

NEVADA DOE EPSCoR

REQUEST for PRE-PROPOSALS: Building EPSCoR-State/National Laboratory Partnerships

Release Date: March 30, 2018



Pre-Proposal Due: April 16, 2018 2:00 pm PT
Selected Full Proposal Due: May 15, 2018

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science, Basic Energy Sciences has released Funding Opportunity Announcement (DE-FOA-0001897) for Building EPSCoR-State/National Laboratory Partnerships. These partnerships are to advance fundamental early-stage energy research collaborations with the DOE national laboratories (links below). The research must be of public benefit within DOE's Congressionally-authorized mission-space.

The pre-proposals will undergo a competitive internal review that will result in the selection of one pre-proposal that will advance to full proposal development. Note: the national DOE EPSCoR will only permit one full proposal submission from NSHE. The full announcement is available at: [DE-FOA-0001897](#).

Applicants must propose scientific collaborations that partner academic, non-profit, or industrial researchers in EPSCoR jurisdictions and research staff at DOE national laboratories. These partnerships should leverage capabilities of DOE national laboratories, particularly their user facilities.

Participation by undergraduate students, graduate students, or postdocs is required. Junior faculty are encouraged to apply.

If selected to advance to a full proposal, the National laboratory partners must provide a letter of commitment confirming their willingness to collaborate on the project for the application (endorsed by both the national laboratory collaborator and an appropriate member of laboratory management who is authorized to commit the laboratory to the collaboration).

Partnerships with other EPSCoR states are allowable. Multiple co-PIs are allowable, and partnerships among two or more NSHE institutions are encouraged.

For guidance on writing a pre-proposal relevant to both DOE and Nevada science mission and goals, please carefully examine the additional links below to review current DOE mission priorities and Nevada priorities.

SOLICITATION INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

A. Eligibility

Faculty at NSHE institutions, particularly junior faculty, women, and members of other underrepresented populations are encouraged to apply. Applicants must meet PI eligibility standards of their institution.

B. Award: Funding Information

DOE EPSCoR Research will provide an award of up to \$250,000 per year for up to three years with no cost share requirement. The yearly lowest level of funding is \$150,000.

C. Award Obligations (If selected for Full proposal submission and receive a National award)

Award recipients are required to prepare annual and final reports following DOE EPSCoR guidelines for management reporting and scientific/technical reporting, which will be provided to the lead technical PI.

D. Pre-proposal Preparation (merge requirements 1-4 into a single PDF)

Pre-proposals must be typed, single-spaced, standard one-inch margins and use an Arial Roman 11 pt or comparable font with numbered pages. The pre-proposals should be written such that researchers from other scientific disciplines would be able to understand the pre-proposal goals, importance of the research and how the anticipated outcomes will benefit DOE, NV and NSHE.

1. Cover Page (form provided as “paperclip” attachment to this solicitation)

- a. The planned title of the research application
- b. The name and mailing address of the sponsoring institution
- c. The name, e-mail address, and telephone number of the PD/PI and any coPDs/PIs
- d. The topical research area(s)
- e. Funding Opportunity Announcement Number: DE-FOA-0001897
- f. DOE Office Sponsoring this FOA: DOE EPSCoR
- g. DOE EPSCoR Scientific/Technical Contact: Tim Fitzsimmons
- h. Relevant DOE Program Office (this is in addition to the EPSCoR program) and research area(s)
- i. Relevant DOE Program Office Scientific/Technical Contact (this is in addition to the DOE EPSCoR Program Manager and may not be a DOE National Laboratory research scientist or manager)
- j. DOE/national laboratory partner institution(s)
- k. DOE/National laboratory collaborator(s)

2. Project Narrative (limited to 3 pages)

- a. A description of the proposed research, proposed methods of accomplishment. This must include a clear description of the nature of the proposed State/Lab partnership.
- b. A statement of the proposed project's importance and relevance to the Department's mission and agency's programmatic needs. This should include a clear explanation of the value of the work to both Nevada and the DOE National Laboratory partners. Relevance may not be the same for each partner, necessarily.
- c. An explanation of proposed project's methodology and equipment needs.
- d. Anticipated project results.
- e. A project schedule with estimated completion date.
- f. Total project cost information.

3. A tabular listing of collaborators for the PD/P and any co-PIs (form provided as a “paperclip” attachment)

- a. This listing must include collaborators for the National Laboratory collaborator. The list must be in the tabular form provided (attached as a “paperclip”). This listing should include co-authors over the past 48 months; graduate and postdoctoral advisors of the PI and any co-PIs; personnel, graduate students and postdoctoral associates that have been supervised during the past 60 months; and, any other current close associations of the key personnel.
- b. The table should **exclude** all personnel at any of the institutions participating in the application.

3. Budget and Budget Justification (form provided as “paperclip” attachment)

Provide a budget and a detailed budget justification by each institution involved in the project.

