

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT**



**U. S. Department of Energy
Office of Science
High Energy Physics**

FY2018 Research Opportunities in Accelerator Stewardship

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Application Due Date:	April 26, 2018, at 5 PM Eastern Time

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UPDATES AND REMINDERS

RECOMMENDATION

The Office of Science (SC) encourages you to register in all systems as soon as possible. You are also encouraged to submit letters of intent, pre-applications, and applications well before the deadline.

AVOIDING ERRORS

The following advice is compiled from actual experiences of applicants for SC financial assistance awards.

- Please ensure that the research narrative is comprised of one and only one Portable Document Formant (PDF) file, including all appendices, when it is attached to the SF-424(R&R) form.
- When using the Office of Science PAMS website at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov>, please avoid using the back-arrow button in your web browser to navigate.
- Please ensure that the application contains no personally identifiable information (PII).
- Please ensure that the budget is calculated using the applicable negotiated indirect cost and fringe benefit rates.

GRANTS.GOV WORKSPACE

Applications submitted through Grants.gov at <https://www.Grants.gov> may make use of the new online collaborative tool called “Workspace” to permit teams to simultaneously work on their application. More information is available at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/workspace-overview.html>.

RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

The Principal Investigator for any application submitted for a **renewal** (an addition of a project period) of an existing award will be required to submit a Renewal Proposal Products section through the SC’s PAMS website at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov>. The submitted product list will be sent for merit review as part of the application. The application will not be considered complete and cannot be sent for review until the product list has been submitted.

DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

Applications submitted under this FOA are subject to the Office of Science Statement on Digital Data Management, published at <https://science.energy.gov/funding-opportunities/digital-data-management/>. Compliance with this statement is detailed in Section IV of this FOA.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FEDERAL SUPPORT

SC published guidance about how its support should be acknowledged at <https://science.energy.gov/funding-opportunities/acknowledgements/>.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Applicants are strongly encouraged to review the “Frequently Asked Questions” document that accompanies this solicitation: <http://science.energy.gov/hep/funding-opportunities/>.

Section I – FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

GENERAL INQUIRIES ABOUT THIS FOA SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Technical/Scientific Program Contact:

Dr. Eric R. Colby
301-903-5475
Eric.Colby@science.doe.gov

Administrative Contact:

Questions about non-technical matters including program rules may be sent to:
SC.HEPfoa@science.doe.gov

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Public Law 95-91, U.S. Department of Energy Organization Act
Public Law 109-58, Energy Policy Act of 2005

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, codified at 2 CFR 200
U.S. Department of Energy Financial Assistance Rules, codified at 2 CFR 910
U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Rule, codified at 10 CFR 605

SUMMARY

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

The following program description is offered to provide more in-depth information on scientific and technical areas of interest to the Office of High Energy Physics Long-Term Accelerator R&D Stewardship (“Accelerator Stewardship”) program.

Please note that this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is only for opportunities within the Accelerator Research & Development (R&D) Stewardship mission, and that there is a separate Funding Opportunity Announcement for research and development within the objectives of the High Energy Physics (HEP) program. This Accelerator Stewardship FOA is for R&D activities that may impact HEP, but which predominantly impact other non-HEP applications.

The mission of the Accelerator Stewardship program is to support fundamental accelerator science and technology development of relevance to many fields beyond HEP, and to disseminate accelerator knowledge and training to the broad community of accelerator users and providers. Further information about the Accelerator Stewardship program may be found at <http://science.energy.gov/hep/research/accelerator-stewardship/>.

Many federal agencies have a vested interest in the success of accelerator R&D. Beyond the Office of Science, stakeholders include the DOE National Nuclear Security Administration, the DOE Environmental Management Program Office, the NIH National Cancer Institute, the NSF Division of Physics, the DOD Office of Naval Research, the DOD Air Force Office of Scientific Research, the DHS Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, the NASA Radiation Effects & Analysis Group, and the NIST Ionizing Radiation Physics Division, among others.

Central goals of Accelerator R&D Stewardship are to:

- Engage the expertise and facilities of the existing U. S. Accelerator R&D ecosystem in a manner that enhances the ability of the DOE SC specifically, and other federal agencies generally, to conduct their missions;
- Enhance the accelerator technology capabilities of U. S. industry;
- Facilitate access to the accelerator R&D capabilities at the DOE SC National Laboratories
- Drive a limited number of specific accelerator applications towards practical, testable prototypes in a 5-7 year timeframe;
- Foster collaboration between developers of accelerator technology and experts who apply accelerator technology;
- Provide the basic R&D foundation necessary for sustained innovation across a broad range of accelerator applications.

This call for applications is focused on three distinct activities:

- (1) applied research¹ that is focused on developing a prototype in response to a specific technical challenge,
- (2) basic research that broadly impacts many accelerator applications, and
- (3) facilitating access to accelerator R&D capabilities at the Office of Science National Laboratories for academic research.

These activities are divided into three separate “Tracks” in this FOA. Proposals must address a topic in one Track **only**. Topics may not be combined between Tracks as the proposal format, eligibility requirements, project duration, funding limitations, and merit criteria differ significantly.

Applicants are encouraged to review the Accelerator Stewardship awards made to date at the webpage: <http://science.energy.gov/hep/research/accelerator-stewardship/awards/> .

Applications that are intended to meet specific Basic Energy Research (BES) or Nuclear Physics

¹ The term “applied research” is used here in a manner consistent with colloquial usage in the field of accelerator R&D, referring to research that is in the early stages of development (TRL 0-4) and encompasses work leading to a first prototype that demonstrates scientific feasibility. It does not include R&D leading to a demonstration of suitability for a particular application nor does it include R&D supporting commercialization of a product. In the context of DOE’s authorizing legislation all work supported here is of a basic or fundamental nature.

(NP) programmatic fields of research should be submitted in response to the FOAs issued by those Offices.

Applications that are not in direct support of a topic under the Tracks below (e.g., conferences, experimental operations, specific project R&D or fabrication) must be submitted to the current annual SC FOA.

