



To: Distribution List

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

Subject: Limited Competition: NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track 4: EPSCoR Research Fellows (RII Track-4), NSF 17-509

Date: November 1, 2016

The Office of the Vice President for Research is requesting preproposals for the NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track 4: EPSCoR Research Fellows (RII Track-4). Please distribute this notice to departments and individuals whom you believe would be interested.

Synopsis:

RII Track-4 provides opportunities for non-tenured investigators to further develop their individual research potential through extended collaborative visits to the nation's premier private, governmental, or academic research centers. Through these visits, the EPSCoR Research Fellows will be able to learn new techniques, benefit from access to unique equipment and facilities, and shift their research toward transformative new directions. The experience gained through the fellowship is intended to provide a foundation for research collaborations that span the recipient's entire career. These benefits to the Fellows are also expected to in turn enhance the research capacity of their institutions and jurisdictions. PIs must hold a non-tenured faculty appointment or its close equivalent, either in the form of a pre-tenure tenure-track position or a long-term non-tenure-track position.

Eligibility:

PIs of proposed RII Track-4 projects must have their primary appointment with the submitting organization. PIs must hold a non-tenured faculty appointment, or its close equivalent. This may be in the form of a pretenure tenure-track position or a long-term non-tenure-track position. Persons holding transitional (< 3 years) fixed-term postdoctoral appointments are not eligible for this program. Only single-PI proposals will be considered. No co-PIs should be included on the proposal.

This is a limited competition. Only three (3) RII Track-4 proposals may be submitted in response to this solicitation by any single organization in a RII-eligible jurisdiction. You can find more information on the following link: https://nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf17509. The full proposal is due to NSF 2/28/2017.

Budget Parameters:

- Funding requests can be for durations of up to 2 years (24 months). Total funds requested may not exceed \$300,000.
- Budgets may include up to six months of salary and fringe benefit support for the PI. Support may be for academic, calendar, or summer months. Up to six months of salary and fringe benefit support (including tuition if appropriate) is also allowed for one additional trainee-level participant.
- Travel expenses for the PI and one additional trainee-level researcher may be requested solely for travel between the PI's home institution and the host site. Multiple trips between the two sites are allowed, however the total budget for travel expenses may not exceed \$20,000.
- Living expenses for the PI and one additional trainee-level researcher are allowed during time spent at the host site. Living expense charges (Lodging, Meals, and Incidental Expenses) may not exceed the *per diem* rates set by the United States General Services Administration (GSA) for the host site location. The total budget for living expenses may not exceed \$50,000.

- Up to \$10,000 in additional direct costs are allowed. These funds may be used for shipping equipment, purchasing supplies, and other similar uses directly related to the research activities at the host site.
- Host institutions are not eligible to receive funds under this award. The sole exception is for living expenses, which may include lodging, meals, and incidental expenses. If funds are to be used to pay living expenses to the host institution, the expected costs should be budgeted as travel expenses (and not as a subaward).

This limited competition will have a two-step process:

1. By noon on **November 16**, submit an email of interest to limited@unm.edu with:
 - a. Your name, department, rank
 - b. 100 word (maximum) description of area of research interest
 - c. Signed approval by department chair
 - d. Names of potential host organization(s)
2. By noon on **December 8**, submit a 3-page preliminary proposal to limited@unm.edu that includes:
 - a. Description of the research to be conducted and anticipated impact on your career
 - b. Letter of support signed by your department chair and dean
 - c. Letter of tentative agreement from your collaborator at the host organization

More details on preliminary proposal are provided in the attached preliminary proposal instructions.

Note: The email of interest is required in order for the preliminary proposal to be reviewed by the limited competitions committee.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jo Daniel at 505-277-0168 or mjdaniel@unm.edu.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford at 272-6950 for more information.

Attachment

Preliminary Proposal Instructions

NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track 4: EPSCoR Research Fellows (RII Track-4),
NSF 17-509

Due by noon on December 8, 2016 to limited@unm.edu

3 page maximum, 12 point font, 1 inch margins

Top of page 1:

Name

Department

Rank

Host institution and name of collaborator(s) at host institution

Narrative should address in language understandable to a broad scientific audience:

- Goals and objectives for the fellowship
- Research plan for achieving the goals
- Role of the host site in achieving the research goals
- Explanation of how the PI will benefit from the fellowship; what opportunities does it provide that would not be available at UNM?
- How would UNM benefit from this fellowship (in the future)?
- Timeline for meeting project goals

Required, but not included in the 3 pages:

- References cited in the narrative
- Biographical sketch (2 page max, in NSF format) for the PI
- Statement of support/approval signed by the department chair and dean
- Brief letter of intent to collaborate from primary research collaborator(s) at host site

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