses throughout the state.

The Undergraduate Research / Development Grant Program involves an undergraduate student in a software research project or a sizeable, practical software development project of a one- to two-semester duration. Undergraduate Research / Development Grants are awarded to faculty members in any discipline from any Colorado university or baccalaureate-granting undergraduate institution. The faculty member identifies the research to be performed and, if selected for award, identifies the student who will work under the faculty member's supervision on their campus. Projects may involve collaboration with a local business.

## SOFTWARE PROFESSIONALS

CASI grants help create software professionals for Colorado's software industry. Each grant's collaborating business provides the student with the practical experience business seeks in new employees. The grant's faculty member helps focus the student's university training on the grant's objectives.

## BENEFITS

CASI benefits the Colorado business community, universities, and participants of each Technology Transfer grant. Members of CASI benefit from:

- ◆ Networking with colleagues interested in advanced software in academe and industry;
- ◆ A voice and a vote in directing CASI technology transfer research funds;
- ◆ Assistance in matching business and industry needs with advanced software expertise in universities;
- ◆ Access to an increased pool of software-trained graduates available for recruitment; direct exposure to some; and
- ◆ Access to the results of CASI research through project reports and annual CASI symposia.

## MEMBERSHIP

### Universities

Each of Colorado's five research universities is a member of CASI:

- University of Colorado
  - Boulder Campus
  - Denver Campus
  - Health Sciences Center
  - Colorado Springs Campus
- Colorado State University
  - Colorado School of Mines
  - University of Denver
  - University of Northern Colorado

### Business and Industry

CASI has a five-level, graduated membership structure that is tied to the number of people a company employs in Colorado. The membership level determines the amount of dues, cost-sharing requirements, and voting privileges in the consortium. Membership dues are reduced 50% for Colorado Software Association members.

<u>Membership Level</u>	<u>Employees in Colorado</u>	<u>Membership Dues</u>	<u>Cost Share</u>
1	≤ 25	\$950	10%
2	≤ 100	\$1,950	20%
3	≤ 300	\$2,950	30%
4	≤ 950	\$3,950	40%
5	> 950	\$4,950	50%