Track 1: Accelerator Stewardship Topical Areas

Accelerator Stewardship Topic Areas are focused R&D efforts aimed at solving a specific accelerator application problem in a specific area. The desired end goal after 1-2 grant cycles (e.g. 3-6 years) is a working prototype technology at TRL-4². This Track has broad eligibility requirements, see Section III.A for more information. Teams, comprising at a minimum an accelerator technology partner and an application partner, are expected to apply in this area, and develop a proposal that clearly defines the technology development pathway, teaming and management plan, intellectual property allocation, and market opportunity (where applicable).

Applicants **must** provide evidence of the Stewardship Customer's³ commitment to the proposed activity. This commitment may take the form of uncompensated effort; the provision of surplus materials, supplies, or equipment; the provision of access to facilities at no or reduced cost; voluntary cost sharing; mentoring, training, or coaching of personnel; or other methods of involving the Stewardship Customer in the proposed activity. See Section III.B for more information. S

There are three topic areas active in Track 1 of this FOA:

- a) Particle Therapy Beam Delivery Improvements
- b) Ultrafast Laser Technology Program
- c) Energy and Environmental Applications of Accelerators

Grant applications submitted under Track 1 should address specific research goals in only **one** of these topical areas.

In addition to the standard merit criteria applied to all scientific grant applications, grant applications submitted under Track 1 will be specifically reviewed for (1) the strength and breadth of the collaborative team and (2) the quality of the technology R&D plan. See section V.A.2 for a description of the Merit Review Criteria, and Section V.B.2 for a description of the selection criteria.

(a) Particle Therapy Beam Delivery Improvements

Technical Contact: Eric Colby, 301-903-5475, Eric.Colby@science.doe.gov

Even with less than fully optimized treatment techniques, there have been reports of impressive local control rates using particle beam therapy for otherwise difficult-to-treat cancers. Although

²Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) are defined in DOE G 413.3-4 (2009).

³“Stewardship Customer” is defined in Section V.A.2.

lower-cost proton beam options are starting to appear, today's proton beam facilities are costly to build and thus are not widely available. Based on their potential biological advantage, there is now increasing medical interest in exploring the use of other light ions for therapy; typically, beams up to carbon are considered.

While beam delivery ("gantry") systems for proton beams have been designed and constructed previously, they are typically large, massive, and costly. Accommodating heavier beams, up to carbon, with similar technology requires delivery systems that are even more massive.

Short dose deposition times, on the order of seconds, will require fast and efficient scanning in all three spatial dimensions. This will place new demands on the accelerator, beam line and detector systems to guide and verify dose placement.

Proposals in this topical area should address ideas for providing one or more of the following:

1. less massive and more compact beam delivery systems capable of delivering ion beams from protons up to carbon that are suitable for patient therapy;
2. technology that can provide for rapid (seconds) scanning of the beam over a tumor volume in three dimensions (that is: both transversely and longitudinally);
3. beam diagnostic technologies for ion beam therapy, with emphasis on increased readout speed and accuracy of position and dose.

To meet the teaming requirement, applications under this Track 1 topic area **are strongly encouraged to** include significant participation from each of the following: (1) an institution with technical leadership in a relevant accelerator technology, (2) a medical institution with clinical experience in imaging and treatment for external beam radiotherapy (EBRT), and (3) a domestic company currently marketing EBRT products. Applications lacking significant participation from either a clinical or accelerator technology partner and/or lacking an industry partner may score poorly under merit review.

The Particle Therapy Beam Delivery Improvements program of this FOA does **not** request designs for accelerators themselves, but covers only ancillary devices that work in conjunction with an accelerator. Proposals to design an accelerator or accelerator complex are outside the scope of this call, and such proposals will be declined without review. Designs that are independent of the proton or ion beam accelerator, such that they can work with more than one type of accelerator, are preferred.

Further, the call for applications on beam diagnostic technologies for ion beam therapy is limited to diagnostics applied to the charged particle beam prior to its exit from the nozzle. Applications for imaging technologies downstream of the nozzle will be declined without review.

PIs are strongly encouraged to review the report of the workshop on Ion Beam Therapy, held January 9-11, 2013. The report provides an overview of the technical issues and required R&D to develop accelerator technologies for ion beam treatment of cancer. The report is available online at http://science.energy.gov/~media/hep/pdf/accelerator-rd-stewardship/Workshop_on_Ion_Beam_Therapy_Report_Final_R1.pdf.

(b) Ultrafast Laser Technology Program

Technical Contact: Eric Colby, 301-903-5475, Eric.Colby@science.doe.gov

Lasers are used or proposed for use in many areas of accelerator applications: as drivers for novel accelerator concepts for future colliders; in the generation, manipulation, and x-ray seeding of electron beams; in the generation of electromagnetic radiation ranging from THz to gamma rays; and in the generation of neutron, proton, and light ion beams. In many cases, ultrafast lasers with pulse lengths well below a picosecond are required, with excellent stability, reliability, and beam quality. With applications demanding ever-higher fluxes of particles and radiation, the driving laser technology must also increase in repetition rate—and hence average power—to meet the demand.

