

## 9 Louisiana biotech firms secure funding for innovative work

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Nine Louisiana biotech companies have been selected as recipients of more than \$2.13 million in federal tax credits and grants. The awards fell under the Qualifying Therapeutic Discovery Project Program (QTDP), which targets small firms.

Among the recipients were Autoimmune Technologies, LLC, TCA Cellular Therapy and Meta Logos, which each received an award of \$244,479.25.

The full list of recipients:

Autoimmune Technologies, LLC - \$ 244,479.25

DEKK-Tec, Inc. - \$ 244,479.25

Embera Neuro Therapeutics, Inc. - \$ 244,479.24

Esperance Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - \$ 244,479.24

Meta Logos Inc. - \$ 244,479.24

NuPotential, Inc. - \$ 244,479.24

TCA Cellular Therapy LLC - \$ 244,479.25

TRANSGENRX, Inc. - \$ 244,479.25

Tumorend, LLC - \$ 182,633.00

***“This award will allow TCA Cellular Therapy to continue developing adult stem cell therapies for cardiovascular and neurological diseases,” said Dr. Janet Jones, chief operating officer of TCA Cellular Therapy.***

The selection process for the program focuses on companies that work on innovative, cost-saving therapies and that increase U.S. competitiveness in the industry.

“It is great to see our local biotech companies taking advantage of this early stage capital available to advance technology development and commercialization,” said James McNamara, president and chief executive officer of BioDistrict New Orleans. “This is the first true evidence that we are making progress in our effort to develop a knowledge based economy for the city, region and state.”

The program was created by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, and received more than 5,600 applications.