# Ontario logo, IIA logo and OCE logo

# Landing Page

The Ontario-Israel Research Network Program–MAGNET (OIRNP-MAGNET) promotes bilateral collaboration to develop and demonstrate technological solutions. This program is facilitated through an agreement between Ontario and Israel as a partnership between Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) and the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA).

For the current round, projects will focus on **Smart Mobility** technologies, developing solutions to challenges identified by anchor firms within the Smart Mobility sector.

Managed by OCE and IIA and funded through a partnership with Ontario’s Ministry of Research, Innovation and Science (MRIS), the program supports industry-led collaboration, including consortia comprised of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and, potentially, publicly-funded post-secondary institutions to jointly develop industrial or collaborative R&D technologies that meet industry needs and strengthen both Ontario and Israel’s technological expertise while enhancing competitiveness.

Both jurisdictions have committed CAD $5M each over five years to support this initiative. The CAD $10M will be matched in cash by the participating SMEs. Ontario funds will be disbursed to successful Ontario SMEs by OCE. Successful SMEs from Israel will be funded separately by IIA.

[More details](http://oce-ontario.org/programs/industry-academic-collaboration/ontario-israel-research-network-program-magnet-%28oirnp-magnet%29/how-it-works) on the OIRNP-MAGNET program

# Ontario logo, IIA logo and OCE logo

# How it Works

1. **[Program Overview](#_Program_Overview)**
2. **[Program Objectives](#_Program_Objectives)**
3. **[How Funding Works](#_How_Funding_Works)**
4. **[Eligibility](#_Eligibility)**
5. **[How to Apply](#_How_to_Apply_1)**
6. **[Evaluation and Project Activation](#_Evaluation_and_Project)**
7. **[Project Reporting](#_Funding__Agreement)**
8. **[Timelines](#_Timelines)**
9. **[Downloads](#_How_to_Apply)**
10. **[Contact](#_Contacts)**

# Program Overview

The 2018 Ontario-Israel Research Network Program – MAGNET (OIRNP-MAGNET) Call for Proposals focuses on **Smart Mobility** technologies. Ontario small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), in partnership with Israeli SMEs, will develop industrial or collaborative R&D technologies that address the Smart Mobility needs of a participating Anchor Company (AC), strengthening both Ontario and Israel’s technological expertise while enhancing global competitiveness. Ontario-based Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) interested in developing Smart Mobility technologies will act as Anchor Companies to provide guidance and resources appropriate to a successful outcome over the term of the project.

Each application must address at least one of the Priority Areas identified by the Anchor Companies. Projects must include at least one SME from Ontario, one SME from Israel and, for the current call, one partnering multinational enterprise (MNE) from Ontario acting as an Anchor Company (AC). Ontario applicants are also encouraged to collaborate with researchers from publicly-funded post-secondary institutions.

Partnering Anchor Companies for 2018 include: Bombardier Aerospace, General Dynamics Mission Systems, Linamar, Lockheed Martin and Thales.

For each successful application, the Ontario SME may receive up to CAD $200,000 from OCE to fund the Ontario portion of the project. The collaborating SME from Israel will receive a similar level of funding separately from IIA. SMEs are required to provide 1:1 matching funds at the level of funding awarded.

OCE anticipates that approximately seven projects will be funded through the 2018 Call for Proposals.

# Program Objectives

* To create partnerships through bilateral collaboration leading to the development and commercialization of innovative industry-oriented technologies, that will strengthen both Ontario and Israel’s technological expertise while enhancing competitiveness in the global market.
* To enhance industry cooperation, improve competitiveness and to further economic and business collaboration between Ontario and Israel.

## Priority Areas

In the current Call for Proposals, OCE and IIA are seeking Smart Mobility solutions that will support ACs to meet their challenges in Smart Mobility technology development.

Following are the seven challenges identified by the Anchor Companies:

1.  Seamless wifi connectivity for a ‘closed’ group of people so they can directly communicate in groups (voice and data) between their devices (e.g. airline and ship passengers) while maintaining FCC safety and security for adjacent aircraft critical aviation systems.

2. Integration solutions for existing fleet-based big Intelligent Ground Transportation Systems that can reduce operational costs and offer predictive maintenance that reduce down time and increase efficiency.

3. Self-connecting and forming small (PAN, LAN) network solutions which accept different environmental and physical inputs broadly from any sensory source which could be environmental, bio, social, cyber, from remote geographic areas which function over a long period of time without any required maintenance.

