As part of the $50 million NEW YORK STATE INNOVATION VENTURE CAPITAL FUND ("NYSIVC Fund"), Empire State Development ("ESD") is seeking to identify interest in a forthcoming Request for Qualification "(RFQ") for venture capital firms to source seed, early-stage, and growth-stage business attraction investments.

**Fund Summary:**
The $50 million NYSIVC Fund was established to support technology commercialization by facilitating the transition from ideas and research to marketable products, accelerate seed and early-stage business formation by providing investment funding and support, and attract high growth, early-stage companies to the State of New York ("NYS").

The NYSIVC Fund, managed by ESD, will make pre-seed stage equity investments of up to $100,000, seed stage investments of $100,000-$750,000 and larger business attraction investments of up to $5,000,000. Businesses must be located in, or agree to relocate to, New York State.

** Solicitation to Pre-Qualify Venture Capital Fund Partners to Source Business Attraction Investments:**
ESD is looking to pre-qualify venture capital funds that will source companies from outside New York State to the NYSIVC Fund, lead investment rounds, syndicate deals to other investors, and assist in the relocation of companies to New York State. For qualifying investments, participating firms will receive a 20% carried interest on the NYSIVC Fund’s co-invested capital.

Business attraction investments will range from $100,000 to $5,000,000 across a wide range of industries, from technology broadly defined to life sciences, healthcare IT, and applied manufacturing. Typically, business attraction investments will be to companies that are post-revenue, poised for expansion and growth, or already have significant operations outside of New York State.

**Eligibility:**
The NYSIVC Fund will pre-qualify multiple venture capital firms with the following qualifications:
- $250+ million of capital under management;
- Successful investment track record over 3+ funds;
- Experience investing in New York State businesses;
- Willingness to partner with New York State to bring high growth companies to multiple regions of the State;
- Successful track record of syndicating deals to a wide range of co-investors; and
- Knowledge of New York’s VC community and NYS’s innovation landscape, including NYS’s industrial and technological strengths and clusters.

**Timeline:**
Release of RFQ: **May 2014**  
Selection of Investment Partners: **July 2014**

**Contact:**
To ensure your firm is included on our distribution list and to submit any questions, please email **NYSIVCFcomments@esd.ny.gov**.