NEVADA
NASA EPSCoR

REQUEST for Letters of Interest and PROPOSALS: National NASA EPSCoR Rapid Response Research Cooperative Agreement Notice (CAN)

Release Date: July 9, 2018

Announcement for:

Faculty from University of Nevada, Las Vegas; University of Nevada, Reno; Nevada State College; College of Southern Nevada; Great Basin College; Truckee Meadows Community College; Western Nevada College, Desert Research Institute

Letter of Interest Due: July 30, 2018, 5:00 pm PT

Proposal Due: Any time before June 18, 2019, sooner is better

Webinar about this solicitation will be held July 11, 2018 at 11 am PT. Use this WebEx link to attend: JOIN THE MEETING

INTRODUCTION

The National NASA EPSCoR Program has announced a new solicitation entitled "Rapid Response Research". The goal of this effort is to develop close collaborations among NASA, industry and university faculty to solve specific current NASA research challenges. It is anticipated that five $100,000 awards for a one-year project duration will be made to address a subset of the NASA topics listed in the National solicitation Appendices. Each jurisdiction may submit one proposal per topic area for a total of 8 topic areas, i.e., Nevada may submit, through the NV NASA EPSCoR Office, up to 8 proposals, but only one for each topic area. We are therefore requesting that any NSHE faculty member interested in submitting a proposal first submit a letter of interest; see information below. If there are multiple faculty interested in a common topic area, we will request that the faculty consider collaborating on a proposal. If collaboration is not an option, the NV NASA EPSCoR Technical Advisory Committee will review the proposals and select the proposal that will be submitted to the National solicitation.

The lead Science PIs must contact the NASA point of contact to talk about their research ideas before submitting a proposal; this was a specific request from the National NASA EPSCoR Project Manager, Jeppie Compton.

Each funded NASA EPSCoR RRR CAN proposal is expected to establish research activities that will make significant contributions to the strategic research and technology development priorities of NASA's national program and/or one or more of the ten NASA Field Centers, Mission Directorates or the NASA Office of Chief Technologist. The proposed research should also contribute to the overall research infrastructure, science, and technology capabilities, higher education, and economic development of Nevada.

Topic Areas Include (see attached National NASA EPSCoR RRR CAN for more details; Appendix A and B)

Science Mission Directorate (SMD) Topics:

1) High-temperature subsystems and components for long-duration (months) surface operations (may include high pressure and high acidic environments).
2) Aerial platforms for missions to measure atmospheric chemical and physical properties.

SMD Contact is: Adriana C. Ocampo (HQ-DG000); phone: 202-358-2152; email: Adriana.c.ocampo@nasa.gov

Commercial Spaceflight Development Division (CSDD) Topics:

1) Characterization of C-18150 additively manufactured material
2) Characterization of Inconel 625 Blown Powder Freeform Deposition material
3) Characterization of GLIDCOP Additively Manufactured material
4) Characterization of Bimetallic Joints using Copper-based alloys
5) Investigate potential of Mars and Lunar resources
6) Investigation of Mars Compatible Plants

CSDD Contact is: Warren Ruemmele; (CSCO/UA3) Office Phone: 281-483-3662; Cell: 832-221-1367; email: warren.p.ruemmele@nasa.gov

NASA EPSCoR RRR CAN proposals may be from a single NSHE institution; there is no requirement for collaboration among NSHE institutions.

Important Notes:

1) There is no requirement for matching funds. The total amount to be awarded is $100,000 Federal with full indirect cost recovery.
2) There is no cost-share required for this opportunity (no institutional or state match).
3) The lead administrative PI will be Dr. Lynn Fenstermaker, the NV NASA EPSCoR Project Director. The lead research faculty member will be listed as the Science PI. The proposals will be submitted through the NSHE SPO/EPSCoR Office; the same as the NASA EPSCoR Research CAN.
4) A letter of interest stating the specific topic of the proposal must be submitted by **July 30, 2018**, **5:00 pm PT** at the website listed in the instructions below.
5) The period of performance shall not exceed one year.
6) There will be no administrative fees attached to the budget.
7) Please read the National solicitation (attached) for specifics about the proposal and research topics.
8) **The National NASA EPSCoR Project Manager has stated that the Science PI must contact the NASA point-of-contact listed for each topic area prior to proposal preparation and submission.**
9) The National NASA EPSCoR Project Manager highly recommends submission of the brief 2-3 page proposals as soon as possible.

RRR CAN SOLICITATION INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

A. Eligibility

Faculty at NSHE institutions, particularly junior faculty, women, and members of other underrepresented populations are encouraged to apply. Faculty who have a current National NASA EPSCoR Research CAN project are not eligible to apply while their project is on-going. There is no requirement that Science PIs be U.S. citizens, however, foreign nationals (i.e., non-U.S. citizens who do not have a green card) will likely not be permitted access to NASA Centers. This may or may not be important to the research being proposed.

B. Award: Funding Information

The NASA EPSCoR RRR CAN will provide an award of $100,000 total for a one-year project period with no match requirement. The federally negotiated indirect cost recovery (ICR) rate must be included in the budget.

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

Award recipients are required to prepare final reports and respond to any other reporting requirements provided by the National NASA EPSCoR Office. It is anticipated that this will include quantitative information on participant demographics, project role, number/type of products and a research highlight. The final report must be made publically available either through NASA's *PubSpace* or any other university provided public database. The final report includes: grant proposals submitted; grant proposals funded; papers submitted and/or published in refereed journals; presentations or abstracts at professional meetings, and collaborations with NASA centers and institutions across the state. Data must be archived and adhere to a data management plan (NV NASA EPSCoR has a generic data management plan that will be provided for consideration).