NOTE: If selected to submit a full proposal, the budget must include funding to administer the grant through the NSHE EPSCoR and Sponsored Projects Office. There will be some administrative costs to manage the program.

- a. PIs are encouraged to work with their Sponsored Programs Office and/or Business Managers well in advance to develop the budget.
- b. Follow DOE budget guidelines as well as the OMB Uniform Guidance when developing the budget.
- c. Include appropriate annual increases for salary, fringe, and tuition costs.
- d. Include travel to DOE laboratories.
- e. Budget must be signed by Sponsored Projects Office or Business Manager.
- f. If multiple institutions are involved, a budget for each institution must be included.
- g. Participation by undergraduate students, graduate students, or postdocs is required.

4. Appendices

- a. References Cited (the number of pages for citations is not limited)
- b. Biographical Sketch or Curriculum Vitae: limited to two pages per person, including the PI, Co-PI(s) and any collaborators or identified student(s) who will have a major role in the project.
- c. DOE National Laboratory collaborators must provide at minimum an email agreeing to be involved in the project. An official letter of commitment from the collaborator as well as the laboratory management will be required for the full proposal. (Note: Letters must be recent and dated within 45 days prior to the solicitation due date.)

E. Submission Guidelines:

Pre-proposals must be uploaded no later than **2:00 pm PT on April 16, 2018**. Please submit a single PDF document using the naming convention: **PI Last Name_First Name_DOE**. Submissions that are incomplete (see requirements 1-4 above) will not be reviewed and no late submissions will be accepted. Use the online form at: <https://epscorspo.nevada.edu/opportunity/2018-nevada-doe-epscor-pre-proposal/>

PRE-PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

An internal panel of reviewers will review and recommend a project for submission to the National DOE EPSCoR. The results of this review will be forwarded to the NV EPSCoR Research Affairs Council.

Project selection will be based on review of pre-proposals according to the following criteria:

1. Scientific and/or Technical Merit of the Project;
2. Appropriateness of the Proposed Method or Approach;
3. Competency of Applicant’s Personnel and Adequacy of Proposed Resources;
4. Reasonableness and Appropriateness of the Proposed Budget; and
5. Likelihood of Success of the Collaboration Between the EPSCoR Applicant and the National Laboratory Partner

Estimated Timeline

April 23, 2018	Pre-proposal chosen to advance to full proposal development
April 24, 2018*	Letter of Intent submitted to DOE
May 15, 2018*	Full proposal submitted to DOE
July 31, 2018	DOE reviews completed
September 15, 2018	Project start date

*DOE highly recommends LOIs and proposals be submitted 24-48 hours in advance of final deadline to allow time to deal with technical difficulties.

FULL PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

There is an extremely tight turn-around time on this full proposal. **Please ensure you have the time and resources to commit to completing the full proposal by May 15, 2018 before you submit a pre-proposal.** Items that will be required for the full proposal are outlined in the FOA and highlighted below:

1. Project Summary/Abstract
2. DOE Cover Page
3. Budget Summary
4. Project Narrative (up to 20 pages)
 - a. Background/Introduction
 - b. Proposed Research and Methods
 - c. Timetable of Activities
 - d. Project Objectives
5. Biographical Sketches
6. Current and Pending Support Forms
7. Bibliography and References Cited
8. Facilities and Resources
9. Equipment
10. Data Management Plan
11. Letters of Commitment from Collaborators and National Laboratories
12. Institution and EPSCoR Jurisdiction Commitment Letters
13. Research and Related Budget for Each Institution Involved

Contact Information

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Research must be relevant to one or more of the DOE research programs whose websites are below:

Department of Energy (General Information): <http://www.energy.gov/>
Office of Science: <http://science.energy.gov/>
Basic Energy Sciences: <http://science.energy.gov/bes/>
Biological and Environmental Research: <http://science.energy.gov/ber/>
Advanced Scientific Computing Research: <http://science.energy.gov/ascr/>
Fusion Energy Sciences: <http://science.energy.gov/fes/>
High Energy Physics: <http://science.energy.gov/hep/>
Nuclear Physics: <http://science.energy.gov/np/>
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability: <http://www.oe.energy.gov/>
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy: <http://www.eere.doe.gov>
Office of Fossil Energy: <http://www.fe.doe.gov>
Office of Environmental Management: <http://www.em.doe.gov>
Office of Nuclear Energy: <https://www.energy.gov/ne/office-nuclear-energy>

You may also want to reference how the project meets the needs of the State Science and Technology Plan and the Governor's Economic Plan.

NSHE Science and Technology Plan 2015:

<http://system.nevada.edu/tasks/sites/Nshe/assets/File/BoardOfRegents/Agendas/2015/jun-mtgs/arsa-refs/ARSA-11.pdf>

The Governor's Economic Plan: Moving Nevada Forward: A Plan for Excellence in Economic

Development: http://www.diversifynevada.com/uploads/studies/2012_NVGOED_StatePlan_Full.pdf