

The Finger Lakes New Knowledge Fusion Project

The Finger Lakes New Knowledge Fusion Project is a grant that drives economic development in New York's Finger Lakes region by enticing this region's expert resources in the fields of agriculture and technology to partner on collaborative projects.

Lead organizations supporting this grant include:

1. The New York State Agricultural Experiment Station/ Cornell University
2. Infotonics Technology Center, Inc.
3. Ontario County Office of Economic Development
4. Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board, Inc.

Funded through the National Science Foundation, as part of its Partnerships for Innovation Program, this grant aims to stimulate new business generation by combining the expertise of scientists in both the food, agriculture and biotechnology fields, to create new cutting edge cross-functional technologies and products. It is with these activities that the grant will urge these new businesses to settle in this region, creating economic growth especially in the agricultural and technology arenas, which is already underway as Cornell University has recently opened their new Cornell Agriculture and Food Technology Park in Geneva, NY.

In creating these new technologies and businesses, it necessary to be mindful of educating both the surrounding community and tomorrow's workforce as to all the new and exciting activities happening in the food/agriculture and technology arenas and the vast opportunities there are to go into careers in the fields. Therefore this grant aims to develop events and activities to involve, educate, and excite this greater community as the region as a whole looks towards the future.