



To: Distribution List

From: Faculty Research Development Office
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition: NSF: EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Program: Track-2
Focused EPSCoR Collaborations (RII Track-2 FEC), NSF 17-503

Date: August 31, 2017

****PLEASE NOTE: Although the NSF has not officially released this call, it has indicated that last year's theme will remain unchanged: all proposals must promote collaborations among researchers in EPSCoR jurisdictions on the single topic of **Genomes to Phenomes**. We will provide updates in the event there are significant changes to the call.****

RII Track-2 FEC builds interjurisdictional collaborative teams of EPSCoR investigators in scientific focus areas consistent with NSF priorities. Projects are investigator-driven and must include researchers from at least two RII-eligible jurisdictions. The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) research and education activities should seek to broaden participation through the strategic inclusion and integration of different types of individuals, institutions, and sectors throughout the project. Proposals must describe a comprehensive and integrated vision to drive discovery and build sustainable STEM capacity that exemplifies diversity of all types (individual, institutional, geographic, and disciplinary). The development of diverse early-career faculty is a critical component of this sustainable STEM capacity. For FY 2017, RII Track-2 FEC proposals are invited on a single topic: Genomes to Phenomes.

Understanding the relationship between genome and phenome – Our vast and ever-increasing storehouse of genomic data has enabled rapid progress in many fields allied with the biological sciences, but it remains a challenge to mechanistically understand how genotype elicits phenotype. A fuller understanding of the emergent processes underlying this relationship would have profound implications in medicine, agriculture, biotechnology, ecology, evolution, and other fields. Proposals should pursue innovative, inter-disciplinary approaches toward quantitative, predictive understanding of the complex interactions between genome and environment that generate variable phenotypic traits. These efforts may include the work of biologists, physicists, chemists, engineers, informaticians, and other scientists. Proposals may use any combination of experimental, computational, and/or theoretical approaches with any appropriate model system(s).

The RII Track-2 FEC award amount is restricted based on the number of eligible jurisdictions participating in the project. If institutions from two RII-eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions collaborate on a proposal, the award amount may not exceed \$1 million per year for up to four years. If institutions from three or more RII-eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions collaborate on a proposal, the award amount may not exceed \$1.5 million per year for up to four years. You can find more information on the following link: <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2017/nsf17503/nsf17503.htm>. Last cycle, the *required* letter of intent was due to NSF 1/10/2017 and the full proposal was due 2/10/2017.

This is a limited competition. Only one RII Track-2 FEC proposal may be submitted in response to this solicitation by an organization in a RII-eligible jurisdiction.

If you anticipate that you will be submitting a preproposal for this internal competition, please send a statement of interest on the attached template via e-mail to limited@unm.edu by September 27, 2017. This will help us to arrange a review committee in advance to expedite the process and maximize the amount of time the selected submitter has to prepare their final submission to NSF.

Please submit your 5-page pre-proposal plus coversheet, budget overview, NSF formatted biosketches, and references cited; all documents in a SINGLE PDF file, 11 point font) by NOON on Friday, October 27, 2017 to limited@unm.edu with the subject line indicating: FEC track 2 - your name. No late submissions will be considered.

The limited competition pre-proposal to UNM must include:

- A cover sheet that lists the project title and all senior personnel with each person's institution and contact information
- 5-page project description (in NSF allowable format) that includes:
 - Research: clearly articulated goals and activities with sufficient background information to show the novelty/originality of the approach and intellectual merit;
 - Collaboration: identify the institution(s) with which you will partner. Describe the partners and their contributions and provide the rationale for the partnership (why this collaboration is needed), and describe the management structure that will enable coordination among partners;
 - Workforce Development: focus on junior faculty and include diversity improvement strategies;
 - Labeled paragraphs describing the intellectual merit and broader impacts
- Budget overview (using Table below) and 1-page budget justification
- Biosketches (NSF format) for PI and Co-PIs
- References cited

Note: the pre-proposal does not need to be entered into Cayuse; it will be used for the review process only.

Budget Overview Table (4 year totals)

	UNM	Institution 2 (Name)	Institution 3 (Name)
Salaries w/fringe— faculty			
Salaries w/fringe— students			
Salaries w/fringe— staff			
Equipment			
Travel			
Participant Costs			
Other Costs			
F&A			
Total (4 years)			

NSF EPSCoR Track-2 FEC Statement of Interest Template for UNM
Return by noon on September 27, 2017 to limited@unm.edu

1. Identify the institution(s) with which you will partner:

2. List all PI/Co-PI's (must have one per jurisdiction)

Name	Institution	Department	Email	Phone
	UNM			

3. Brief abstract of research and education focus (1-2 paragraphs)