D. Letter of Interest Preparation

Complete the online form (URL listed below) to provide the following information by 5:00 pm PT on July 30, 2018. You must communicate with the appropriate NASA Topic Area Point of Contact prior to submission of the LOI.

Lead PI name, email address and institution
Working title for the pre-proposal
Research topic from NASA solicitation provided list
Research abstract / brief explanation of your research idea (300 words max)

Go to: https://nasa.epscorspo.nevada.edu/funding/2018-rrr-can/

LOI Review

LOIs will be reviewed by August 2nd and PIs will be informed whether they can proceed with proposal development. In instances where common topics are stated in the LOI, PIs will be asked if they would be willing to collaborate. If collaboration is not possible, the LOIs will be reviewed by the NV NASA EPSCoR Technical Advisory Committee and the most NASA relevant LOI will be selected for proposal development. LOI teams will be notified by Monday, August 13th.

E. Proposal Preparation (merge requirements 1-4 into a single PDF)

Proposals must be typed, single-spaced, standard one-inch margins and use a Times Roman 12 pt or comparable font with numbered pages. The proposals should be written such that researchers from other scientific disciplines would be able to understand the proposal goals, importance of the research and how the anticipated outcomes will benefit NASA, NV and NSHE.

1. **Cover Page (form provided as "paperclip" attachment to this solicitation)**
   - Signature of Applicant
   - Signature of Office of Sponsored Projects/Programs
2. **Project Description (limited to 3 pages maximum)**

   Provide a concise description of the proposed research or research-building activities, including the following:
   a. Summary of Project; (1/2 page maximum of the total maximum 3 pages allotted)
   b. The remaining pages should include:
      i. Project goals and research objectives
      ii. Brief statement on how the proposed research meets the topic area need identified in the solicitation
      iii. Tasks and methods
      iv. SMART objectives with measurable outcomes (see PDF "paperclip" attachment)
      v. An approximate timetable for project completion
      vi. List of collaborators and expertise they will contribute (including any NASA scientists)
      vii. Brief discussion of likely outcomes (i.e., publications, patents/licenses, technology transfer, new hardware/software, new or revised courses, new proposals with potential program you will apply to, etc.)

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. PIs are encouraged to work with their Sponsored Programs Office and/or Business Managers well in advance to develop the budget.

a. Follow NASA budget guidelines as well as the OMB Uniform Guidance when developing the budget.
b. Include appropriate fringe, ICR, tuition and other costs.
c. Budget must be signed by Sponsored Projects Office or Business Manager.

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. Any NASA collaborators must provide letters of support that specifically state the contribution they will make. (Note: Letters must be recent and dated within 45 days prior to the proposal submission.)
d. NASA Funding History Summary (limited to one page): provide a detailed list of previous & current NASA funded projects. Include the title of the project, the project period, the funded amount, and significant project outcomes.
e. Facilities and Other Resources: list any existing facilities and major equipment that will be used for the proposed project.

F. Submission Guidelines:

Letters of Interest must be submitted no later than **5:00 pm PT on July 30, 2018**. Use the online form at: https://nasa.epscorspo.nevada.edu/funding/2018-rrr-can/

LOIs should be submitted only after communication with the NASA point-of-contact for the topic area of interest. If you are selected to proceed to proposal, the final date to submit a proposal is **April 30, 2019**, when the solicitation expires**.** It is highly recommended that you submit a proposal as early as possible to be fully considered for one of the five awards. To submit a proposal please submit a single PDF document using the naming convention: **PI Last Name_First Name_NASA_RRR.** Submissions that are incomplete (see requirements 1-4 above) will not be submitted to the National solicitation. Use the online form at: https://nasa.epscorspo.nevada.edu/funding/2018-rrr-can/

PROPOSAL REVIEW AND SELECTION

Proposals will be reviewed by the National NASA EPSCoR Program Office. As stated in the National NASA EPSCoR RRR CAN:

Review of proposals submitted in response to this CAN shall be consistent with the general policies and provisions contained in the *NASA Guidebook for Proposers*, Appendix D. Selection procedures shall be consistent with the provisions of the *NASA Guidebook for Proposers*, Section 5. However, the evaluation criteria described in this CAN under Section 4.0, Proposal Evaluation, takes precedence over the evaluation criteria described in Section 5 of the *NASA Guidebook for Proposers*.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the proposed research approach (intrinsic merit) and budget involved that addresses the research presented in Appendices A and B.

NASA's stated goal is to announce selections as soon as possible. However, NASA does not usually announce new selections until the funds needed for those awards are approved through the Federal budget process. Therefore, a delay in NASA's budget process may result in a delay of the selection date(s). After 180 days past the proposal's submitted date, proposers may contact the

NASA EPSCoR Project Manager for a status.

A proposer has the right to be informed of the major factor(s) that led to the acceptance or rejection of the proposal. Debriefings will be available upon request. Again, it is emphasized that non-selected proposals should be aware that proposals of nominally high intrinsic and programmatic merits may be declined for reasons entirely unrelated to any scientific or technical weaknesses.

Contact Information

NV NASA EPSCoR Project Director
Dr. Lynn Fenstermaker
lynn.fenstermaker@dri.edu
702-862-5412

NV NASA EPSCoR Project Administrator
Gibran Chavez-Gudino
gibran@nshe.nevada.edu
702-522-7081

ADDITIONAL LINKS:

A PDF copy of the NASA Guidebook for Proposers may be found at:
https://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/procurement/nraguidebook/proposer2018.pdf