4. Ways in which to complement existing operational processes from the intelligence derived from the sensors and compared with existing historical data across many different real time queries as possible.

5. Solutions for vehicle applications, e.g. innovative light weight, low cost methods for the manufacture of carbon composite materials; high efficiency power storage device with significantly increased capacity and   thermal stability; integrated semi-autonomous vehicle controller with near zero response latency.

6. Technologies to reliably detect and track objects beyond line of sight or “behind the corner”.

7. Development of robust IOT solutions with higher thermal tolerance for vehicle applications.

# How Funding Works

## Project Duration

Project terms may not exceed two years and are non-renewable.

## Grant Amount

* Projects of any size up to the maximum can be proposed for funding.
* Ontario applicants will be eligible to receive up to 50 per cent of [eligible Ontario project expenditures](http://www.oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/oce_eligibleexpenses_oirnp-magnetrevjan26.pdf?sfvrsn=2), to a maximum of CAD 200,000 per project from OCE. The corresponding Israeli applicant on the same project will receive similar level of funding from IIA to fund the Israel portion of the project.

## Matching Contributions

* All OCE funding must be matched at least 1:1 in cash by the Ontario applicant.
* IIA will typically provide up to 50 per cent of the Israeli project cost.

All full applications must be accompanied by a signed letter of support from the Anchor Company, signed by a signing officer of that organization, confirming the high-level project scope, budget, timelines, and commitment to the project as a “Project Contributor/Partner” (including any cash, personnel and/or other contributions). A [template for the letter of support](http://www.oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/5_oirnp-magnet-los-template12feb2018.docx?sfvrsn=4)is available. Use of the template is optional, however all items listed must be included in the letter.

## Flow of Funds

* For successful projects, funds will only be released upon execution of both OCE and IIA Funding Agreements.
* Twenty-five per cent of funds will be released by OCE to the Ontario SME. The remaining 75 per cent of the OCE funds will be released to the Ontario SME, based on a claims and reimbursement model for eligible expenses\*. Claims must be submitted biannually along with progress reports. More information can be found in Section [G. Project Reporting](#_Project_Reporting).
* Funds from IIA will be released to the Israeli SME according to the IIA funding procedures.

\*For information on eligible and ineligible expenses, please refer to the [OIRNP-MAGNET Eligible Expenses Guidelines.](http://www.oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/oce_eligibleexpenses_oirnp-magnetrevjan26.pdf?sfvrsn=2)

# Eligibility

* Projects must address one of the challenge statements identified by the partnering ACs.
* Projects may include technology and knowledge applications, product customization, near commercialization or new market creation activities.
* Applications should demonstrate how the projects will provide economic benefits in both Ontario and Israeli jurisdictions.
* Project activities should take place primarily in Ontario and Israel.
* Project participants are required to demonstrate that they themselves have, or have ready access to, the infrastructure and resources required to complete the joint development of the project.

Eligible Applicants

Funding is open, on a competitive basis, to:

* Ontario SMEs – defined as a company with less than 500 full time employee equivalents (FTE), conducting R&D and/or manufacturing in Ontario, with at least half of their FTE working and living in Ontario.
* Each application must include at least one SME from Ontario, one SME from Israel, and one partnering AC from Ontario. Ontario applicants are encouraged to collaborate with researchers from publicly-funded post-secondary institutions.

**Note**: ACs will assist in reviewing Expressions of Interest jointly submitted by Ontario and Israeli SMEs, and will select the project(s) in which they wish to partner for the Full Application stage. For funded projects, the AC will provide guidance and resources appropriate to a successful outcome over the term of the project.

[Israeli partners apply directly to IIA for funding.](http://www.matimop.org.il/)

# How to Apply

OCE and IIA will conduct parallel two-stage application processes. The application process consists of:

* 1. Expression of Interest (EOI)
	2. Full Application (Invitation only)

Stage 1: Expression of Interest (EOI)

* Both Ontario and Israeli SMEs **MUST** be identified, as an Ontario-Israel partnership is required for Expression of Interest (EOI) submission.
* If the Ontario-Israeli partnership is not already established, OCE and IIA may provide assistance in identifying potential partner companies. Ontario SMEs can download [a Partner Search Form](http://www.oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/partner-search-form-final.docx?sfvrsn=6) and submit to Bradford Brinton. Israeli SMEs may contact Les Abelson for the Partner Search Form. Please allow sufficient time in advance of the EOI deadline to identify potential partners; also note that OCE and IIA cannot guarantee their ability to identify or secure suitable partners.
* To begin the application process, Ontario SMEs should complete a ‘[Client Intake Form’](https://crm.oce-ontario.org/custom/forms/ClientIntakeForm/?data=oirnp). An OCE Business Development Manager (BD) will contact the SME within two business days to discuss the suitability of the opportunity for this program.
* If suitable, the Ontario SME will be sent a link to OCE’s online application system, AccessOCE. The assigned OCE BD will assist the SME in the development of the EOI.
* The Ontario and Israeli partnered SMEs should jointly submit the Expression of Interest (EOIs) to OCE through OCE’s online application system, AccessOCE.