These applications have some general technological requirements in common:

- Ultrafast pulses (<1 ps)
- High average powers (>1 kW up to 100 kW or more)
- Diffraction limited beams
- Good (ps) to excellent (fs) pulse timing
- Robust and reliable operation

Many important applications also require, or can benefit from:

- High pulse energy (>0.01 J up to 1 kJ)
- High pre-pulse power contrast (better than 10^{-9})
- High wall plug efficiency (>20% with a goal of 30% or higher)
- Longer laser wavelengths (>1.5 μm out to 10 μm)

The primary goals of the Ultrafast Laser Technology Program are to develop the enabling technologies that will ultimately lead to construction of demonstration prototypes for one or more of the principal types of ultrafast lasers needed for accelerator applications, and to enhance industry’s capability to produce the necessary technologies. Ultrafast lasers for accelerator applications fall into four basic laser types, summarized in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Target performance parameters for the four principal types of ultrafast lasers

	Type I	Type II	Type III	Type IV
Wavelength (μm)	1.5-2.0	0.8-2.0	2.0-5.0	2.0-10.0
Pulse Energy	3 μJ	3 J	0.03–1 J	300 J
Pulse Length (fs)	300	30–100	50	100–500
Repetition Rate	1–1000 MHz	1 kHz	100 kHz	100 Hz
Average Power (kW)	Up to 3	3	3 and up	30
Energy Stability	<1%	<0.1%	<1%	<1%
Beam Quality	$M^2 < 1.1$	Strehl > 0.95	$M^2 < 1.1$	$M^2 < 1.1$
Wall-plug Efficiency	>30%	>20%	>20%	>20%
Pre-Pulse Contrast	N/A	> 10^{-9}	N/A	> 10^{-9}

CEP-capable	Required	N/A	Required	N/A
Optical Phase Noise	<5°	N/A	<5°	N/A
Wavelength Tunability Range	0.1%	0.1%	10%	0.1%

- Type I laser systems are used both to directly power laser-driven accelerators-on-a-chip, and as subassemblies of coherently combined fiber arrays used to generate higher pulse energies.
- Type II laser systems are used to excite plasma waves for particle trapping and high gradient acceleration, and for the generation of x-rays through Compton backscattering.
- Type III laser systems are used for generating high repetition rate radiation pulses through nonlinear processes, particularly high-harmonic generation (HHG).
- Type IV laser systems are used for plasma-based sources of protons, light ions, and neutrons.

This initial phase of the Laser Technology Program will concentrate on basic research and engineering design studies to produce the breakthroughs in technology and design architecture necessary to make each of the four laser types practical. Grant applications are sought in these five topical areas:

- (1) **Ultrafast gain materials capable of very high average power.** Development of materials suitable for fiber or bulk usage, supporting amplification of <100 fs pulses, with excellent thermal conductivity, low thermal lensing, low saturation fluence, high damage threshold and small quantum defect will be key to increasing average power capabilities of ultrafast lasers. Materials must be scalable to average powers in the kilowatt range and above while maintaining excellent beam quality.
- (2) **Increased robustness and reduction in size of optical components.** Each will reduce the cost of ultrafast laser systems. Development of ultrafast optical coatings and materials capable of supporting <100 fs laser pulses with significantly increased damage threshold, excellent thermal stability, and low loss and low scatter will permit more compact, higher reliability ultrafast lasers to be developed.
- (3) **Innovations in laser architectures, cryogenics, other advanced thermal management techniques.** Direct diode pumping, coherent combination, hybrid fiber/bulk systems, and the use of advanced cryogenic systems will be needed to significantly increase the average power performance of ultrafast lasers.
- (4) **Wavelength extension further into the infrared.** The development of efficient, robust, cost-effective ultrafast laser systems out to 10 microns in wavelength will enable new applications such as solid-state seeding for ultrafast CO₂ lasers and driving HHG hard x-ray generators, as well as open new opportunities in plasma acceleration and high harmonic generation. Significant increases in repetition rate are needed to achieve high average power.
- (5) **Improvements in laser quality.** Advances in pulse contrast, optical phase noise, flexible pulse shaping (both transverse and longitudinal), and precision synchronization to external references will directly impact both the quality and capability of the laser-based sciences.

The Ultrafast Laser Technology Program of this FOA includes initial R&D to identify promising technical avenues for developing ultrafast lasers of the four types discussed above. It does **not** include the engineering and construction of full-scale demonstration laser systems for any of the four types during this initial phase. Proposals to develop full-scale demonstration laser systems are out of the scope of this FOA, and will be declined without review.

To meet the teaming requirement, applications under this Track 1 topic area **are strongly encouraged to** include significant participation from each of the following: (1) an institution with technical leadership in a relevant laser technology, and (2) an institution with technical leadership in the application of laser technology to accelerators and/or (3) a domestic company currently marketing related laser products. Applications lacking significant participation from a laser technology or accelerator technology partner, or an industry partner, may score poorly under merit review.

PIs are strongly encouraged to review the report of the workshop on Laser Technology for Accelerators, held January 23–25, 2013. The report provides an overview of the technical issues and required R&D to develop ultrafast laser technology for accelerator applications. The report is available online at http://science.energy.gov/~media/hep/pdf/accelerator-rd-stewardship/Lasers_for_Accelerators_Report_Final.pdf.

(c) **High Power Electron Accelerator Technology for Energy and Environmental Applications**

Technical Contact: Eric Colby, (301)-903-5475, Eric.Colby@Science.doe.gov

Particle accelerator technologies have been applied to solve a range of issues in the energy & environmental arena including: treating potable and waste water, removing pollutants from stack gases, increasing the energy efficiency of industrial material processing, remediating water-borne and soil-borne contaminants, and replacing radioactive sources in sterilization applications. In many cases the use of accelerator technology for these applications offers important performance advantages. Some of these energy and environmental applications are currently served by existing non-accelerator-based technologies; however, continued improvements in accelerator technology has lowered the cost and increased the reliability of this technology, opening the possibility of broader use in energy and environmental applications.

These applications have some general technological requirements in common:

- The need to expose significant mass streams to kGy-class radiation fields, requiring:
 - Very high average beam powers (>500 kW up to 10 MW)
 - High wall plug efficiency (>50%)
- The need to operate economically in harsh industrial environments:
 - Low capital and operating costs
 - Robust, reliable, turn-key operation

The primary goals of the High Power Electron Accelerator Technology program are to develop the enabling technologies that may ultimately lead to construction of demonstration prototypes for one or more of the principal types of high power electron accelerators needed for energy &

environmental applications, and to enhance industry’s capability to produce the necessary technologies.

