



Name: BioSTL

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Industry: Other

Corporate address: Missouri, St Louis,

## Description

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Since 2001, BioSTL, a 501(c)(3), has laid the foundation for St. Louis' innovation economy with a comprehensive set of transformational programs that advance St. Louis' leadership in solving important world challenges in agriculture, medicine, health care, and other technology areas. BioSTL has introduced nationally-acclaimed initiatives in startup creation and investment, strategic business attraction, physical environment, entrepreneur support, seed and venture capital, a diverse and inclusive workforce, and public policy. BioSTL has been named a Model for Building a Regional Innovation Cluster by JPMorgan Chase & ICIC, among other accolades.

BioGenerator, the investment arm of BioSTL, creates, grows, and invests in promising companies and entrepreneurs. It de-risks commercially-viable innovations; recruits and advises leadership teams; makes staged investments grounded in rigorous due diligence; and provides free access to wet lab space and research equipment in the BioGenerator Labs. BioGenerator helps companies navigate the unique challenges of early-stage bioscience company development. BioGenerator's model has been named a Best Practice for the Western Hemisphere by the Organization of American States.

GlobalSTL, BioSTL's international initiative, recruits high-growth companies that enrich and expand St. Louis' innovation economy and bring competitive advantage to local corporations and health systems. GlobalSTL attracts companies that match St. Louis' strengths in food/agriculture, healthcare, and cyber security, financial, and industrial technologies. GlobalSTL serves as a navigator to St. Louis' world-class corporate and innovation ecosystem and introduces overseas innovators to major customers and strategic partners to drive business growth in North America. The Brookings Institution highlighted GlobalSTL as a Model for American Cities Going Global.

BioSTL's nationally-recognized Inclusion initiative strengthens the region's innovation ecosystem by identifying high-potential, talented women and minority entrepreneurs and providing a systematic pathway for them to create viable high-growth ventures. The initiative also aligns partner organizations to build systems of race and gender equity within St. Louis' tech-based entrepreneurship ecosystem. The Inclusion initiative has been recognized nationally by the Kauffman Foundation and the Institute for Women's Policy Research.

Entrepreneur Development programming provides a customized, one-on-one business learning experience, including entrepreneurial coaching and resources for company founders from both academic and industrial communities, at no cost. Nascent entrepreneurs learn to create a viable

business and financial model; recognize, recruit and retain top talent for a company; incorporate and register a business; and effectively compete for national non-dilutive grants.

BioSTL has grown seed and venture capital accessible to startups in the St. Louis region by catalyzing the creation of new local funds and attracting new investor groups both nationally and internationally. BioSTL also connects startups to potential investors and coaches entrepreneurs to be effective fundraisers. Coaching includes honing these skills through grant writing and mock panel presentation training to help develop competitive applications for federal commercialization grants and other non-dilutive funding.

BioSTL leads in creating innovation policy that supports a friendly environment for science, innovation, and entrepreneurship on the local, state and federal levels. BioSTL organizes a unified approach to government relations, legislation, and public policy so that the St. Louis region speaks with a cohesive voice. BioSTL cofounded the National Innovation Advocacy Council to educate and advocate in Washington, D.C.

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