

To: Distribution List

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

Subject: Limited Competition: NSF: EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Program: Track-2
Focused EPSCoR Collaborations (RII Track-2 FEC), NSF 22-633

Date: September 30, 2022

RII Track-2 FEC builds interjurisdictional collaborative teams of EPSCoR investigators in STEM focus areas consistent with NSF priorities. Projects are investigator-driven and must include researchers from at least two EPSCoR eligible jurisdictions with complementary expertise and resources necessary to address challenges, which neither party could address as well or rapidly independently. RII Track-2 FEC projects have a comprehensive and integrated vision to drive discovery and build sustainable STEM capacity that exemplifies individual, institutional, geographic, and disciplinary diversity. Additionally, the projects' STEM research and education activities seek to broaden participation through the strategic inclusion and integration of diverse individuals, institutions, and sectors. In addition, NSF EPSCoR recognizes that the development of early-career faculty from backgrounds that are traditionally underrepresented in STEM fields is critical to sustaining and advancing research capacity. The integration and inclusion of Minority-serving Institutions (MSIs), women's colleges, Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs), and two-year colleges is a critical component of this sustainable STEM capacity.

RII Track-2 FEC proposals must be aligned with the following focus area: "advancing climate change research and resilience capacity to expand opportunities for disproportionately affected communities." Climate change is an important component of global environmental change and addressing, and mitigating, its effects is a key national priority. As a major societal challenge, climate change has profound consequences for the habitability and sustainability of the planet, while also affecting the nation's food, water, energy, economies, security, and quality of life through its impacts on human health, agriculture, ecosystems and water resources. Disproportionately affected communities are considered more susceptible to these impacts and adaptation and mitigation strategies related to climate change and resiliency must be based on robust scientific findings affecting and involving these communities. Participation in climate change research with disproportionately affected individuals as the centerpiece, will potentially advance science and engineering, enhance the contribution of EPSCoR jurisdictions to the well-being of our nation's citizens, and promote economic stability and recovery in EPSCoR jurisdictions.

If organizations from two RII-eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions collaborate on a proposal, the award amount may not exceed \$1 million per year for up to four years (\$4 million maximum total). If organizations from three or more RII-eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions collaborate on a proposal, the award amount may not exceed \$1.5 million per year for up to four years (\$6 million maximum total).

PIs and Co-PIs on current NSF EPSCoR RII Track-2 FEC awards with end dates (including any No Cost Extensions) beyond October 31, 2023/2024 (for the respective FY2023/2024 competitions) are not eligible to submit proposals as a PI or Co-PI in this competition.

The *required* letter of intent is due December 20, 2022 and full proposals are due January 24, 2023. You can find more information on the following link: <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2022/nsf22633/nsf22633.htm>.

This is a limited competition. Only **one** RII Track-2 FEC proposal may be submitted in response to this solicitation by an organization in a RII-eligible jurisdiction. An organization may serve as lead on one proposal, either as the lead on a single proposal with subawards, or as the lead on a set of separately submitted collaborative proposals. An organization may serve as a non-lead on any number of additional proposals.

***If you anticipate that you will be submitting a preproposal for this internal competition, please submit a statement of interest via InfoReady Review <https://unm.infoready4.com/> using the template provided (see pg. 4) by noon on **October 26, 2022**. Note: The statement of interest is required in order for the preliminary proposal to be reviewed by the limited competitions committee.*

Please submit your 5-page pre-proposal plus coversheet, budget overview, NSF formatted biosketches, and references cited, 11 point font) by NOON on Thursday, November 3, 2022 via UNM's InfoReady Review portal <https://unm.infoready4.com/>. No late submissions will be considered.

The limited competition pre-proposal to UNM must include:

- A cover sheet that lists the project title and all senior personnel with each person's institution and contact information
- 5-page project description (in NSF allowable format) that includes:
 - **Research:**
 - Provide a concise description of the long-term research and education goals and intellectual focus, and describe the planned activities in sufficient detail to enable their scientific merit and broader impacts to be assessed.
 - Present proposed research in the context of other efforts in the field (with appropriate references), state the major challenges and how they will be addressed, and comment on novelty and/or originality of the proposed approach.
 - **Interjurisdictional Collaborations and Partnerships:**
 - Identify the institution(s) with which you will partner. Present the rationale for the composition of the teams, a description of the leadership structure, and the context for establishing the collaboration.
 - Include a specific discussion of how the collaborative effort will positively impact each participating jurisdiction and its respective target population by leveraging the proposed climate change and climate resilience research, including methodologies and metrics for measuring success. Proposals should also explain how each participating jurisdiction will contribute to and benefit from the proposed collaboration in a meaningful and distinct way.
 - **Sustainability**
 - Include a plan for long-term sustainability of the proposed activities and infrastructure (physical, cyber, and human) beyond the lifespan of the project is required. Plans should clearly delineate what the expected impacts will be on the industry and jurisdiction(s) involved and how they will holistically tie into affecting populations of the jurisdiction(s) involved. Provide realistic, annual metrics to assess the short and long-term economic impacts of this project.
 - **Workforce Development Plan:**
 - Plans for recruitment and/or development of early-career faculty in the project's research activities. It should also describe in detail the mechanisms to attract and mentor these individuals, to enable their development and success as educators and researchers, and their specific contributions to achieving the project's goals in the focus area.

- Present an implementation strategy, informed by national best practices for building research competencies, and research mentoring. The implementation strategy should include an initial baseline assessment, clearly articulated goals, milestones, and timelines.
 - Provide explicit evidence for the **broader impacts** of the research and education activities.
- Budget overview (using Table below) and 1-page budget justification
- Biosketches (NSF format) for PI and Co-PIs
- References cited

Budget Overview Table (4 year totals)

	UNM	Institution 2 (Name)	Institution 3 (Name)
Salaries w/fringe— faculty			
Salaries w/fringe— students			
Salaries w/fringe— staff			
Equipment			
Travel			
Participant Costs			
Other Costs			
F&A			
Total (4 years)			

NSF EPSCoR Track-2 FEC Statement of Interest Template for UNM
Submit via UNM's InfoReady Review portal by noon on October 26, 2022.

1. Identify the institution(s) with which you will partner:

2. List all PIs/Co-PIs. Each EPSCoR jurisdiction participating in a proposed project must be represented by a PI or at least one co-PI.

Name	Institution	Department	Email	Phone
	UNM			

3. Brief abstract of research to be addressed by the proposal. (1-2 paragraphs)