The general requirements for high power electron accelerators for energy & environmental applications were identified at a workshop (see references below) and can be divided into four basic types of accelerator, summarized in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Target performance for high power electron accelerators for E&E applications:

	Type 1 Demo/Small Scale	Type 2 Medium Scale Low Energy	Type 3 Medium Scale High Energy	Type 4 Large Scale High Energy
<i>Example Applications</i>	<i>R&D, Sterilization, industrial effluent streams</i>	<i>Flue Gas, Waste water</i>	<i>Wastewater, sludge, medical waste</i>	<i>Sludge, Medical waste, Env. remediation</i>
Electron Beam Energy	0.5-1.5 MeV	1-2 MeV	10 MeV	10 MeV
Electron Beam Power (CW)	>0.5 MW	>1 MW	>1 MW	>10 MW
Wallplug Efficiency	>50%	>50%	>50%	>75%
Target Capital Cost*	<\$10/W	<\$10/W	<\$10/W	<\$5/W
Target Operating Cost†	<1.0M\$/yr	<1.5M\$/yr	<1.5M\$/yr	<12M\$/yr

*Total cost of the accelerator, including all supporting systems (e.g. power, cooling, control, safety).

†Total operating cost including all labor, supplies, repairs and electricity costs.

- Demo or Small Scale Systems are used for processing low-density material streams (gas or liquid) in moderate quantities, such as industrial effluent streams at flows of order 0.1-0.2 MGD, depending on dose. (1 MGD=1 million gallons per day).
- Medium Scale Low Energy Systems are used for processing low-density material streams (gas or liquid) in high volumes, such as for electron beam treatment of flue gases at flow rates of 100,000-200,000 Nm³/hr, and wastewater treatment at flows of 1-1.5 MGD.
- Medium Scale High Energy Systems are used for processing high-density materials (solids and sludges) in moderate volumes, such as for medical waste sterilization and sludge treatment at mass flow rates of 20-70 kg/s.
- Large Scale High Energy Systems are proposed for use in processing large volumes of high-density materials, such as for environmental remediation of contaminated soil, medical waste sterilization, and sludge treatment at mass flow rates of 0.2-0.7 metric ton per second.

This initial phase of the High Power Electron Accelerator Technology Program will concentrate on engineering design studies and efficient rf power source development to produce the

breakthroughs in design architecture and driver technology necessary to make very high power electron accelerators practical. Grant applications are sought for the following tasks:

(1) Accelerator System Design Studies

No further design studies are requested at this time. When the design studies from the FY2016 and FY2017 calls are submitted and reviewed, the results will be summarized and discussed with technology stakeholders. If there is sufficient interest, a future FOA may call for proposals to conduct R&D on system concepts.

(2) Enabling Research & Development

Proposals submitted under this subtopic are expected to be multi-year applied R&D proposals leading to very high efficiency, high average power radiofrequency sources. The proposed R&D must credibly address the high efficiency metric (>80%), the threshold average power metric (>100kW), and the technical scalability requirement (to an economical ≥ 1 MW source), or the proposal will be declined without review.

- a. **High Efficiency High Average Power RF Sources.** The very high power accelerators required for energy and environmental applications will require highly efficient sources of radiofrequency power. R&D to significantly improve the power efficiency of high-average-power (CW or high duty factor) radiofrequency tubes is sought. Net tube power efficiency (including focusing magnet power) must exceed 80%, and *average* tube power must exceed 100 kW, with a pulse format (peak power, pulse length) that is appropriate for either normal conducting or superconducting accelerators, and an output that is stably phase locked to an external reference. The proposed device must provide an economical route to producing 1 MW or more of average power by scaling, coherent combination, or both. There is particular interest in rf power sources operating at frequencies that are in widespread use at the large Office of Science accelerators⁴.

The High Power Electron Accelerator Technology program of this FOA includes initial R&D to identify promising technical avenues for developing very high power electron accelerators of the four types discussed above. It does **not** include the engineering and construction of full-scale demonstration accelerator systems for any of the four types during this initial phase. Proposals to develop full-scale demonstration accelerator systems are out of the scope of this FOA, and will be declined without review.

To meet the teaming requirement, applications under this Track 1 topic area **are strongly encouraged to** include significant participation from each of the following: (1) an institution with technical leadership in a relevant accelerator technology, (2) an institution with technical experience in applying accelerator technology to the energy or environmental application

⁴ See <http://science.energy.gov/user-facilities/user-facilities-at-a-glance/>

proposed, and/or a domestic company currently marketing related technology. Applications lacking significant participation in either of these two areas may score poorly under merit review.

References

As background, HEP has conducted workshops to identify the accelerator technology research directions with the potential for high impact in energy & environmental applications. Workshops relevant to this topic area include:

- *Workshop on Energy and Environmental Applications of Accelerators*, Edited by Stuart Henderson and Thomas Waite, (2015). http://science.energy.gov/~media/hep/pdf/accelerator-rd-stewardship/Energy_Environment_Report_Final.pdf
- *Accelerators for America's Future*, Edited by Walter Henning and Charles Shank, (2009). <http://science.energy.gov/~media/hep/pdf/accelerator-rd-stewardship/Report.pdf>

Track 2: Long-Term Generic Accelerator R&D

Technical Contact: Eric Colby, 301-903-5475, Eric.Colby@science.doe.gov

Long-term generic accelerator R&D is basic research⁵ aimed at improving the theory, computational tools, and fundamental physical and technical understanding of accelerator science. Note that more restrictive eligibility requirements apply to this topic—see Section III.A for further information. Individual principal investigators or collaborative teams may apply, and are expected to develop a single research proposal.

Advancements in basic accelerator science and technology enable new capabilities in virtually every area of accelerator application. Grant applications are sought for high-impact advances in the following general areas: beam physics, advanced computational methods for accelerator design and analysis, beam diagnostics and feedback control, new superconducting materials, new materials and coatings for accelerator components, novel power sources for accelerators, new particle sources, novel magnet designs, novel lattice designs, and novel technologies for secondary beam production.

