THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW MEXICO

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

Subject: Limited Competition: NSF: Partnerships for Innovation (PFI) NSF 19-506 (PFI-RP track only)

Date: October 26, 2018

The NSF Partnerships for Innovation (PFI) Program within the Division of Industrial Innovation and Partnerships (IIP) offers researchers from all disciplines of science and engineering funded by NSF the opportunity to perform translational research and technology development, catalyze partnerships and accelerate the transition of discoveries from the laboratory to the marketplace for societal benefit.

The **Research Partnerships (PFI-RP)** track offers the opportunity to translate prior NSF-funded research results in any field of science or engineering into *technological innovations* with promising commercial potential and societal impact by supporting complex, multi-faceted technology development projects that are typically beyond the scope of a single researcher or institution and require a <u>multi-organizational, interdisciplinary, synergistic collaboration</u>. A PFI-RP project requires the creation of partnerships between academic researchers and third-party organizations such as industry, non-academic research organizations, federal laboratories, public or non-profit technology transfer organizations or other universities. Further details regarding specific goals for each track can be found at
https://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?WT.z_pims_id=504790&ods_key=nsf19506.

The PFI-RP is a limited competition; an organization may not submit more than one (1) new or resubmitted PFI-RP proposal to a deadline of this solicitation. There is *no* limit on the number of PFI-TT proposals an organization may submit to a deadline of this solicitation.

PFI-RP projects will be funded for up to $550,000 for 36 months. Full proposals for this cycle are due to the sponsor January 17, 2019. (July due date will require an additional limited competition.)

Lineage Requirement: All proposals submitted to the PFI program must meet a lineage requirement under one of the following two paths: (1) NSF-supported research results, or (2) NSF-supported customer discovery results through the NSF I-Corps Teams Program. The PFI program strongly encourages projects with NSF Lineage aligned with one or more of the 10 Big Ideas.

Please submit your 3-page PFI-RP 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 <u>NOON on Tuesday, November 13, 2018</u> to limited@unm.edu **with the subject line: NSF PFI – your name. No late submission will be considered.**

Pre-proposals should include a project title, names, organization, and contact information of all PIs, as well as the identification of external collaborators. Project descriptions should include these sections:

1. Executive Summary
- What is the potential societal value of your innovation? What are the benefits to the customer of your proposed innovation? What is the key differentiator of your organization or technology?
- Describe the key features of the proposed innovation. What aspects are original, unusual, novel, disruptive or transformative compared to the current state of the art?

2. From NSF Basic Research to Addressing a Market Opportunity

- NSF Lineage: Describe the relevant data/results from the prior fundamental research results or customer discovery and how they derived from prior NSF research funding. These results should provide the reviewers with evidence that the technology is ready to move beyond the fundamental research/discovery phase and that the translational research proposed has potential to be developed into technology and commercialized. Document the NSF Lineage by including the NSF number(s) and title(s) of your NSF awards that meet the NSF Lineage Requirement *described in the solicitation*. Note: The PFI program strongly encourages projects with NSF Lineage aligned with one or more of the 10 Big Ideas.

3. Technical Challenges and Applied Research Plan

- Describe the knowledge gaps and technical barriers that must be overcome to translate your technology into a product, process or service.
- 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.

4. Achieving Societal Impact through the Realization of Commercial Potential

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

5. Project Team

- Describe the team members and the qualifications they bring to the project.
- Describe the role of the co-PI who is a member or employee of the Industrial Partner. (PFI-RP proposals <u>require</u> a minimum of one (1) Industrial Partner)

6. Partnerships

- Describe the partnership that is being assembled to pursue the applied research project. Discuss the capabilities of each of the partners and their roles in the project.
- How will proposed partnership achieve goals of the PFI project to [1]catalyze and accelerate technology development toward commercialization; and [2]contribute to the educational goals of the program?

7. Training Future Leaders in Innovation and Entrepreneurship

- How will the proposed project activities enhance the knowledge and readiness of the student/postdoctoral researcher for innovation and technology commercialization beyond the usual research experience?

Webinars will be held to answer questions about the solicitation. Registration will be available on the NSF Partnerships for Innovation website (https://www.nsf.gov/PFI).

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.