



## FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Jessica Fitzwater  
County Executive

Lara Fritts, Director

# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
August 29, 2024

CONTACT: [Britt Swartzlander](#), Communications Manager  
Office of Economic Development  
301-600-1056

### Frederick County Receives Excellence in Economic Development Gold Level Award from International Council

*Awards honor economic development organizations, government entities, initiatives, and programs that demonstrate consistent, exemplary performance*



FREDERICK, Md. – The Frederick County Office of Economic Development (FCOED) has received a 2024 Excellence in Economic Development Gold Level Award from the International Economic Development Council. The award was bestowed specifically for the organization's work in the Print Brochure category that impacted between 200,000 and 500,000 residents. The FCOED team will be acknowledged and honored at the IEDC 2024 Annual Conference in September.

FCOED's award-winner project, the Life Sciences Industry Profile, shines a spotlight on the extensive and thriving biotech industry ecosystem within Frederick County, while highlighting major employers and recent projects. Frederick County's strategic location, skilled workforce and top-tier educational programs are also highlighted. FCOED engaged Frederick-based firm Octavo Designs to develop the visual design of the publication.

"This publication beautifully showcases why Frederick County is an ideal location for companies looking to start, locate or expand," said County Executive Jessica Fitzwater. "Frederick County's life science industries are doing transformative, life-changing work every day. This profile spotlights our community as a major force in the world of life science and builds the business case for why companies should choose Frederick County."

**-more-**

*Frederick County: Rich History, Bright Future*

Winchester Hall • 12 East Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-600-1100 • Fax 301-600-1050  
[www.FrederickCountyMD.gov](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov)

"Frederick County, Maryland is setting the standard of excellence for economic development with its Life Sciences Profile. This award highlights FCOED's commitment to its community and demonstrates the transformative impact of economic development," said Nathan Ohle, President and CEO of the International Economic Development Council.

Every year, the Council looks specifically for economic development organizations, government entities, initiatives and programs that have demonstrated consistent, exemplary performance in the economic development profession, leading the execution of projects that have a significant impact on revitalizing communities, and playing a major role in shaping and improving the practice of economic development.

"I am incredibly proud of our team's hard work and dedication in creating this Industry Profile," said Lara Fritts, Director of the Frederick County Division of Economic Opportunity. "This was truly a team effort, and I am thrilled that we produced an award-winning, impactful marketing piece that will be instrumental in both business attraction and retention. Showcasing Frederick County as a life sciences hub is vital to our work as economic developers, and this publication provides businesses with all the key information they need in one comprehensive resource."

You can find the digital version of the Life Sciences Industry Profile at [discoverfrederickmd.com/LSIndustryProfile](http://discoverfrederickmd.com/LSIndustryProfile).

###

## About FCOED

The Frederick County Office of Economic Development is the central point of contact for businesses looking to start, locate, or expand in Frederick County, Maryland. We facilitate this by connecting businesses with resources at the federal, state, and local levels. Our services include assistance with site selection, workforce recruitment and training, incentives, marketing, and much more.

## About the International Economic Development Council

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit, non-partisan membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 4,300 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities by creating, retaining, and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth, and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC's members engage in the full range of economic development practices. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in various settings, including local, state, provincial, and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities, and a variety of other institutions. When IEDC succeeds, its members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. Learn more at [www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org) today!

*Frederick County, Maryland does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, familial status, gender identity, sexual orientation, or source of income.*