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

Subject: Limited Competition: NSF Centers for Innovation and Community Engagement in Solid Earth Geohazards (NSF 21-628)

Date: August 18, 2023

UNM Researchers,

The Centers for Innovation and Community Engagement in Solid Earth Geohazards program supports university-based centers to advance research on the fundamental solid Earth processes that underpin natural hazards. Centers will catalyze, coordinate, and produce transformative research, lead innovation, and enable convergent approaches for systems-level insights that require the collective efforts of a large group of individuals.

Centers focus on addressing major, fundamental science challenges for understanding solid Earth geohazards, primarily those related to faulting, volcanoes, mass movements, and other dynamic processes. In particular, the Centers will advance understanding in one or more of the priorities outlined in the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine decadal survey report *The Earth in Time*, including; *What is an earthquake? What drives volcanism? What are the causes and consequences of topographic change? and How can Earth science research reduce the risk and toll of geohazards?*

Centers will also foster different dimensions of community engagement to meaningfully improve the national welfare. Flagship community engagement activities will take bold and creative action to broaden participation of underrepresented groups in the geoscience workforce and expand the impact of fundamental research in solid Earth geohazards to inform and prepare a broader community. Centers will establish partnerships to enable public outreach, hazard mitigation and other community engagement activities.

The Program has two tracks, both of which are described in this solicitation. **Track I – Center Catalyst** awards are intended to provide resources to catalyze initiatives to develop future centers. These awards would support groups to develop the science, management, and broader impact concepts for a major research center. **Track II – Center Operation** awards are intended to support the operation of a fully developed center.

The aggregate budget for a Track I – Center Catalyst proposal should total no more than \$500,000 over two years. Track II – Center Operations awards are up to \$3,000,000 per year for five years. Required letters of intent are due November 16, 2023 with full proposals due March 15, 2024. The full solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2021/nsf21628/nsf21628.htm>.

**This is a limited competition. No more than two proposals across both tracks may be submitted by any lead institution.** If you are interested in submitting a preliminary proposal please submit a 1-page statement of interest articulating a high-level statement of the Center's focus and its potential impact; a list of all senior personnel and collaborating or partnering organizations via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#) by **NOON on August 31, 2023**. Based on the responses received, the Limited Competition Management Team may announce a call for preproposals.

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

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