The two-year program includes:
- Up to $420,000 in funding
- Dedicated laboratory and office space
- Support obtaining additional project funds
- Assistance conducting R&D at Argonne’s 5 national scientific user facilities, 15 research divisions, and a suite of research centers and joint institutes
- Technical guidance and collaboration from 1,600 engineers and scientists
- Advisory network of business mentors
- Connections to commercial partners and investors

**CHAIN REACTION INNOVATIONS**

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**AN EMPOWERING HOME FOR ENERGY AND SCIENCE INNOVATORS**

*Entrepreneurs are Embedded Inside Argonne National Laboratory*

**BENEFITS THAT ACCELERATE YOUR INNOVATION OR STARTUP**

Chain Reaction Innovations (CRI) is a two-year program for innovators focusing on energy and science technologies. Through an annual application call, four to six teams will be selected to join CRI. Program participants will receive the financial and technical support needed to mature nascent technologies that face long development cycles to the proof-of-concept level, thus getting them to the point where they can access conventional sources of financial support to scale and launch into the marketplace.

CRI’s ability to embed innovators at Argonne National Laboratory and provide multi-faceted support sets it apart from incubators, accelerators and R&D fellowships. CRI provides a unique suite of benefits:

**Reduce R&D time and cost**

Innovation focused on energy and science requires development work done in high-tech laboratories. For innovators, this can mean spending the first year purchasing costly equipment, setting up safety protocols, and learning how to use the equipment. Because CRI innovators are embedded at Argonne, they have access to laboratory equipment almost immediately. Development timelines are further compressed due to access to world-class imaging that quickly pinpoints material failures and chemical reactions, as well as high-performance computing for developing simulations and predictive modeling that reduce costly trial-and-error prototype development.

**De-risk technologies to improve performance and market acceptance**

Fast access to R&D tools and expert technical guidance enables innovators to quickly pivot development tracks based on early results to produce a better product that goes to market more quickly. Additionally, access to Argonne’s suite of testing and validation tools, as well as fabrication and scale-up facilities for commercial-grade testing of pre-commercial prototypes, instills investors and consumers with increased confidence in product claims about lifespan, durability, and energy efficiency in real-world conditions.

**Focus full-time on innovation**

The fellowship funding provided by CRI gives you enough seed money to focus full-time on developing your technology for two years. You can also leverage your connection with a national laboratory to seek additional federal research grants that require cost-sharing or public-private partnerships.

Fixing big, global challenges requires complex science, big tools and big support. Chain Reaction Innovations gives innovators a ~$100,000 a year in a living stipend and up to ~$220,000 to spend on R&D at Argonne.