Member Benefits

Sustaining members of the MIT.nano Consortium
Gain a wide-angle view of the nanoscale at MIT

MIT.nano is at the center of MIT in more ways than one.

Geographically, our 200,000-square-feet of highly sophisticated laboratories are located in the heart of the campus, next to MIT’s Great Dome. We are steps away from the many MIT departments, labs, and centers that use our capabilities to advance their work. And because an understanding of the nanoscale is increasingly fundamental to research in any department, our open-access model makes us central to the research enterprise across MIT, supporting investigations that span disciplines and industries.

Nanoscale discovery and innovation is emerging from every corner of the Institute—but only one MIT entity, MIT.nano, is uniquely positioned to connect, support, and engage the entire campus community in the advancement of nanoscience and nanoengineering. This position affords us a wide-angle view of how the 21st century understanding of the nanoscale is driving research at MIT. Members of the MIT.nano Consortium take advantage of this perspective to gain insight into their own markets and priorities, as well as emerging trends with the potential for impact across industries.

We are at the dawn of the Nano Age, and MIT intends to lead. We invite companies and organizations that share our vision for nanoscale impact to join us.

Learn more about becoming a Sustaining Member of MIT.nano

Annual membership contribution: $300K

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Benefits of the MIT.nano Consortium

Access to MIT research, knowledge, and innovation

- An early look into new MIT knowledge and technologies—and early involvement with the professors and their research teams.
- Curated technical surveys of a particular topic with MIT.nano connections to specific researchers and exploration centers.
- The option to embed an employee as a visiting scientist in an MIT research laboratory, offering a specific intellectual home and an insider’s view of the campus.
- The ability to guide MIT’s technical pursuits by providing feedback on real-world technical needs.
- Access to MIT.nano seminars, symposia, and other events, including exclusive events open to Consortium members for introductions to MIT professors, students, and startups.
- The ability to partner with MIT on advancement of technologies and products based on the latest innovations. These innovations might have been developed solely by MIT researchers or in collaboration with the member organization. Such research partnerships with MIT research groups could be used as funding leverage when applying for external grants.

Access to MIT talent

- The ability to attract and hire MIT students and postdocs as interns and permanent hires, including a database of student/postdoc CVs and bio profiles, with priority access for Consortium members.
- Virtual and on-campus job fairs open only to Consortium members, plus the ability to post job openings at the MIT.nano jobs webpage, to focus campus attention on careers with your company.
- Invitation to the Microsystems Annual Research Conference (MARC), the annual showcase of top student/postdoc talent and their research projects.
- The potential for an employee visiting scientist to participate as a technical advisor in thesis committees of MIT graduate students.

Benefit from MIT.nano’s power to convene and connect

- Membership on the MIT.nano Member Advisory Panel (MAP) alongside representatives of the other companies and organizations in the Consortium.
- Access to special events with MIT.nano campus partners such as the Microsystems Technology Laboratories (MTL), MIT Energy Initiative (MITEI), and others.
- Exclusive opportunities for Member companies to interact with speakers and presenters at MIT.nano and other MIT events.
- Potential to utilize MIT’s convening power to organize workshops of Member’s interest.
• Ability to organize one corporate function at MIT per year. This corporate function could be augmented with a targeted student recruiting/engagement event.

• Receive once a year, a curated list of opportunities for engagements beyond those in which the Member organization already participates.

• The ability to conduct research involving customers, some of whom could be other MIT.nano Consortium members.

• Potential for Member company leadership and other employees to give talks, participate in panel discussions, and contribute to MIT.nano activities.

• Exposure to early-stage startups participating in START.nano, the MIT.nano accelerator offering access to our facilities for promising hard-tech ventures.

• Collaborate with MIT.nano on “Future of …” studies, to survey the landscape of emerging knowledge and technologies and assess their potential impact.

Choose where and how to allocate $75K of your membership

• Members may direct $75K per year of the membership, in consultation with MIT.nano, to a purpose or activity of their choice.

• The customization may be allocated to an MIT.nano activity or to another department, lab, or center at MIT.

• Members may also add funds to sponsor research or organize additional activities.

• See the “Examples of member activities” below for different ways to customize.

Examples of ways to customize a membership

The following examples illustrate some of the possibilities for directing $75K of your membership to the activity or purpose of your choosing. MIT.nano is always willing to work with our members to conceive and develop other customized options.

• Embed an employee as a visiting scientist for up to one year within an MIT research laboratory, working alongside MIT faculty, graduate students, and postdocs.

• Develop an exclusive educational or training event for company employees.

• Support one graduate student or postdoc as a recruitment tool or to support research aligned with company interests.

• Support several undergraduate researchers in a named Super UROP placement.

• Co-sponsor a conference or symposium at MIT on a topic of mutual interest.

• Sponsor an early-stage venture in the START.nano program.

• Joint membership with other MIT organizations, including:
  o The Industrial Liaison Program, with access to the MIT Startup Exchange.
  o The Microsystems Industrial Group, convened by the Microsystems Technology Laboratories (MTL).
  o The MRL Collegium, convened by the Materials Research Laboratory (MRL).
  o The MIT Innovation Initiative industry program, with access to the MIT Lab for Innovation Science and Policy.
Discounted use of MIT.nano’s laboratories and equipment

- Utilize MIT.nano’s facilities through our discounted-access program for Member institutions, which offers your employees access to our toolsets and laboratories at a lower rate than non-member industry users.

Develop special projects

The special relationship with MIT.nano Members will enable the MIT.nano director to assemble a set of MIT faculty who could develop special projects for Consortium member companies. The costs of these projects would be beyond the basic membership fee.

Examples of projects include:

- Assemble a "consulting team" of MIT.nano faculty to engage the Member company as hired external consultants. The faculty and the Member organization can agree to cover the content of their interaction by an NDA in order to gain a deeper view into the technical challenges to be addressed, and to maintain IP developed while consulting.

- Request for MIT.nano faculty to deliver a set of lectures/seminars to employees at the Member company. These targeted seminar sets would enable rejuvenation of the intellectual capital of the Member company employees.

- In close collaboration with MIT Open Learning, MIT.nano and a Member company could establish a Private Online Credential for training and education in an area of nanotechnology and its applications. The course content would be developed at MIT in consultation with the company leadership. This could include video lectures, assessments, and interactive discussion forums. Use of MITx technology will allow the Member company employees to access interactive content whenever they need to, at their own pace, and receive a joint MIT/Member-Company certificate upon completion.

Benefits to MIT

We believe the relationship with our Member companies is symbiotic; the MIT community benefits in many ways from the engagement with our industry partners, including:

- Consortium membership fees support MIT.nano’s operation and provide funds needed for the upkeep and rejuvenation of the MIT.nano toolset.

- Technical engagement with Member scientists, engineers, and other employees provides a perspective on current industry challenges, opportunities, and potential for real-world impact.

- A visiting scientist from a Consortium member company can serve as a research advisor to our students, providing unique technical perspectives.

- Access to tools, processes, technologies, and expertise of our Member institutions.

- Career opportunities for MIT students, postdocs, and alumni.

- Engagement with, and support of, MIT startups.