



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS —NDUS PUI Campuses

IIP SEED GRANT OPPORTUNITY

ISSUED: March 3, 2015

DEADLINE: NOON, May 20, 2015

TO: PUI Faculty in the Sciences, Engineering, and Mathematics
FROM: Jean Ostrom-Blonigen, Project Administrator, ND EPSCoR, NDSU
Mark Hoffmann, Associate Project Director, ND EPSCoR, UND
RE: Infrastructure Improvement Program – Seed Grant Opportunity-NDUS PUI campuses

ND EPSCoR invites proposals from individual (or small teams of) tenure/tenure-track faculty from the North Dakota University System Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs: Dickinson State University, Mayville State University, Minot State University, Valley City State University) in sciences, engineering, and mathematics who wish to become members of one of the two North Dakota Track-1 research center programs: Center for Regional Climate Studies (CRCS) or Center for Sustainable Materials Science (CSMS). Successful proposals will either be well-aligned with the research focuses of the centers or will extend their capacities in a logical way. Only one proposal per PI is allowed.

Proposals are due in to NDSU office of ND EPSCoR Office by NOON May 20, 2015. Awards will be announced on or about June 17, 2015. ND EPSCoR anticipates making four awards, one to each PUI. Each award can be up to \$100,000, with an award period from 9/1/2015 to 8/30/2019. Award recipients will also be required to submit a proposal, based on the funded project, to NSF by 6/31/2020. This proposal could be a single PI research proposal or a collaborative proposal with one or more members of the research center with which the recipient is working.

Key points:

1. The review committee will be comprised of the leadership of the research center for which the award is written, representatives from the administration of the PUIs and the ND EPSCoR leadership.
2. Faculty with active research programs, including a recent history of submitting proposals (previous two years being most relevant), will be prioritized.

Primary evaluation criteria:

1. Scientific and technical merits of the proposed research, including how the proposed research related to the chosen cluster: CRCS or CSMS.
2. Potential for submitting competitive research proposals to NSF within the award period.
3. Two of the successful proposals will be aligned with CSMS, led from NDSU, and two with CRCS, led from UND.

Other evaluation criteria include but are not limited to:

- The potential to contribute to the education of future scientists, engineers, and mathematicians.
- Evidence of prior collaborative efforts with one of state's five tribal colleges: CCCC, FBCC, SBC, TMCC, UTTC

Check List Requirements: *(Submit electronic versions)*

Proposal Electronic Copy: Send complete proposal, as a *single PDF file*, to jean.ostrom-blonigen@ndsu.edu

Attach reviewers list as separate file.

ND EPSCoR may refuse to review any proposal that does not comply with checklist.

Submit in the Following Order:

- *Cover page.*
- *Executive Summary*—Distinct from the Project Description; it should also address how it relates to the chosen research cluster. One page limit.
- *Project Description*—No more than 8 double-spaced, one-sided pages, margins $\geq 1"$, \geq a 10-point font.
- *References cited.*
- *Facilities and equipment description* relevant to the proposed research. No more than one page.
- *CV—NSF style.* Two page limit per investigator. The CVs should include current and pending support and list of collaborators within last four years (students, post docs, and advisor).
- *NSF style budget sheet* and budget justification. Travel expenses cannot exceed \$3,000. Indirect costs not allowed. Equipment purchases (> \$10,000) not allowed.

Please direct questions to Jean Ostrom-Blonigen at 231.7516 or jean.ostrom-blonigen@ndsu.edu or Mark Hoffmann at 777-2492 or mark.hoffmann@und.edu.

For information about ND EPSCoR and other funding opportunities, please visit the ND EPSCoR website at www.ndepscor.ndsu.edu.