Applications that will lead to significant increases in performance (flux, brightness, polarization, coherence, stability, reliability, flexibility) and decreases in cost (construction cost, operating cost, physical size, complexity) are sought.

While R&D in this area is often far upstream of application, the areas where the research will have greatest impact can generally be identified. *It is essential that the proposal clearly articulate how the R&D meets a stated need of the Stewardship Customer.* See the detailed merit review questions in section V.A.2 under “Quality of the Accelerator Stewardship Opportunity”, and the selection considerations in Section V.B.2 “Selection”.

This topic area is distinct from the HEP Comparative Review FOA in that R&D funded here will

⁵ Specifically, it is basic research that is not intended for a specific facility or construction project

be expected to predominantly impact accelerator applications beyond those of HEP and is distinct from the NSF Accelerator Science Program Solicitation in that the work scope must impact the mission(s) of one or more federal agencies beyond the NSF. During both pre-application and full application reviews, the stakeholder federal agencies will be contacted to confirm that the work is a priority (see Section V.B.2). Proposals which are not encouraged by one or more of the stakeholder federal agencies will not be funded.

Track 3: Accelerator Stewardship Test Facility Program

Technical Contact: Eric Colby, 301-903-5475, Eric.Colby@science.doe.gov

Track 3 is the continuation of the “Accelerator Stewardship Test Facility Pilot Program” (ASTFPP), initiated in 2015. Awards made under this Track provide assistance to non-DOE entities seeking to make short-term use of the accelerator R&D capabilities available at the DOE Office of Science National Laboratories that are not otherwise available as SC User Facilities.

A wide array of test stands and facilities for microwave, laser, magnet, superconducting RF, and particle beam testing exist, along with specialized expertise in high-accuracy accelerator modeling, engineering, fabrication and measurement. A web portal to the Office of Science accelerator R&D capabilities may be found at <http://www.acceleratorsamerica.org/working-with-labs/index.html>.

The intent of Track 3 awards is to enable non-DOE entities to gain access to and use these unique capabilities for **short-term engagements**. Track 3 awards may be up to 12 months in duration and are **not renewable**. There must be a distinct achievement at the end of the performance period which on its own justifies the resources being requested. Long-term R&D challenges requiring more than 12 months to address should not be submitted to Track 3. If the proposed work scope will not fit within 12 months, consider applying to Track 2 (if eligible).

The non-DOE entity must clearly “own” the work and be the principal beneficiary of the outcome; proposals structured such that the DOE lab is the prime beneficiary of the work will score poorly under merit review. Further information about the program intent and goals may be found at <http://science.energy.gov/hep/research/accelerator-stewardship/test-facility-pilot-program/>.

Applicants **must work closely** with an Office of Science National Laboratory (the “Host Lab”) when preparing the application to ensure the compatibility of the work with the Lab’s mission and capabilities, the availability of the resource, and an accurate budget. A **collaborative proposal** must be filed, with the lead proposal originating from the non-DOE entity, and a collaborative proposal being submitted by the Host Lab in response to LAB 18-1879.

Activities must meet the following requirements:

1. The activity must be research & development only.
2. The R&D must be non-proprietary, and the results must be published.
3. The activity must involve an accelerator R&D facility or core competence at the Host Lab. The activity **must not request funds to use an Office of Science User Facility**, as access to these Facilities are already provided at no cost to non-proprietary users.

4. The work scope must be for short-term use of a facility or capability and must complete within the project period, which is limited to 12 months and **is not renewable**. Work requiring multiple years to complete should not be proposed through Track 3.
5. The activity must meet the requirements of DOE Order 481.1C “Strategic Partnerships Projects”, in particular section 4(c):
 - a. The activity must be consistent with or complementary to the mission of the DOE laboratory and the facility at which the work will occur,
 - b. The activity must not adversely impact other programs assigned to the facility,
 - c. The activity must not place the facility in direct competition with the domestic private sector, and
 - d. The activity must not create a detrimental future burden on DOE resources.
6. The provisions of DOE Order 522.1 “Pricing of Departmental Materials and Services” must be followed if funds are requested to cover the Host Lab’s incremental cost of operating the facility.

Awards are intended for the *utilization of existing* accelerator R&D capabilities for a specific basic R&D purpose. Grant applications that focus primarily on upgrading a DOE capability will be declined without review.

Grant applications that do not include a collaborative proposal submission from the Host Lab will be declined without review.

Applicants are advised that requests for capabilities will be reviewed by the specific SC that is the steward of the capability. Resources that are critical to the operation of a National User Facility may not be approved for use.

Collaboration

Collaborative teams are strongly encouraged. Merit reviewers are asked to specifically score the strength of the collaborative team (see Section V.A.2 for more information). Note carefully that the type of application depends on the Track.

For Track 1 and Track 2, team efforts involving different institutions must be submitted as a ***single application from the institution of the Lead PI***. If successful, the collaboration will be funded through a single award to the lead institution, with sub-awards to collaborators as necessary and appropriate.

Collaborations led by a DOE National Laboratory should note that proposals must be submitted in response to the companion announcement (**LAB 18-1879**) through the SC PAMS website at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov>.

For Track 3, team efforts must include both a non-DOE entity and a DOE SC Host Laboratory, and a ***collaborative proposal must be submitted, with the non-DOE entity designated as the lead institution***. If successful, the collaboration will be funded in accordance with Section II.H.

Collaborative applications submitted from different institutions must clearly indicate they are part of a collaborative project/group. Every partner institution must submit an application through its own sponsored research office. Each collaborative group can have only one lead institution. Each application within the collaborative group, including the narrative and all required appendices and attachments, must be identical with the following exceptions:

- Each application must contain a correct SF-424 (R&R) cover page for the submitting institution only.
- Each application must contain a unique budget corresponding to the expenditures for that application's submitting institution only.
- Each application must contain a unique budget justification corresponding to the expenditures for that application's submitting institution only.
- A DOE SC National Laboratory serving as a "Host Lab" should submit a collaborative proposal in response to the companion announcement (**LAB 18-1879**) through the SC PAMS website at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov>.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All applications submitted to this (FOA) must address one of the research topic areas described in the previous section. Further, all applications must conform to the format specified in Section IV of this FOA; each proposal will be pre-screened for responsiveness to the research area descriptions and for compliance with the application requirements.

