

FAQ Area of the DAY:

Each day we will provide a frequently asked question topic area, based on questions we have fielded throughout the day.

September 14, 2017:

The Seven Sectors – Many potential applicants are wondering about the seven technology sectors, what they mean and if their project or company is within one.

How do we know if we are a fit for MTI’s Seven Technology Sectors?

In 1999, the State of Maine targeted seven technology sectors for investment and other types of support, recognizing these as areas where Maine had existing strength or core competencies that could lead to strong or emerging clusters of economic activity: biotechnology, composites and advanced materials, environmental technologies, technologies in forest products and agriculture, information technology, marine technology and aquaculture, and precision manufacturing.

MTI recognizes that things have changed over the 18 years since the seven sectors were identified and that the very nature of the role of technology in our lives and businesses is different and ever-changing. **For this reason, MTI takes a very broad view of the seven sectors and recognizes that the greatest innovations occur at the intersection of two or more sectors.**

MTI is hoping that through the Lightning Rounds’ non-prescriptive 10 slide-deck starting point applications will tell us why the applicant or project is within or between one or more of the sectors. We are not providing a strict interpretation of these sectors so that applicants can do just that.

If a project or company doesn’t have to fit clearly into a sector, why do I have to select only one or two when I apply?

MTI’s portal system requires a sector for the registration process, but no funding decisions will be made based on the selected sector.