



Connecting to
Fiber Buyers

What is the FIC?

- Website: <http://nyfic.org>
- New center is supported by NY State's Empire Development Corporation and managed by an academic/industry consortium comprised of:
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, RPI – Troy, NY
- The Fashion Institute of Technology, FIT – New York, NY
- The Hudson Valley Textile Project, HFTP – Mechanicville, NY
- SUNY at Morrisville – Morrisville, NY
- Made X Hudson – Catskill, NY
- The Field to Fiber Company – Greenwich, NY



Rensselaer



State University
of New York



FIC Vision & Mission

- Vision: Make New York State an innovative leader in sustainable textiles and fashion by leveraging our worldclass agriculture, manufacturing, and design for a resilient economy.
- Mission: Connect researchers, farmers, designers, and manufacturers to accelerate innovative solutions using natural fibers and next-generation biomaterials to catalyze the New York State circular supply chain.



Pilot Grant Program

- Up to \$10K per grantee for a 12-month period – up to 12 grants expected per annum
- Grantees:
- Receive mentorship through relevant consortium member locations
- Become part of a cohort that receives business-related services and resources, especially for early-stage entities
- Are encouraged to use grant funding to engage FIC and other industry experts and rent time on FIC equipment (at reduced rates).



Types of Projects

- The FIC will make grant awards that stimulate innovation in four areas:
- Agricultural Production and Processing
- New Materials and Manufacturing
- Manufacturing and Textile Technology Innovation, Improvement and Expansion
- Fashion Use of Sustainable Materials.

Possible Projects include, but are not limited to:

- New fashion or home décor products made with NY-raised wool, hemp, or flax.
- Addressing related supply chain (farm-to-fashion) and manufacturing issues.
- The development of NY-grown or -made feedstocks for biomanufactured textile fibers.

Who's eligible?

NY State-based start-ups, small businesses, farmers, university-based researchers starting businesses, sole proprietors, and individuals

Military veterans, women minorities, and socially or economically disadvantaged entities are encouraged to participate.

Collaborative proposals are welcomed, but \$10K is maximum award.

Go to nyfic.org/apply for more information and instructions on how to apply.

Benefits for NYS Fiber Producers

- We are currently building a lab with capabilities for fiber testing, yarn spinning, knitting, weaving, and felting.
- Can go through the whole value chain, from testing your fiber to making a product that you could sell yourself or for your business.
- Either lab staff can carry out these activities for you, or you can come in and learn to do it yourself on the equipment we have available.



Questions?

- Submit them online at nyfic.org/apply
- Email them to fic@rpi.edu or if its grant specific ficgrants@rpi.edu
- Email me directly at carpec2@rpi.edu



What is HVTP?

- The Hudson Valley Textile Project is a non-profit network of regional fiber farmers, processors, dyers, manufacturers, designers, and artisans who have come together to strengthen our textile supply chain.
- On a mission to bring regionally produced fiber to consumers, and boost our fiber economy, HVTP offers our members opportunities to collaborate in business, access educational tools, and participate in marketing initiatives



Projects We're Working On

- **NorthEast Fiber Exchange**- NEFX is in development with an anticipated launch date of December 2024. The Fiber Exchange will be a hub for farmers to sell raw fibers to buyers across industries. HVTP will facilitate grading, storing and marketing, to best serve our regional farmers. Facility in Mechanicville, NY...sign up for our email for more news coming soon!
- **Clean Fleece Scouring**- Our scouring service enables you to have your wool cleaned and prepared for processing here in NY. This reduces the time it takes to have your wool processed and cuts down on overhead costs by reducing shipping expenses. Open to all, visit website for more details
- **Member Marketplace**- We assist our members in selling their products through our website, social media + in person events. Join as an HVPT to take advantage
- **Facilitating Product Collaboration**- We work directly with those wanting to develop a product from NYS fiber to educate them on process and facilitate connections within the supply chain. Farmers can reach out to Abby for assistance



How to get in touch:

- <https://www.hvtextileproject.org/>
- <https://www.hvtextileproject.org/clean-fleece>
- abby.hvtextileproject@gmail.com
- **See us at our vendor table!**