All entities submitting applications to this Funding Opportunity Announcement must recognize the moral and legal obligations to comply with export controls and policies that relate to the transfer of knowledge that has relevance to the production of special nuclear materials (SNM) and technologies with potential dual use. Please see 10 CFR 810 for further information.

This funding opportunity announcement is to support scientific endeavors that could be described in scholarly publications. Do not submit applications containing restricted data or unclassified nuclear information as defined in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, 42 USC 2011 et seq., 10 CFR 1017, 10 CFR 1045.

Section II – AWARD INFORMATION

A. TYPE OF AWARD INSTRUMENT

DOE anticipates awarding grants under this FOA.

B. ESTIMATED FUNDING

It is anticipated that approximately \$3,000,000 will be available for all Accelerator R&D Stewardship new and renewal awards in FY 2018, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. The number, duration and size of awards will depend on the number of applications selected for award, and the actual amount of funds available in FY 2018. Out of the approximately \$3,000,000 in total funding, approximately \$500,000 may be awarded in the Track 2 topic area of Long-Term Generic Accelerator R&D, and approximately \$500,000 may be awarded in the Track 3 Accelerator Stewardship Test Facility Program.

DOE is under no obligation to pay for any costs associated with preparation or submission of applications. DOE reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all, or none of the applications submitted in response to this FOA.

C. MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM AWARD SIZE

Track 1 and Track 2: No award limits.

Track 3: Maximum award size \$300,000. Minimum award size \$75,000.

D. EXPECTED NUMBER OF AWARDS

The exact number of awards will depend on the number of meritorious applications, the results of merit review, the program policy factors, and the availability of appropriated funds.

E. ANTICIPATED AWARD SIZE

The anticipated award size will depend on the number of meritorious applications, the results of merit review, the program policy factors, and the availability of appropriated funds.

F. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance will depend on the number of meritorious applications, the results of merit review, the program policy factors, and the availability of appropriated funds.

Track 3 applications must not have a period of performance that is longer than 12 months.

G. TYPE OF APPLICATION

DOE will accept new and renewal applications under this FOA. The following material will assist in determining if a renewal application is appropriate.

New Application: A new application is appropriate in the following three circumstances:

- An application for funding to create a new research grant that has not previously received DOE funding, including any funding for the current year.
- An application for continued research from the same sponsoring institution as the current grant but with a significant change in scientific research thrust
- An application to continue research performed under an existing DOE grant award but with a new sponsoring institution.

Renewal Application: A renewal application is appropriate when funds are requested for an award that was first awarded in 2012 or later and has no changes in the following items:

- The recipient/applicant institution
- The award's senior leadership
- The research thrust(s)
- The research scope(s)

Note that Renewal Applications are accepted for Track 1 and Track 2 **only**. Renewal applications submitted to Track 3 will be declined without review.

If an institution is currently receiving funds in support of a DOE/SC/HEP award that was first awarded in 2011 or earlier, a renewal proposal will not be accepted. In such cases, the institution should submit a new application when applying to this FOA. Applications improperly submitted as renewals may be declined without review.

Renewal applications compete for funds with all other peer-reviewed applications and must be developed as fully as though the applicant is applying for the first time. Renewal applications must be submitted by the same sponsoring institution as that holding the current grant award for which renewal funding is requested, and the proposed research topic must be logical scientific extensions of the research that has been performed in the current award.

For renewal applications only, the PI is required to submit a Renewal Proposal Products section through the SC's PAMS website at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov>. The PI must enter into PAMS each product created during the course of the previous project period. Types of products include publications, intellectual property, technologies or techniques, and other products such as databases or software. As soon as the renewal application is assigned to a program manager, the Principal Investigator will receive an automated email from PAMS (PAMS.Autoreply@science.doe.gov) instructing him or her to navigate to the PAMS Task tab to complete and submit the Renewal Proposal Products. The submitted product list will be sent for merit review as part of the application. The application will not be considered complete and cannot be sent for review until the product list has been submitted.

A renewal application must be marked as such on the Standard Form 424 Research and Related [SF-424 (R&R)] cover page and the current award number must be marked in the appropriate space.

If there are any changes in the recipient/applicant institution, the award's senior leadership, the research thrust(s), and/or the research scope(s), the application must be submitted as new.

H. VALUE/FUNDING FOR DOE/NNSA NATIONAL LABORATORY CONTRACTORS AND NON-DOE/NNSA FFRDC CONTRACTORS

For grant awards, the value of, and funding for, a DOE/NNSA National Laboratory contractor, a non-DOE/NNSA FFRDC contractor, or another Federal agency's portion of the work will not be included in the award to the successful applicant. DOE will fund a DOE/NNSA National Laboratory contractor through the DOE field work authorization system or other appropriate process and will fund non-DOE/NNSA FFRDC contractors and other Federal agencies through an interagency agreement in accordance with the Economy Act, 31 U.S.C. 1535, or other statutory authority.

I. RESPONSIBILITY

The successful prime applicant/awardee (lead organization) will be the responsible authority regarding the settlement and satisfaction of all contractual and administrative issues, including but not limited to, disputes and claims arising out of any agreement between the applicant and any team member, and/or subawardee.

If an award is made to a DOE/NNSA National Laboratory, all Disputes and Claims will be resolved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the DOE/NNSA National Laboratory's M&O contract, as applicable, in consultation between DOE and the prime awardee.

If an award is made to another Federal agency or its FFRDC contractor, all Disputes and Claims will be resolved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the interagency agreement in consultation between DOE and the prime awardee.

