



To: Distribution List

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

Subject: Limited Competition: NSF: EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track 4: EPSCoR Research Fellows (RII Track-4) NSF 18-526

Date: October 9, 2019

UNM Researchers,

The Office of the Vice President for Research is requesting preproposals for the NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track 4: EPSCoR Research Fellows (RII Track-4). Please distribute this notice to departments and individuals whom you believe would be interested.

Synopsis:

RII Track-4 provides opportunities for non-tenured investigators to further develop their individual research potential through extended collaborative visits to the nation's premier private, governmental, or academic research centers. During these visits, the EPSCoR Research Fellows will be able to learn new techniques, develop new collaborations or advance existing partnerships, benefit from access to unique equipment and facilities, and/or shift their research toward potentially transformative new directions. The experiences gained through the fellowships are intended to have lasting impacts that will enhance the Fellows' research trajectories well beyond the award period. These benefits to the Fellows are also expected to in turn improve the research capacity of their institutions and jurisdictions more broadly. Those submitting proposals must either hold a non-tenured faculty appointment at an institution of higher education or an early-career career-track appointment at an eligible non-degree-granting institution.

Eligibility:

PIs of proposed RII Track-4 projects must have their primary appointment with the submitting organization. PIs must hold a non-tenured faculty appointment, or its close equivalent. This may be in the form of a pre-tenure tenure-track position or a long-term non-tenure-track position. Persons holding non-faculty research staff positions or transitional (less than 3 years) fixed-term postdoctoral appointments are not eligible for this program. Only single-PI proposals will be considered. No co-PIs should be included on the proposal. No PI who has received an award in any previous RII Track-4 competition may submit a proposal under this solicitation.

This is a limited competition. Only three (3) RII Track-4 proposals may be submitted in response to this solicitation by any single organization in a RII-eligible jurisdiction. You can find more information on the following link:
https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18526/nsf18526.htm?WT.mc_id=USNSF_25&WT.mc_ev=click. The full proposal is due to NSF 3/10/2020.

Budget Parameters:

- Funding requests should have a total duration of 24 months. Total funds requested may not exceed \$300,000.
- Budgets may include up to six months of salary and fringe benefit support for the PI. Support may be for academic, calendar, or summer months. Up to six months of salary and fringe benefit support (including

tuition at the home institution if appropriate) is also allowed for one additional trainee-level participant. The six-month limit on salary and fringe benefit requests for each participant is total, not per year.

- Travel expenses for the PI and one additional trainee-level researcher may be requested solely for travel between the PI's home institution and the host site. Multiple trips between the two sites are allowed, however the total budget for travel expenses may not exceed \$20,000.
- Living expenses for the PI and one additional trainee-level researcher are allowed during time spent at the host site. Living expense charges (Lodging, Meals, and Incidental Expenses) may not exceed the *per diem* rates set by the United States General Services Administration (GSA) for the host site location. The total budget for living expenses may not exceed \$50,000.
- Up to \$5,000 may be requested for other travel related to the fellowship project.
- Up to \$10,000 in additional direct costs are allowed. These funds may be used for shipping equipment, purchasing supplies, laboratory or computational facility fees, publication charges, or other similar costs directly related to the research activities at the host site.
- Collaborators at the host institutions are not eligible to receive salary or fringe benefit support under this award. Host institutions may receive payment for accommodations provided to the PI or trainee-level participant during the fellowship visit; these expenses may include lodging, meals, and incidental expenses. Host institutions may also receive payment for services directly related to research activities during the fellowship visit; such costs must be consistent with established fee structures at the host institution and are subject to the award's overall \$10,000 limit for additional direct costs. Under no circumstances may there be a subaward to the host institution.

This limited competition will have a two-step process:

1. By noon on **November 1**, submit an email of interest to limited@unm.edu with:
 - a. Your name, department, rank
 - b. 100 word (maximum) description of area of research interest
 - c. Signed approval by department chair
 - d. Names of potential host organization(s)
2. By noon on **December 3**, submit a preliminary proposal to limited@unm.edu that includes:
 - a. 3-page description of the research to be conducted and anticipated impact on your career
 - b. Letter of support signed by your department chair and dean
 - c. Letter of tentative agreement from your collaborator at the host organization

More details on preliminary proposal are provided in the attached preliminary proposal instructions.

Note: The email of interest is required in order for the preliminary proposal to be reviewed by the limited competitions committee.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jo Daniel at 505-277-0168 or mjdaniel@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.

Attachment

Preliminary Proposal Instructions

NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track 4: EPSCoR Research Fellows (RII Track-4),
NSF 18-526

Due by noon on **December 3, 2019** to limited@unm.edu

3 page maximum, 12 point font, 1 inch margins

Top of page 1:

Name

Department

Rank

Host institution and name of collaborator(s) at host institution

Narrative should address in language understandable to a broad scientific audience:

- Goals and objectives for the fellowship
- Research plan for achieving the goals
- Role of the host site in achieving the research goals
- Explanation of how the PI will benefit from the fellowship; what opportunities does it provide that would not be available at UNM?
- How would UNM benefit from this fellowship (in the future)?
- Timeline for meeting project goals

Required, but not included in the 3 pages:

- References cited in the narrative
- Biographical sketch (2 page max, in NSF format) for the PI
- Statement of support/approval signed by the department chair and dean
- Brief letter of intent to collaborate from primary research collaborator(s) at host site

Note: the preliminary proposal does not need to be entered into Cayuse; it will be used for the review process only.