



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**ISSUED: October 9, 2014**  
**DEADLINE: November 7, 2014**

**TO: UND Faculty in the Sciences, Engineering, and Mathematics**  
**FROM: Mark R. Hoffmann, ND EPSCoR Associate Project Director**  
**Associate Vice President for Research Capacity Building**  
**RE: ND EPSCoR—UND CAMPUS IIP SEED / EQUIPMENT GRANT INITIATIVE**

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ND EPSCoR—UND Campus invites proposals from tenured/tenure-track faculty in sciences, engineering, and mathematics for equipment, materials, or other support that will result in a research proposal to the National Science Foundation. A faculty member can only be the PI on one proposal, but can participate in other proposals.

The effective award date will be January 1, 2015. Equipment purchases will need to be made by June 30, 2015 and other expenditures need to be completed by December 15, 2015. Awards can be made for up to around \$50,000. ND EPSCoR at UND anticipates making between 4 and 8 awards. Award recipients will be required to submit proposals on the ND EPSCoR-funded project to NSF by the first divisional submission window after the end of the award.

**Key points:**

1. Proposals will be reviewed externally and recommendations will be made for funding to an *ad hoc* internal panel.
2. Proposals from beginning researchers and from mid-career researchers who are exploring new directions (including new collaborations) will be prioritized. Conversely, proposals from faculty who have existing funding in the proposed topic (or have closely related funding) will normally not be considered favorably.

**Primary evaluation criteria:**

1. Potential for submitting competitive research proposals to NSF within or shortly after the award period.
2. Scientific and technical merits of the proposed research.
3. Proposals that can demonstrate alignment with UND strategic interests will be prioritized.
4. Transformative nature of the proposal.

**Allowed budget items:**

1. Graduate student stipends.
2. Travel limited to \$1,500 each for senior investigators and for graduate students.
3. Supplies and small equipment.
4. Major equipment (>\$5K).

**Disallowed budget items:**

1. Faculty salary.
2. Graduate student tuition.
3. Items/activities not normally supportable in an NSF research award.

**Check List Requirements.**

Proposal Electronic Copy: Send complete proposal, as a *single PDF file*, to [cathy.lerud@research.und.edu](mailto:cathy.lerud@research.und.edu)  
Proposals that do not comply with the checklist will be returned without review.

**Submit in the Following Order:**

- ND EPSCoR Cover page—Available from [www.ndepscor.nodak.edu](http://www.ndepscor.nodak.edu)
- Executive Summary—Distinct from the project description. One page limit.
- Project Description—No more than 8 double-spaced, one-sided pages, margins  $\geq 1"$ ,  $\geq 11$ -point font.
- References cited (not counted in page limit, but cannot be used to circumvent Project Description page limit).
- Facilities and equipment description relevant to the proposed research. No more than one page.
- CV—NSF style. Two page limit per investigator. Must include list of collaborators, including students and postdocs, within the last five years, and a list of Ph.D. and postdoc mentors.
- NSF-style Current and Pending Support form(s).
- NSF-style Budget Sheet available from [www.ndepscor.nodak.edu](http://www.ndepscor.nodak.edu) and one-page narrative budget justification.

Please direct questions to Dr. Mark R. Hoffmann at 701.772.2492 or [mark.hoffmann@email.und.edu](mailto:mark.hoffmann@email.und.edu)  
For information about ND EPSCoR and other funding opportunities, please visit the web site at [www.ndepscor.nodak.edu](http://www.ndepscor.nodak.edu)