Section III – ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

The intent of this program is to strengthen the capabilities of the U.S. in accelerator science & technology for discovery science, medicine, industry, energy & environment, and security applications.

Nonprofit organizations described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that engaged in lobbying activities after December 31, 1995 are not eligible to apply for funding under either Track.

In accordance with 2 CFR 910.126, Competition, eligibility for award under each Track is restricted as follows:

Track 1: Accelerator Stewardship Topical Areas

Applications for activities in Track 1: Accelerator Stewardship Topical Areas will be accepted from all responsible domestic organizations capable of meeting the objectives of this FOA, with the exception of U. S. Department of Energy National Laboratories.

DOE National Laboratories are advised of the existence of a companion announcement, LAB 18-1879, available at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov>.

Track 2: Long-Term Generic Accelerator R&D

Applications for activities in Track 2: Long-Term Generic Accelerator R&D will only be accepted from regionally-accredited U.S. academic institutions or domestic nonprofit organizations subject to section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Track 3: Accelerator Stewardship Test Facility Program

Applications for activities in Track 3: Accelerator Stewardship Test Facility Program will be accepted from all responsible domestic organizations capable of meeting the objectives of this FOA, with the exception of U. S. Department of Energy National Laboratories.

Partnering DOE National Laboratories must submit their collaborative proposal to the companion announcement, LAB 18-1879, available at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov>.

Individual Applicants are unlikely to possess the skills, abilities, and resources to successfully accomplish the objectives of this FOA. Individual applicants are encouraged to address this concern in their applications and to demonstrate how they will accomplish the objectives of this FOA.

UNINCORPORATED CONSORTIA

Unincorporated consortia (team arrangements), which may include domestic and foreign entities, must designate one member of the consortium to serve as the prime recipient/consortium representative (lead organization). The prime recipient/consortium representative must be incorporated (or otherwise formed) under the laws of a State or territory of the United States.

Upon request, unincorporated consortia must provide the DOE Contracting Officer with a collaboration agreement, commonly referred to as the articles of collaboration, which sets out the rights and responsibilities of each consortium member. This agreement binds the individual consortium members together and should discuss, among other things, the consortium's:

- Management structure;
- Method of making payments to consortium members;
- Means of ensuring and overseeing members' efforts on the project;
- Provisions for members' cost sharing contributions; and
- Provisions for ownership and rights in intellectual property developed previously or under the agreement.

Note that a consortium is applied for in one application and results in one award with subawards to consortia members. Collaborations are applied for separately with identical applications and result in multiple awards to the collaborating institutions.

B. COST SHARING

Cost sharing is not required.

A demonstration of institutional commitment to the proposed activity **is strongly encouraged** for all applications, especially for Track 1 and Track 3 applicants.

Examples of non-Federal contributions that may be considered as demonstrating institutional commitment include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The provision of space, facilities, equipment, or resources as no or reduced charge;
 - The provision of release time for faculty;
 - The provision of scholarship support for students; or
 - The waiver of facilities and administrative costs, in whole or in part.
- The institutional commitment is not to be documented on the application's budget: it is not a formal cost-sharing, but it must be described in the budget justification.

Institutional commitments may not include the following:

- Revenues or royalties from the prospective operation of an activity beyond the time considered in the award;
- Proceeds from the prospective sale of an asset of an activity; or
- Other Federal awards.

Reviewers will be asked to evaluate the degree of institutional commitment; for Track 1 and Track 3 applications, the demonstration of institutional commitment will be taken as evidence of

the Stewardship customer's interest in the outcome. See Sections V.A.2 and V.B.2.

C. ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS

Individuals with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research as a Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) are invited to work with their organizations to develop an application for assistance. Individuals from underrepresented groups as well as individuals with disabilities are always encouraged to apply for assistance.

Section IV – APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. ADDRESS TO REQUEST APPLICATION PACKAGE

Application forms and instructions are available at Grants.gov. To access these materials, go to <http://www.grants.gov>, select “Apply for Grants”, and then select “Download Application Package.” Enter the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number (81.049) and/or the funding opportunity number (DE-FOA-0001879) shown on the cover of this FOA and then follow the prompts to download the application package.

Applications submitted through www.FedConnect.net will not be accepted.

B. LETTER OF INTENT AND PRE-APPLICATION

1. Letter of Intent

No letter of intent is required.

2. Pre-application

PRE-APPLICATION DUE DATE

March 13, 2018, at 5 PM Eastern Time

ENCOURAGE/DISCOURAGE DATE

March 27, 2018, at 5 PM Eastern Time

A pre-application is required and must be submitted by **March 13, 2018, at 5 PM Eastern Time**.

Please note that ALL pre-applications are submitted through PAMS, regardless of whether you are responding to the FOA or the LAB announcement.

In the case of a collaborative proposals (Track 3 only), the lead institution must submit a pre-applications. Collaborating institutions are encouraged to submit a matching preapplication, but this is not required.

Pre-applications will be reviewed for responsiveness of the proposed work to the research topics identified in this FOA. DOE will send a response by email to each applicant encouraging or discouraging the submission of an application by **March 27, 2018 at 5 PM Eastern Time**. Applicants who have not received a response regarding the status of their preapplication by this date are responsible for contacting the program to confirm this status.

The pre-application attachment should include, at the top of the first page, the following information:

Title of Preapplication
 Principal Investigator (PI) Name, Job Title
 Institution
 PI Phone Number, PI Email Address
 Funding Opportunity Announcement Number: DE-FOA-0001879
 Application Type: [New or Renewal]
 Track # / Topic #

This information should be followed by a clear and concise description of the objectives and technical approach of the proposed research, organized into the following required sections:

Proposed Research: What will be accomplished? What methods will be used? Why is the approach superior to existing approaches?

Stewardship Customer: Who is the Stewardship Customer? What evidence is there that the proposed work address a priority need of the Customer? (See Section V.A for the definition of “Stewardship Customer”, and examples of evidence of Customer need.)

