JCATI 2025 RFP FAQ

❖ **How does a WA aerospace company find a public university engineering faculty partner?**
  o Contact the JCATI Executive Director or Program Manager. After learning more about your technical needs, they will direct you to individual College of Engineering contacts across WA.
  o The 2025 cutoff date for faculty matchmaking requests is Friday, January 17, 2025.

❖ **Can my company partner with Gonzaga or Seattle University and apply for JCATI funds?**
  o No. Since JCATI is funded by the WA legislature, the academic partner must be from a WA public university School or College of Engineering.

❖ **Why won't you take last minute industry requests for faculty partners?**
  o It takes time to find an appropriate faculty match, address any NDA concerns and discuss the project in enough detail for a competitive application.

❖ **Why doesn't the industry partner receive the JCATI award funds?**
  o JCATI is funded by the WA legislature. Since this is taxpayer money, industry can't receive award funds. The funds go to public universities to support technology expertise and workforce development benefitting the state.

❖ **Must industry in-kind amount match the proposed award amount?**
  o A match is not required but the industry in-kind amount must be sufficient to successfully support the project. We follow up with the industry partner on the amount of delivered in-kind support. Failure to deliver industry in-kind support may affect future project funding.

❖ **What is the purpose of industry in-kind support?**
  o In-kind support indicates the company is serious about solving the technology problem and transitioning project results for implementation.

❖ **Why does JCATI emphasize TRL 4-7 projects?**
  o The WA legislature wants JCATI funds to address short term critical technology needs Other funding mechanisms address basic research (TRL 1-3) but few fund TRL 4-7 "valley of death" transition of research to products.

❖ **How does JCATI define aerospace?**
  o JCATI defines aerospace very broadly to encompass areas involving commercial aviation, space, UAVs, sustainable aviation, and advanced air mobility. The RFP lists a more detailed sector description.

❖ **Why is the industry partner required to be from WA?**
  o Since JCATI is funded by the WA legislature, projects must directly benefit the state, its organizations, and constituents. The primary industry partner, majority of work, and project impact must occur in WA.

❖ **How can faculty identify companies in their area of expertise?**

- o WSU's Brian Craft has a very informative presentation ["Building University-Industry Research Partnerships"](#) outlining steps to make industry connections. Faculty can also interact with industry through professional societies, conferences, industry events, and other outreach.

❖ Why is the JCATI project period only one year?
- o The WA Legislature requires JCATI funds to address short term critical aerospace needs. Funds are not meant to support long term basic research or industry sponsored research.

❖ Why do JCATI projects start in July?
- o Since JCATI projects are based at WA public universities, they follow the state fiscal year calendar.