



To: Distribution List

From: Faculty Research Development Office (FRDO)
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition: Department of Energy, Energy Frontier Research Centers, (DE-FOA-0002653)

Date: 01/10/2022

Dear UNM Researchers,

The DOE SC program in Basic Energy Sciences (BES) announces a re-competition of the Energy Frontier Research Center (EFRC) program and encourages both new and renewal applications. Applications from multi-disciplinary teams will be required to propose both discovery science and use-inspired basic research. The EFRC program brings together diverse world-class teams of scientists to perform energy-relevant, basic research with a scope and complexity beyond what is possible in single-investigator or small-group awards. These multi-investigator, multi-disciplinary centers accelerate transformative scientific advances for the most challenging topics in materials sciences, chemical sciences, geosciences, and biosciences. DOE encourages applications that propose research that will enable future clean energy technologies and advanced manufacturing.

DOE anticipates that award sizes will range from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000 per year. The award sizes will depend on the merit review, the number of meritorious applications, and the availability of appropriated funds. For renewal applications, DOE may consider limited-term renewal awards to allow for the completion of research projects and orderly closeout of EFRCs that do not merit long-term continued support. All applications must address one or more of the Priority Research Directions (PRDs) or Priority Research Opportunities (PROs) listed on pages 2-3 of the [Funding Opportunity Announcement \(FOA\)](#). As appropriate, applications should articulate the ways in which the fundamental science research could provide foundational knowledge in support of the Energy Earthshot Goals listed on page 4 of the FOA. **There is a mandatory pre-application due February 15, 2022 with final applications due May 3, 2022.**

This is a limited competition. Each institution is limited to three applications. Please submit a one page Letter of Interest by **NOON on Wednesday, January 19, 2022** via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). This is a required step that will help us arrange a review committee in advance to expedite the process and maximize the amount of time the selected submitters have to prepare their final submissions. A 3-page preproposal (plus budget and CV; 11 point font) will be due by **NOON on Monday, January 24, 2022**. No late submissions will be considered.

The Letter of Interest should briefly state the scientific mission of the proposed EFRC and explain the potential scientific impact of the proposed research and the need for an integrated, multi-disciplinary

research team. Pre-proposals should address the major points that will be included in the proposal narrative, including:

- A clear and concise statement of the scientific mission of the proposed EFRC;
- An explicit set of four-year research goals designed to support that mission;
- A description of the research methods and approaches that will be used to achieve the goals of the EFRC;
- An explanation of the potential scientific impact of the proposed research and the need for an integrated, multi-disciplinary research team; and
- A discussion of how the proposed research is responsive to the objectives of the FOA, specifically by responding to the priority research directions or opportunities identified in one or more of the reports listed in Section I of the FOA.

The narrative should be accompanied by a **draft budget overview** and an **abbreviated PI CV**.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at limited@unm.edu.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford (CFord@salud.unm.edu) or Cassandra Misenar (CMisenar@salud.unm.edu) for more information.