



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

Subject: Limited Competition: NSF: Partnerships for Innovation (PFI) NSF 18-511

Date: November 20, 2017

The NSF Partnerships for Innovation (PFI) Program within the Division of Industrial Innovation and Partnerships (IIP) offers researchers the opportunity to transform new knowledge into societal benefits through translational research and technology development efforts which catalyze partnerships to accelerate innovations that address significant societal needs.

This solicitation offers two broad tracks for proposals. The **Technology Translation (PFI-TT)** track offers an NSF-funded researcher the opportunity to advance his or her prior NSF-funded research results towards developing technological innovations with promising commercial potential and societal impact. The **Research Partnerships (PFI-RP)** track provides an opportunity to support technology development activities through a multi-organization collaboration. More details regarding specific goals for each track can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18511/nsf18511.pdf>.

PFI-TT projects will be funded for up to \$200,000 for 18 months per award. **PFI-RP** projects will be funded for up to \$750,000 for 36 months. Full proposals are due to the sponsor February 1, 2018.

This is a limited competition; each institution is limited to two proposals with no restrictions on the type of track(s) chosen.

Please submit your 3-page pre-proposal addressing the review criteria below (plus budget overview, and abbreviated PI and Co-PI(s) CV(s); all documents in a SINGLE PDF file, 11 point font, 1 inch margins) by NOON on Thursday, December 13, 2017 to limited@unm.edu with the subject line: NSF PFI (designating “TT” or “RP”) – your name. No late submission will be considered.

Pre-proposals should include these major sections and review criteria to be used by the limited competitions committee:

Project Title

PI and Co-PI's names, organizations and contact information (for PFI-RP *only*, indicate which individual brings technology commercialization experience)

For PFI-TT *only*: prior award number that provides evidence of required lineage

1. Overview and Motivation

- Briefly describe the existing research result or discovery to be translated and how it derived from prior research funding. For **PFI-TT** proposals, this *must* be either an NSF basic research award or an NSF I-Corps Team award.
- Describe the key features of the proposed innovation.
- Explicitly identify the *anticipated output* of the project: proof-of-concept, prototype, or technology scale-up.

2. Market Opportunity and Intellectual Property

- Describe the broader impacts of the innovation in terms of societal, economic and/or commercial benefit.
- Identify the target market space and the need(s) to be addressed.
- Describe how the innovation will meet an unmet need or offer a competitive substitute. ***In this section, identify 1-3 entities that will provide letter(s) of support that validate the PI's claim that the technology to be translated has a market application or need.***

3. Technical Challenges and Applied Research Plan

- Describe the current state-of-the-art knowledge about the underlying research discovery and include relevant data/results from the prior work.
- Describe the envisioned next steps for successful development of the technology toward ***commercialization and societal use.***
- Describe the research plan to address the knowledge gaps and technical barriers that must be overcome.
- For **PFI-RP proposals**, describe how the ***envisioned partnerships*** will catalyze and accelerate technology development toward commercialization.

4. Project Team

- Describe the team members and the strengths they bring to the project.

5. Commercialization Strategy

- Describe the overall commercialization strategy and plans envisioned going beyond the duration of the proposed project.

6. Training and Involvement of Students / Post-doctoral Fellows / Broadening Participation

- Describe a mentorship and education plan that shows how participating undergraduate, graduate students and/or post-doctoral fellows will learn about innovation, entrepreneurship, and the process of research translation, technology development and commercialization

Lineage Requirement: The **PFI-TT** proposal track has a lineage requirement under one or two of the following paths: (1) through NSF-supported research results, or (2) NSF-supported (National I-Corps™ Teams) customer discovery results. The **PFI-Research Partnerships (PFI-RP)** proposal track does **NOT** have a lineage requirement, but for this track, in addition to the PI, there must be at least (but not limited to) one other participant on the project serving as a co-PI, who brings technology commercialization experience in the targeted fields of application (or industry sector) of the proposed technology to be developed.

This is a link to register for upcoming NSF PFI webinars: <https://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=IIP>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact 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.