

VIPC Awards Commonwealth Commercialization Fund Grant to Virginia Commonwealth University

CCF grants support startups, critical early technology testing and market validation efforts

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, UNITED STATES, June 2, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation ([VIPC](#)) today announced that Virginia Commonwealth University ([VCU](#)) has been awarded a Commonwealth Commercialization Fund ([CCF](#)) grant for \$75,000 in support of a commercialization project being conducted by Dr. Youngman Oh. VIPC's CCF programs have distributed more than \$49 million to Virginia-based startups, entrepreneurs and university-based inventors since 2012.



VCU is a public research university that is based in Richmond, Va. Dr. Oh is Professor of Pathology in VCU's Department of Pathology, as well as the Director of the Cancer and Metabolic Disorder Lab at VCU. Dr. Oh has published over 110 articles in peer-reviewed journals, and has received over \$5 million in external funding for his research. He is a nationally and internationally recognized scholar in the insulin-like growth factor (IGF) field, and was inducted into the National Academy of Inventors' VCU Chapter in April 2023. This CCF grant will be used to further develop and determine the efficacy of a novel, targeted antibody therapy for triple-negative breast cancer, prior to FDA approval.

"We are thrilled to receive a CCF grant from VIPC," said Dr. Oh. "The ultimate goal of this study is to save lives, and this grant will bring us one step closer to achieving that goal by enabling us to advance and perfect this innovative therapy."

"We are pleased to award a CCF grant to support Dr. Oh's commercialization efforts at VCU," said Hina Mehta, VIPC's Director for University Programs. "VIPC's CCF higher education grant program plays an important role in getting funding to Virginia's entrepreneurially-minded university



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Dr. Oh, VCU Professor of Pathology

researchers as they work to take innovations from lab to market. Dr. Oh and his team are developing a very promising antibody therapy for triple-negative breast cancer.”

CCF accepts applications and awards funding on a rolling basis to Virginia’s small businesses and university-based innovators. The CCF Higher education grant program seeks to fund high-potential Virginia-based academic research teams that are developing technologies with strong commercial potential. The grants support early technology and market validation efforts such as customer discovery,

market research, business model validation, development of prototypes or a minimum viable product (MVP), customer pilots, intellectual property protection, team development, and more. For more information on funding opportunities and eligibility requirements, or to apply, visit the CCF pages at www.VirginiaIPC.org.

About the Commonwealth Commercialization Fund (CCF)

VIPC’s Commonwealth Commercialization Fund (CCF) was launched on July 1, 2020 to foster innovative and collaborative efforts in Virginia. Combining two legacy state programs, the Commonwealth Research Commercialization Fund (CRCF) and the Virginia Research Innovation Fund (VRIF), CCF seeks technologies with a high potential for economic development and job creation and that position the Commonwealth as a national leader in science- and technology-based research, development, and commercialization.

About Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation (VIPC)

VIPC: Connecting innovators with opportunities. As the nonprofit operations arm of the Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority (VIPA), VIPC is the commercialization and seed stage economic development driver in the Commonwealth that leads funding, infrastructure, and policy initiatives to support Virginia’s innovators, entrepreneurs, startups, and market development strategies. VIPC collaborates with local, regional, state, and federal partners to support the expansion and diversification of Virginia’s economy.

Programs include: Virginia Venture Partners (VVP) | VVP Fund of Funds (SSBCI) | Virginia Founders Fund (VFF) | Commonwealth Commercialization Fund (CCF) | Petersburg Founders Fund (PFF) | Smart Communities | The Virginia Smart Community Testbed | The Virginia Unmanned Systems Center | Virginia Advanced Air Mobility Alliance (VAAMA) | The Public Safety Innovation Center | Entrepreneurial Ecosystems | Regional Innovation Fund (RIF) | Federal Funding Assistance Program (FFAP) for SBIR & STTR | University Partnerships | Startup Company Mentoring & Engagement. For more information, please visit www.VirginiaIPC.org. Follow VIPC on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

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