

UNM JOINT HSC+Main Limited Competition Announcement

Dear UNM Researchers,

The Office of the Vice President for Research is requesting statements of interest and pre-proposals for the **NSF Integrated Data Systems & Services (IDSS) (NSF 25-544)** limited competition. This funding opportunity supports operations-level national-scale cyberinfrastructure systems and services that broadly advance and facilitate open, data-intensive and artificial intelligence-driven science and engineering research, innovation, and education.

Sponsor: NSF

Opportunity Title: Integrated Data Systems & Services

Opportunity Number: NSF 25-544

Sponsor Due Date(s): 07/28/2026

Award Range: \$10 million to \$30 million for up to 5 years for Category I; up to \$9 million for up to 3 years for Category II (including indirect costs)

Number of Submissions Allowed from UNM: Total of 2 submissions: One (1) proposal may be submitted as the lead institution per category for Categories I and II. (Note: Category III is not limited and is excluded from this internal competition.)

Solicitation: <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/idss-integrated-data-systems-services/nsf25-544/solicitation>

Limited Comp. 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. *The same submission process will be used for applications from Main Campus and HSC for this competition.*

Limited Comp. STEP 1: Required SOI Due Date: **NOON on March 11, 2026** (for planning purposes)

Limited Comp. STEP 2: Pre-proposal Due Date: **NOON on April 1, 2026**

STEP ONE: Please submit your ~100-word **statement of interest** in UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). This is a required step, and no late submissions will be considered. Note that SOIs will NOT be scored; we require them to assist us in forming a review committee.

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 InfoReady 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 indicate which **Category (I or II)** you are applying for and address the major topics that will be included in the proposal narrative, including:

1. **Vision, Goals, and Driving Requirements:** Describe the project's vision and goals for project impacts on science and innovation, including but not limited to growing, onboarding, and serving a broad array of users. Identify specific reference research, innovation and/or education use cases that require the capabilities of the proposed cyberinfrastructure, and the kinds of science outcomes that would be enabled or accelerated.
2. **Project Definition and Specification:** Describe the proposed architecture, systems, and services, and explain how they respond to the vision, goals, and requirements. Identify intended user categories, supported data lifecycle stages and workflows, connections to existing cyberinfrastructure, and the project's uniqueness, complementarity, and synergies within the NSF ecosystem.

3. **Operations Plan:** Describe how the systems and services will provide continuous operations to the intended users while ensuring security and trustworthiness for the award period. (Note: Projects must be ready for full operations by or before the end of the first award year.) Describe your plan for transitioning the project to full operations by the end of the first award year.
4. **Performance objectives and measures:** Summarize your performance objectives and targets, as appropriate for the system and services proposed and share how these will be achieved. Such objectives might include targets for end-to-end performance, user wait times, interactivity and system responsiveness, growth in user community, stability, reliability, or usability targets. Include how these will be measured qualitatively and quantitatively.
5. **Project Management:** Describe the experience of the proposing organization and team in managing awards for development and operation of cyberinfrastructure systems of similar scale and complexity to that being presently proposed that have a potentially large number of external users, and the resources that would be available to manage the new award. Provide a risk management plan, identifying the major technical and management risks to the project, including risks associated with community adoption and sustainability, and associated planned mitigations, for successfully completing development/deployment and conducting full operations in the planned time period within the proposed budget.

The pre-proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

1. Does the proposal provide convincing evidence that the project is needed, relative to other existing systems & services, to advance integrative data-intensive and AI-driven science and engineering research & education, in ways for an appropriately broad array of use cases?
2. Does the proposal provide a clear definition of the proposed systems and services and provide the technical specifications at an appropriate level of detail?
3. Is there a convincing plan for transitioning the project to full operations by the end of the first award year?
4. Does the Operations Plan clearly describe how the systems and services will provide continuous operations to the intended users while ensuring security and trustworthiness?
5. Does the proposal describe an adequate and convincing set of comprehensive performance objectives and appropriate targets for the proposed system or services?
6. Are the project management plans, risk management plan, and budget well-described and appropriate?
7. Necessity, reasonableness, allowability, and justification of the budget.
8. Overall Score.

Questions? Please contact limited@unm.edu or HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu.