



To: Distribution List

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

Subject: Limited Competition: DoD: FY 21 Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) – Capacity Building (CB) FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2021-0008

Date: June 21, 2021

UNM Researchers,

The Department of Defense (DoD) Air Force Office of Scientific Research is requesting white papers to their FY 21 Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) – Capacity Building solicitation. The aim of this program is to improve the research capabilities at institutions of higher education (IHE) in eligible States/Territories to perform competitive basic research in science and engineering that is relevant to the DoD mission and reflects national security priorities. The DoD's basic research program invests broadly in many scientific fields to ensure that it has early cognizance of new scientific knowledge.

To address the program's aim, DEPSCoR – Capacity Building (CB) objectives are to:

- Jumpstart capability development in the State/Territory through increased human, technical, and management resources.
- Achieve excellence in a DoD-relevant research area through funding to support equipment, education, research, and other relevant activities.

Please Note:

- All activities supported by a DEPSCoR award must be performed in a DEPSCoR eligible State/Territory (link of list of states).
- The proposal must be led by a member of the IHE's executive staff such as the Vice-President for Research who will serve as the Team Lead.
- The funding agency limits the number of white papers per institution to one as the lead organization.
- The Basic Research Office anticipates approximately \$1 million in total funding will be made available to fully fund one grant.

Applicants must submit a white paper to the sponsor by **September 20, 2021** to be eligible to submit a full application. If an IHE is encouraged to submit, full applications are then due February 22, 2022. More information can be found at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=333435>.

This is a limited competition. The funding agency limits the number of required **white papers** per institution to **one** as the lead organization. If you have a compelling idea that you think the VPR would be interested in leading, **please submit a Statement of Interest by NOON on Tuesday, June 29, 2021 to limited@unm.edu with the subject line indicating: DEPSCoR - your name.** No late submissions will be considered. **Dr. Ellen R. Fisher, Vice President for Research, would serve as PI. Therefore, she will review the preproposals and determine which, if any, will go forward from UNM.**

The one-page **statement of interest** must be compelling and include the following:

- a) Identify the relevant DoD technical research area(s) that will be addressed in the forthcoming preproposal. See solicitation pg. 7 for more information from the Army Research Office, Office of Naval Research, and Air Force Office of Scientific Research.
- b) A description of how the proposed project supports UNM’s approach to achieving basic research excellence in areas of high relevance to the DoD.
- c) A description of the UNM’s vision and thrusts that will be pursued to build capacity
- d) An overview of the team’s composition and potential partners.
- e) List all PI/Co-PI's, including subawardees from other DEPSCoR eligible states, provided in a table like the one below.

Name	Institution	Department	Email	Phone

Please distribute this notice to departments and individuals whom you believe would be interested.