Stage 2: Full Application

* Applicants with successful EOIs will be invited to submit Full Applications in partnership with the associated Anchor Company (AC).
* Ontario SMEs will be submitting the Full Application to OCE. Israeli SMEs will be submitting the Full Application to IIA.
* For Ontario SMEs, prior to submitting the Full Application, the OCE BD must provide an endorsement of the application. Please allow **at least one week prior to the submission deadline** for the BD to review and endorse the application. Only after the BD endorsement will the SME be able to submit the application.
* All applications MUST be received by OCE no later than the application deadline. Late and incomplete applications will not be accepted.
* Intellectual Property (IP) arising from the project will be managed by the SMEs as OCE and IIA do not claim or manage IP rights. Full Application must be accompanied by a letter of intent (“LOI”) signed by all Ontario and Israeli SMEs detailing IP rights and commercialization strategy of the product or process. If the project is funded, a fully executed IP Sharing Agreement or Collaborative Research Agreement must be incorporated as Schedule D (Intellectual Property Term Sheet) in the OCE Funding Agreement to be executed by OCE and the Applicant. Applicants are strongly advised to begin negotiation of the terms of the IP Sharing Agreement immediately after submission of an application in order to meet the Application deadline.
* Full applications must also be accompanied by a signed letter of support from the AC, confirming the high-level project scope, budget, timelines, and commitment to the project as a “Project Contributor/Partner” (including any cash, personnel and/or other contributions). A [template for the letter of support](http://www.oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/5_oirnp-magnet-los-template12feb2018.docx?sfvrsn=4) is available. Use of the template is optional, however all items listed must be included in the letter.

## Evaluation and Project Activation

Review Procedure

EOIs and Full Applications will be assessed under a eight-step process (for schedule, see [H: Timelines](#_Timelines))

* Ontario and Israeli EOIs will be evaluated by OCE and IIA for eligibility, completeness, compliance with program requirements, and alignment with program objectives.
* EOIs meeting the above criteria will be reviewed by the partnering ACs.
* Applicants with EOIs which are most responsive to the ACs’ Challenge Statements will be invited to a video conference with the ACs, who will select the EOIs to move forward to the Full Application stage.
* Successful EOI applicants will work with ACs towards submitting a Full Application.
* All Full Applications will be evaluated independently by OCE and IIA for eligibility, completeness, compliance with program requirements, and fit with the program objective.
* Full Applications will then be reviewed by external domain experts in both jurisdictions who will assess the applications against program selection criteria and make recommendations to OCE and IIA.
* Funding decisions will be jointly made by OCE and IIA
* Final decisions will be communicated to the Lead Applicant identified in the Applications.

## Evaluation Criteria

EOIs and Full Applications will be evaluated on the basis of assessment criteria that may include but are not limited to:

* Commercial merits of the project
* Strategic benefit to Ontario and Israel
* Benefits to Ontarian and Israeli companies and ACs
* Ability and capacity of the project team
* Scientific merits of the project / significance of the technological innovation
* Strength of collaboration foundation and capability
* Preliminary cooperation agreement between partners

## Funding Agreement

On approval of the Full Applications, collaborating SMEs will need to respectively execute funding agreements with their corresponding funding agency (OCE or IIA). Disbursement of OCE funds is conditional upon execution of an agreement between IIA and the Israeli applicant.

The Ontario SME must enter into an agreement with OCE within 30 days of receipt of the notification letter.

For reference, download a [template of the full Funding Agreement](http://oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/oce-funding-agreement-bilateral---final.pdf?sfvrsn=10). Please do not fill out this form; a copy of the agreement will be generated through OCE’s online application system and sent to you upon approval of your project.

# Project Reporting

## Project Reporting

### Progress and Claims Reports detailing:

* 1. Achievement of milestones and deliverables as set out in the above project plan, and any deviations from the activities or budget specified in the application.
	2. Actual project expenditures and partner contributions.
* The Ontario SME must submit an interim report every six months.
* Funds will be reimbursed upon satisfactory review and approval of the report.
* Israeli partner reporting and funds distribution will be in accordance with the IIA Funding agreement.

