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

Subject: Limited Competition: NSF, BioFoundries to Enable Access to Infrastructure and Resources for Advancing Modern Biology and Biotechnology (BioFoundries), (NSF 23-585)

Date: 6/2/2023

Dear UNM Researchers,

BioFoundries is an infrastructure program from the National Science Foundation (NSF) that is designed to accelerate advances in the biological sciences, chemical biology, biotechnology, and bioengineering via access to modern infrastructure, technology, and capacity. BioFoundries will provide the intellectual, technical, digital, and physical frameworks needed for tight integration of technology innovations and applications with foundational interdisciplinary research and training, by:

1. serving as access points for new biological technologies, workflows, processes, automations, and knowledge-bases to enable transformative discoveries;
2. catalyzing new innovations and transformative discoveries by supporting in-house and external user-initiated research programs that take full advantage of technological and methodological advances;
3. continuing to develop novel technologies, workflows, processes, automations, and knowledge-bases that are both forward-looking and user-responsive;
4. increasing the reproducibility of life science discoveries and data and knowledge sharing capabilities;
5. training the next generation of the scientific workforce; and
6. facilitating pathways to translation.

Awards totaling \$15 million to \$24 million over a six-year period are anticipated. Awards will be made via cooperative agreements. Pending availability of funds, NSF anticipates that the initial ramp-up period (Years 1 and 2) will incur higher costs due to the need for equipment purchases and /or facility commissioning and lower personnel costs in the absence of major equipment, and proposed budgets should reflect this. Approximately 50% of the BioFoundry funds provided by NSF, after subtracting equipment costs, should be devoted to user-facing activities. More details can be found in the program solicitation: <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2023/nsf23585/nsf23585.pdf>. Required Letters of Intent are due to the agency by **August 1, 2023**. Full proposals are due **October 2, 2023**.

This is a limited competition. **Each institution is limited to ONE LOI as lead**. If you are interested in applying to this program, please submit a statement of interest with a tentative project title and a brief description (200 words) by **NOON on June 13, 2023** via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). No late

submissions will be considered. Based on the number of responses received, the Limited Competitions Management Team may announce a call for pre-proposals.

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

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact HSC Limited Competition at HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu for more information.