

Arizona's Bioscience Roadmap

Overview:

Arizona's Bioscience Roadmap, the state's long-term strategy to advance its bioscience sector, was updated in 2014 to reflect new goals, strategies, and potential action steps to help the state become a global competitor and national leader in select areas of the biosciences.

The Biosciences:

The biosciences develop treatments for health afflictions, design diagnostics to gauge and prevent illness, strengthen our food supply, develop alternative fuel sources, and more. Combining high-tech research, academia, and product commercialization, the biosciences serve as an economic driver with high-paying jobs and flourishing companies. The biosciences include:

- Agricultural Feedstock and Industrial Biosciences
- Bioscience-Related Distribution
- Drugs, Pharmaceuticals, and Diagnostics
- Hospitals
- Medical Devices and Equipment
- Research, Testing, and Medical Labs

The Roadmap:

The plan, developed by Battelle and commissioned by the Flinn Foundation, was initially launched as a 10-year strategy in 2002. Over the Roadmap's first decade, Arizona emerged as one of the fastest-growing states in the biosciences, with substantial expansion in jobs and firms, new university research facilities, the arrival of major private research institutions, and the creation of incubators and accelerators to help startup companies. As the first decade ended, the Roadmap was updated through 2025.

Roadmap Focus:

The updated Roadmap emphasizes improving health outcomes and advancing the biosciences through commercialization, entrepreneurship, creating a critical mass of firms, and the development of talent, in addition to building up the state's research infrastructure and increasing annual research revenues.

Roadmap Leaders:

The Roadmap's recommendations are guided by Arizona's Bioscience Roadmap Steering Committee, which includes more than 100 statewide bioscience champions in research, academia, government, and public policy. This committee is chaired by Ronald E. Shoopman, President of the Southern Arizona Leadership Council. The vice chair is Mark Slater, Vice President for Research at HonorHealth.

The Flinn Foundation (www.flinn.org) is a Phoenix-based, private, nonprofit philanthropic endowment established in 1965 that aims to improve the quality of life in Arizona to benefit future generations. The Foundation supports the advancement of the biosciences in Arizona, a merit-based college scholarship program, arts and culture, and a program to develop future state-level leaders.

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