



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: August 23, 2023

RII Track-2 FEC builds interjurisdictional collaborations of EPSCoR investigators in STEM focus areas. Projects must include researchers from **at least 2** 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. The integration and inclusion of Minority-serving Institutions (MSIs), women's colleges, Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs), and 2-year colleges is a critical component of this sustainable STEM capacity.

Proposals must align with the following focus area: **advancing climate change research and resilience capacity to expand opportunities for disproportionately affected communities.** 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. Disproportionately affected communities are considered more susceptible to these impacts; adaptation and mitigation strategies related to climate change and resiliency must be based on robust scientific findings affecting and involving these communities.

If organizations from two RII-eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions collaborate, 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 FY23/24 competitions) are not eligible to submit proposals as a PI or Co-PI in this competition.

The *required* NSF letter of intent is due December 19, 2023 and full proposals are due January 23, 2024. For full details, go to: <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2022/nsf22633/nsf22633.htm>.

This is a limited competition. Only **one** RII Track-2 proposal may be submitted by an organization in an 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. We are 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.**

STEP ONE: Please submit a statement of interest via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#) using the template provided by **NOON on September 25, 2023**. **Note:** Statements of interest are *required* in order for the preliminary proposal to be reviewed. No late submissions will be considered.

STEP TWO: Please submit your 5-page pre-proposal plus coversheet, budget overview, NSF formatted biosketches, and references cited, (11-pt.) by **NOON on October 9, 2023** via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). No late submissions will be considered.

The limited competition pre-proposal to UNM must include:

- Cover sheet: project title and all senior personnel with institution and contact information
- 5-page project description (in NSF allowable format) that includes:
 - **Research:**
 - Provide a concise description of the long-term research, education goals, and intellectual focus, describing 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 specific discussion of how the collaboration 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 collaboration.
 - **Sustainability**
 - 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.
 - **Workforce Development Plan:**
 - Plans for recruitment/development of early-career faculty, describing 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 goals.
 - Present an implementation strategy, informed by 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 **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 September 25, 2023.

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)