



**ND NASA EPSCoR**  
**ND NASA EPSCoR Research Focus Area RFP**  
**FUNDS AVAILABLE: Up to \$78,000**  
**Issued: September 12, 2016**  
**Proposals due: Noon, October 14, 2016**

TO: NDSU and UND Faculty in Sciences, Engineering, and Mathematics  
FROM: Dr. James Casler, Director, ND NASA EPSCoR  
RE: ND NASA EPSCoR Research Focus Area (RFA) RFP

The North Dakota NASA Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (ND NASA EPSCoR) solicits research proposals from faculty at UND and NDSU to conduct NASA relevant research in one or more RFAs that are designed to promote and expand particular NASA research sub disciplines in North Dakota. The RFAs include: 1) Astronomical/planetary science research, 2) Small satellite research, development, and construction, 3) Earth sciences research, 4) Materials science research, and 5) Planetary space suit research. Research proposals should be relevant in one or more of the above RFAs, have significant scientific merit, be NASA relevant, and should include realistic budget estimates. Proposal budgets can include funding for faculty salary and benefits, undergraduate and graduate student research assistantships, project relevant supplies, research equipment, and faculty and student travel to NASA field centers for direct collaborations with NASA researchers. Funds cannot be used for computers, furniture, filing cabinets, wall cabinets, office supplies, (including copy paper, pens, sticky notepads), telephone lines, lab renovations, building renovations, moving expenses, expenditures for teaching classes, honorariums, subscription fees, membership fees, or tuition waivers. The requirement for match funds for UND will be determined at the time of the award.

One of the primary goals of the RFA research emphasis and the NASA EPSCoR program is to assist faculty in developing research programs that can be funded outside of the NASA EPSCoR program in the future. Therefore, proposers should specifically include a plan to develop and expand their proposal into an independently funded research group beyond the timeframe of this funding opportunity. A goal of ND NASA EPSCoR is also to assist the development of multiple NASA relevant research clusters in North Dakota. Proposals involving collaboration across departments, universities, and research groups/scientists at NASA Centers, are strongly encouraged.

Funding for this project will be available from November 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017. Extensions are not possible. We anticipate making two awards at up to ~\$40,000 per proposal. Preference will be given to research areas of relevance to North Dakota and proposals that align with ND NASA EPSCoR Research Focus Areas as listed above. Scientific/technical proposals that fall outside of the RFAs, but NASA/North Dakota relevant, will also be considered. Preference will also be given to beginning, untenured faculty who have not yet received a ND NASA EPSCoR award. Proven track record of research capabilities in NASA relevant areas will be an advantage.

**Checklist Requirements** (submit in the following order):

1. Cover page that lists principal investigator (PI) contact information, amount of funding requested, department chair signature, and a statement that the PI has/has not received ND NASA EPSCoR funding since July 1, 2015. All proposals must be routed through Department Chair, Dean's office, and Grants and Contracts (UND applicants); Sponsored Programs Administration (NDSU applicants) for signatures. PIs must also complete proposal transmittal forms specific to their universities (if applicable).
2. A 5-10 page description of the proposed research that includes the following items:
  - a. Description of the primary research question and/or purpose
  - b. Description of the methodological approach and techniques
  - c. Relevance to NASA/North Dakota
  - d. Preliminary research results, if applicable
  - e. Nature and extent of collaborations within North Dakota and with NASA personnel
  - f. Contact information of collaborators
  - g. Letter from collaborators that will contribute to this research
  - h. Description of the PI's plan to secure future external funding
  - i. Reference list, as appropriate
3. A detailed budget. Include a one-page budget narrative along with the Budget Summary that itemizes, describes, and justifies each budget item. Include a separate, more detailed budget, if necessary, to provide sufficient detail.

This solicitation, the cover page, and budget form can be found at:  
<http://ndnasaepscor.und.edu/mnews/newsitem.aspx?newsid=2297>

**NDSU applicants:** Upon review by Sponsored Programs Administration, submit original and two copies (all stapled) of proposal to ND EPSCoR office at Research One, Suite 142, **AND** an electronic submission of the proposal as a single, unlocked PDF file to Caitlin Nolby, [cnolby@space.edu](mailto:cnolby@space.edu) **by Noon, October 14, 2016.**

**UND applicants:** After Grants & Contracts has reviewed, submit the original and two stapled copies of proposals to Caitlin Nolby, Clifford Hall Room 513, 4149 Campus Road, Stop 9008, Grand Forks, ND 58202-9008 **by October 14, 2016.** Also, an electronic submission of the proposal as a single, unlocked PDF attachment must be sent to Caitlin Nolby, [cnolby@space.edu](mailto:cnolby@space.edu).

All awards require: 1) an end-of-year award report to be filed with the ND NASA EPSCoR office, and 2) presentation of results at the annual ND NASA EPSCoR annual meeting.

Questions regarding this announcement can be addressed to Dr. James Casler, Director, ND NASA EPSCoR, ([casler@space.edu](mailto:casler@space.edu), 701-777-3462) or Caitlin Nolby ([cnolby@space.edu](mailto:cnolby@space.edu), 701-777-4856).