Note: Applicant MUST retain all proof of purchases, receipts, and other relevant documentation relating to eligible expenses. OCE reserves the right to audit claims submitted.

### Final Report (required at the end of the project) detailing:

1. Achievement of milestones and deliverables as set out in the above project plan, and any deviations from the activities or budget specified in the application.
2. Significant accomplishments and performance measures of the project including innovation, economic, and commercialization metrics.
3. Actual project expenditures and partner contributions.
* The Ontario Applicant will receive a notification to complete the final report and claims forty-five (45) days prior to the due date.
* All required final reports by all applicants, and partners if applicable, must be submitted within 30 days of project completion in order for release of final reimbursement, and to maintain good financial standing with OCE.
* Funds will be dispersed by direct deposit based on a reconciliation of expenditures versus budget estimates, following the completion and approval of the project report.
* Release of OCE funding will also be contingent on IIA confirming successful progress of the Israel component of the project.

Project Metrics

* If the project continues past a fiscal year end (March 31), the Ontario Applicant, and partner if applicable, will be required to complete an annual Metrics survey each April, for the part of the project that has been completed since the previous March 31. This annual report is mandatory for OCE to fulfil its contract with its funding ministries. Required metrics reports from all partners must be submitted in order to maintain good financial standing with OCE.

Retrospective Project Reports

Applicants will be required to complete a brief retrospective survey on project outcomes on an annual basis for three years from the end date of the project. The retrospective survey is mandatory for OCE for assessment of program impact and continuous improvement.

Reporting and funding release from IIA to the Israeli SME will follow IIA funding procedures.

# Timelines

## Ontario Program Timelines

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Date** |
| Launch of call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) | March 29, 2018 |
| Deadline to START the OCE application process by submission of a Client Intake form\* | May 3, 2018 5pm ET |
| Deadline for EOI submission in OCE’s online system, AccessOCE | May 17, 2018, 2pm ET |
| Partnering Video Conferences with ACs | Mid-June, 2018 |
| Invitation to Full Application submission | Last week of June, 2018 |
| Deadline for Full Application submission in OCE’s online system, AccessOCE\*\* | August 9, 2018, 2pm ET |
| Notification of results | Late November 2018 |
| Contracting and first disbursement of funds\*\*\* | December 2018 – January 2019 |

\*The EOI initiation process should be started as soon as possible. Client Intake forms received after this final deadline may not be processed in time to submit the EOI.

\*\*Mandatory to include i) Letter of Intent (LOI) on IP rights and commercialization strategy; ii) Letter of Support (LOS) from Anchor Company

\*\*\*Disbursement of funds subject to completion of IIA funding agreement

# Downloads

* [Eligible Expenses Guidelines](http://www.oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/oce_eligibleexpenses_oirnp-magnetrevjan26.pdf?sfvrsn=2)
* [OCE Funding Agreement Template](http://oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/oce-funding-agreement-bilateral---final.pdf?sfvrsn=10)
* [Letter of Support Template](http://www.oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/5_oirnp-magnet-los-template12feb2018.docx?sfvrsn=4)
* [Partner Search Form](http://www.oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/partner-search-form-final.docx?sfvrsn=6)
* [OCE EOI Template](http://www.oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/1_oirnp-magnet_eoi-template_final.pdf?sfvrsn=6)
* [OCE Full Application Template](http://www.oce-ontario.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/3-oirnp-magnet-proposal-template-final.pdf?sfvrsn=4)

# Contacts

Applicants needing additional information or clarification regarding the OIRNP-MAGNET 2018 Call for Proposals may contact:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ONTARIO** | **ISRAEL** |
| For application development inquiries:**Bradford Brinton**Business Development ManagerOntario Centres of ExcellenceT: 416-885-2509E-mail: bradford.brinton@oce-ontario.orgFor eligibility and program guideline inquiries:**Alexandra Ho**Program ManagerOntario Centres of ExcellenceT: 416.861.1092 x 9 5018E-mail: alexandra.ho@oce-ontario.orgFor online application system or technical support:**Application Support Team**T: 416.861.1092 x 9 2400E-mail: application-support@oce.zendesk.com | Les AbelsonProgram Director – North AmericaIsraeli Innovation AuthorityT. 972-3-511-8139E-mail: Les.Abelson@innovationisrael.org.il |