



To: Distribution List

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

Subject: Limited Competitions: NSF Innovation Corps - National Innovation Network Sites
Program (I-Corps Sites) NSF 16-547

Date: November 8, 2016

The National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks to develop and nurture a national innovation ecosystem that builds upon research to guide the output of scientific discoveries closer to the development of technologies, products and processes that benefit society.

In order to contribute to a national innovation ecosystem, NSF established the NSF Innovation Corps Sites Program (NSF I-Corps Sites). Sites are funded at academic institutions, having already existing innovation or entrepreneurial units, to enable them to:

- Nurture students and/or faculty who are engaged in projects having the potential to be transitioned into the marketplace. I-Corps Sites will provide infrastructure, advice, resources, networking opportunities, training and modest funding to enable groups to transition their work into the marketplace or into becoming I-Corps Team applicants.
- Develop formal, active, local innovation ecosystems that contribute to a larger, national network of mentors, researchers, entrepreneurs and investors. Networking is an essential component of all of NSF's I-Corps activities – local and national networking activities help advance the goals of I-Corps and contribute to local and national ecosystems for innovation.

The purpose of an I-Corps Site is to nurture and support multiple, local teams to transition their ideas, devices, processes or other intellectual activities into the marketplace.

The anticipated funding amount is up to \$500,000. More details can be found at https://nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?WT.z_pims_id=504802&ods_key=nsf16547. Full proposals to the NSF are due February 9, 2017.

This is a limited competition; each institution is limited to one proposal. If you are interested in submitting a proposal, send a statement of interest with a tentative project title and brief description (200 words) by **noon, Wednesday, November 16, 2016** via e-mail to limited@unm.edu **with the subject line: I Corp Sites – your name**. Based on the e-mail responses received, the Limited Competition Management Team may announce a call for preproposals. Please distribute this notice to departments and individuals whom you believe would be interested.

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