

## UNM Limited Competition Announcement

Dear UNM Researchers,

The Office of the Vice President for Research is requesting statements of interest (SOIs) for the **NSF CyberAICorps Scholarship for Service (CyberAI SFS) FY27 (NSF 26-503)** limited competition. UNM is eligible to apply to the **Scholarship Track**, which provides funding to establish, or to continue, scholarship for service programs with integrated AI and cybersecurity components (CyberAI). Note that scholarship recipients **must** be U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents and work after graduation in the AI or cybersecurity mission of a government organization for a period of at least the length of the scholarship.

**Sponsor:** NSF

**Opportunity Title:** Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity Education Innovation and Scholarship for Service, referred to as: CyberAICorps Scholarship for Service (CyberAI SFS)

**Opportunity Number:** NSF 26-503

**Sponsor Due Date(s):** 07/21/2026

**Award Range:** up to \$2.5 million

**Number of Submissions Allowed from UNM:** Institutions are limited to one (1) proposal

**Solicitation:** <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/cyberai-sfs-cyberaicorps-scholarship-service/nsf26-503/solicitation>

**Limited Competition Instructions:** We will be conducting a two-step internal competition to ensure we have a review committee in place by the pre-proposal deadline. You must complete both steps if you are interested in participating.

**Limited Comp. STEP 1: Required SOI Due Date:** **NOON on March 23, 2026**

**Limited Comp. STEP 2: Pre-proposal Due Date:** **NOON on April 13, 2026**

**STEP ONE:** Please submit your **statement of interest** in UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). Include a brief abstract of the project (1-2 paragraphs). This is a required step, and no late submissions will be considered. Note that SOIs will NOT be scored; we require them so that we can form a review committee early.

**STEP TWO:** Please submit your 3-page pre-proposal, abbreviated budget, and CVs for key personnel via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). You will receive an email when the competition has been converted from the SOI application to the pre-proposal application, but you may work on your documents outside the system before that. No late submissions will be considered.

The pre-proposal should address the major topics that will be required in the proposal narrative.

1. **Evidence of a Strong Program in AI or Cybersecurity:** Briefly outline evidence of a robust academic program in AI or cybersecurity. Evidence may include a description of the academic program, course requirements, and curricular and extracurricular opportunities for students to build AI or cybersecurity knowledge and skills. Evidence may also include enrollment and graduation data, as well as employment of recent graduates in related fields.
2. **Recruitment & Selection of CyberAI SFS Scholars:** Describe the plan for recruiting, selecting, and onboarding CyberAI SFS scholars, including counseling. (Note that internships and post-graduate government employment typically require high-level security clearances. Scholarships are merit-based, and scholars must agree to required background checks. By law, scholars must repay the U.S. Treasury if academic or service obligations are not met.)

3. **SFS Scholar Mentoring & Cohort Activities:** Briefly explain how scholars will be advised and mentored, addressing research opportunities, experiential learning, extracurricular and cross-disciplinary activities in AI and cybersecurity, academic support, and preparation for government careers.
4. **CyberAI SFS Scholarship Internship Requirements & Service Obligation:** Outline how the institution will work with the CyberAI SFS Program Office to support and monitor internship and service obligations. Scholars must complete qualified AI or cybersecurity summer internships during the scholarship period and must serve in a qualified government organization for a period equal to their scholarship duration
5. **CyberAI SFS Institutional Responsibility & Project Management Plan:** Provide an abbreviated project management plan briefly describing how the institution will 1) verify scholarship candidates' eligibility, including citizenship or permanent resident status, recipients' academic merit, appropriate professional skills, and enrollment in an AI or cybersecurity program; 2) Track academic progress to confirm continued eligibility; 3) ensure scholarship recipients complete counseling before receiving the scholarship and before they complete the Scholarship Phase; 4) coordinate with the CyberAI SFS Program Office for summer internships and permanent job placements for each student; and 5) Monitor employment obligations and submit annual, verifiable post-scholarship employment documentation until service requirements are fulfilled.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu).

*If affiliated with HSC, please contact HSC Limited Competition for more information at [HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu](mailto:HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu).*