

### **37) Ben Franklin Technology Partners**

Innovation/Entrepreneurship

200 Technology Center Building, Suite 150, University Park, PA 16802

John Siggins, 814-865-2879, jes42@psu.edu

The Ben Franklin Technology Partners program provides support to entrepreneurs, early stage, and established companies through access to funding, business and technical expertise and access to a network of innovative, expert resources. BFTP makes direct investments in promising, technology-oriented companies throughout the Commonwealth to fund critical commercialization activities and growth needs. BFTP couples its financial commitment with access to a wide range of hands-on mentoring, business and technology development services. This includes business plan reviews, technical assessments, intellectual property counsel, marketing advice, operations and fund-raising strategies. Ben Franklin Technology Partners also has specific programs designed to engage with very early stage (pre-company launch) tech entrepreneurs at the earliest stages of their concept development. Activities and programs that accelerate a region's early-stage deal flow help create an environment that allows those who have considered starting a tech-business to explore the likelihood of success with the benefit of professional guidance. For example, emerging entrepreneurs can participate in our tech-startup Boot Camps, offered by our BF *TechCelerator Program* to help them make an educated decision on how to move forward with their business concept.