# How the Rocky Mountain States Chase Life Sciences Investment

| COLORADO | IDAHO | MONTANA | UTAH | WYOMING |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **INCENTIVES** | | | | |
| Econ. Dev. Commission Incentive Grants based on jobs created.<br><br>Venture Capital Authority — $50 million seed fund for Colorado start-up companies.<br><br>Certified Capital Companies (CAPCO) — $100 million for Colorado companies.<br><br>Colorado First Training Grants — approx. $800 per employee to train or retrain workers. | Idaho has a broad offering of incentives and tax credits, though none targeted specifically at life sciences. Because of the diverse nature of bio-sciences, some companies might be more interested in R&D tax credit while others might find new employee training reimbursements more helpful.<br><br>Idaho's Legislature this spring passed legislation to expand incentives for both large and small businesses. | A loan program with the Montana Board of Investments, and grants available from the Montana Research and Commercialization Board.<br><br>Local Economic Development units also have their own incentive programs.<br><br>A new Venture Capital program was instituted by the 2005 Legislature. | Utah has a strong state funding program for its life sciences/center of excellence program for both company expansions, as well as for new company recruitment in the state. Utah also has life science clusters. Incentives are available from the Industrial Assistance Fund, which was established in 1991 by the Utah Legislature to provide grants in the establishment, relocation or development of industry in Utah. | Tax system includes no personal or corporate income tax, along with low property taxes and low unemployment insurance rates and low workers compensation rates.<br><br>The Wyoming Business Council offers the Wyoming Partnership Challenge Loan Program which provides low-interest loans to community development organizations that, in turn, match these funds and make low-interest loans to new and existing businesses. |
| **TECHNOLOGY PARKS** | | | | |
| Fitzsimons BioScience Park in Aurora is one square mile dedicated to life science research, education, clinical studies and commercialization. *www.colobio.com* | None, but the state ranks 2nd in the nation for its number of business incubators per 10,000 business establishments (Source: Milken Institute). Several life sciences companies are currently located in these incubators. | In Bozeman, there is a technology park which contains LigoCyte Pharmaceuticals, the Molecular Biology Lab and TechRanch, among others. | The research park at the University of Utah specializes in life sciences. | None dedicated to life sciences. |
| **TRAINING PROGRAMS** | | | | |
| Community College of Aurora — Bio Technician Certificate<br><br>CU-Colorado Springs — Certificate in Bio-informatics<br><br>Red Rocks Community College — Biotechnology Degree | Up to $2,000 New Employee Training Reimbursement is available for each qualifying new job through Idaho's Workforce Development Training Fund program. Up to $3,000 reimbursement per new job created in select rural counties. | Montana State University has a BioTech degree program.<br><br>There are life science worker training programs at the Montana Colleges of Technology. | Custom-fit training program tailored for each new company to ensure there is a knowledgeable workforce. | Companies can work through the Department of Workforce Services to implement and fund completely customized training. Workforce training is performed through the Wyoming Community College System. |
| **NUMBER OF COMPANIES AND EMPLOYEES** | | | | |
| 320 life science companies.<br><br>An estimated 14,500 employees. | Idaho has not historically tracked this industry. | According to ES (employment security) 2002 data, there were 110 biotech companies with just over 600 employees. | About 125 companies and about 13,000 employees. | Wyoming has 121 companies in the Life Sciences NAICS codes 541710, 621511 and 541380. State has no estimate of employment. |

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| **MAJOR COMPANIES** | | | | |
| Amgen<br>Roche<br>Sandoz<br>Eyetech<br>OSI Pharmaceuticals<br>Myogen<br>Pharmion | J.R. Simplot Co.<br>AMI Semiconductor<br>Monsanto<br>Alturas Analytics<br>Asgrow Seed Company<br>Caisson Laboratories | LigoCyte Pharmaceuticals<br>Corixa<br>Rocky Mountain Laboratories<br>International Heart Institute<br>Deaconess Research Institute | Myriad Genetics<br>Sorenson Genomics<br>NPS Pharmaceuticals<br>BD Medical<br>ARUP<br>Idaho Technology<br>Huntsman Cancer Institute | Asherman Medical Products<br>Chinook Engineering |
| **LIFE SCIENCE SPECIALTIES** | | | | |
| Biotech and Medical Devices.<br><br>Mainly small and medium-sized companies, with a few big pharma manufacturing facilities. | One of Idaho's key industries has long been agriculture. This has developed naturally over the years into a number of life sciences areas, including ag/bio and food production, biomedical and infectious diseases. | The key competitive advantages are agriculture biotech with a human element combined. (For instance Deaconess Billings Clinic Research center is doing research on sugar beet fiber to lower cholesterol.)<br><br>In this area, we have a strong infrastructure with the molecular biology center, ag experiment stations with strong R & D Capacity and many others. | The University of Utah has identified more disease-related genes than any other university in the world — one reason Utah is considered a leading biotechnology center. Utah is home to superior research from the world's largest family history database along with clinical data regarding cancer occurrences in families. Utah companies such as Myriad Genetics pioneer groundbreaking research in human genomics. | The nature of development in Wyoming's life sciences fields appears to be in fields relating to mineral extraction. Key competitive advantage comes from vast natural resources and thriving industries related to their extraction. |
| **TECHNOLOGY-TRANSFER PROGRAMS** | | | | |
| University of Colorado Tech Transfer Office — Proof of Concept Fund<br><br>Colorado State University Research Foundation — Commercial Opportunity Fund<br><br>National Jewish Medical and Research Center — IP and Technology Commercialization Program | The University of Idaho, in particular, does a vast amount of work in the life sciences. There is not a dedicated life sciences tech transfer program or incubator, but the university's existing tech-transfer and business incubation programs cover a broad range of research including the life-sciences areas. | Strong technology transfer and commercialization private sector friendly programs at the University of Montana and Montana State University. There are incubators in Bozeman, TechRanch and TechLink; and, in Missoula, MonTec; and, in Billings, Billings Business Incubator. | Utah's research universities — the University of Utah, Brigham Young University, and Utah State University — have strong life sciences program and technology transfer offices. | The Wyoming Research Products Center (RPC) was formally launched on October 1, 1999 as a collaborative effort between the University of Wyoming Research Office and the Wyoming Business Council. The RPC is the technology transfer office for the University of Wyoming. |
| **CONTACTS** | | | | |
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