Statement of Work: At a high level, what are the main tasks to be accomplished?

Description of results, products: What scientific and/or technical advances will result? How will the results be a significant advance over existing knowledge or techniques? How will the results be captured? (scientific papers, prototypes, patents, software packages, etc.)?

Teaming and Management Plan: With whom do you plan to team? What unique advantages does your group or team have? How do the group/team participants reflect the range of skills needed to complete the proposed research? How will the effort be managed?

Cost, Schedule, Milestones: Provide a high-level description of the cost, schedule, and major milestones of the proposed work. Include a table similar to the following:

Institution	Task Lead	Main Tasks & Milestones	Yr 1 [k\$]	Yr 2 [k\$]	Yr 3 [k\$]
University X	R. Doe	Complete design simulations of widget. Simulation support during testing.	30	10	10
	S. Jones	Engineer and build widget.	170	120	10
Laboratory Y	T. Smith	Consult during design phase. Test prototype widget at test facility Q.	10	50	120
Company Z	U. Brown	Consult during design phase. Design initial marketable version of widget.	20	50	130
Total			230	230	270

The preapplication may not exceed two pages, with a minimum text font size of 11 point and margins no smaller than one inch on all sides. Figures and references, if included, must fit within the two-page limit. Do not include a cover page.

The pre-application must also include a list of the names and institutional affiliations of all participating investigators, including collaborators and consultants on the proposed project.

Those pre-applications that are encouraged will be used to help SC begin planning for the application peer review process. The intent of SC in discouraging submission of certain applications is to save the time and effort of applicants in preparing and submitting applications not responsive to this funding opportunity announcement.

The Principal Investigator will be automatically notified when the pre-application is encouraged or discouraged. The DOE SC Portfolio Analysis and Management System (PAMS) will send an email to the Principal Investigator from PAMS.Autoreply@science.doe.gov, and the status of the pre-application will be updated at the PAMS website <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/>. Notifications are sent as soon as the decisions to encourage or discourage are finalized.

It is important that the pre-application be a single file with extension .pdf, .docx, or .doc. The filename should not exceed 50 characters. The pre-application must be submitted electronically through PAMS at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/>. The Principal Investigator and anyone submitting on behalf of the Principal Investigator must register for an account in PAMS before it will be possible to submit a pre-application. All PIs and those submitting pre-applications on behalf of PIs are encouraged to establish PAMS accounts as soon as possible to avoid submission delays.

You may use the Internet Explorer, Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari browsers to access PAMS.

Registering to PAMS is a two-step process; once you create an individual account, you must associate yourself with (“register to”) your institution. Detailed steps are listed below.

Create PAMS Account:

To register, click the “Create New PAMS Account” link on the website <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/>.

- Click the “No, I have never had an account” link and then the “Create Account” button.
- You will be prompted to enter your name and email address, create a username and password, and select a security question and answer. Once you have done this, click the “Save and Continue” button.
- On the next page, enter the required information (at least one phone number and your mailing address) and any optional information you wish to provide (e.g., FAX number, website, mailstop code, additional email addresses or phone numbers, Division/Department). Click the “Create Account” button.
- Read the user agreement and click the “Accept” button to indicate that you understand your responsibilities and agree to comply with the rules of behavior for PAMS.

PAMS will take you to the “Having Trouble Logging In?” page. (If you have been an Office of

Science merit reviewer or if you have previously submitted an application, you may already be linked to an institution in PAMS. If this happens, you will be taken to the PAMS home page.

Register to Your Institution:

- Click the link labeled “Option 2: I know my institution and I am here to register to the institution.” (Note: If you previously created a PAMS account but did not register to an institution at that time, you must click the Institutions tab and click the “Register to Institution” link.)
- PAMS will take you to the “Register to Institution” page.
- Type a word or phrase from your institution name in the field labeled, “Institution Name like,” choose the radio button next to the item that best describes your role in the system, and click the “Search” button. A “like” search in PAMS returns results that contain the word or phrase you enter; you do not need to enter the exact name of the institution, but you should enter a word or phrase contained within the institution name. (If your institution has a frequently used acronym, such as ANL for Argonne National Laboratory or UCLA for the Regents of the University of California, Los Angeles, you may find it easiest to search for the acronym under “Institution Name like.” Many institutions with acronyms are listed in PAMS with their acronyms in parentheses after their names.)
- Find your institution in the list that is returned by the search and click the “Actions” link in the Options column next to the institution name to obtain a dropdown list. Select “Add me to this institution” from the dropdown. PAMS will take you to the “Institutions – List” page.
- If you do not see your institution in the initial search results, you can search again by clicking the “Cancel” button, clicking the Option 2 link, and repeating the search.
- If, after searching, you think your institution is not currently in the database, click the “Cannot Find My Institution” button and enter the requested institution information into PAMS. Click the “Create Institution” button. PAMS will add the institution to the system, associate your profile with the new institution, and return you to the “Institutions – List” page when you are finished.

Submit Your Pre-Application:

- Create your pre-application (called a preproposal in PAMS) outside the system and save it as a file with extension .docx, .doc, or .pdf. Make a note of the location of the file on your computer so you can browse for it later from within PAMS.
- Log into PAMS and click the Proposals tab. Click the “View / Respond to Funding Opportunity Announcements” link and find the current announcement in the list. Click the “Actions/Views” link in the Options column next to this announcement to obtain a dropdown menu. Select “Submit Preproposal” from the dropdown.
- On the Submit Preproposal page, select the institution from which you are submitting this preproposal from the Institution dropdown. If you are associated with only one institution in the system, there will only be one institution in the dropdown.
- Note that you must select one and only one Principal Investigator (PI) per preproposal; to do so, click the “Select PI” button on the far right side of the screen. Find the appropriate PI from the list of all registered users from your institution returned by PAMS. (Hint: You may have to sort, filter, or search through the list if it has multiple pages.) Click the “Actions” link

in the Options column next to the appropriate PI to obtain a dropdown menu. From the dropdown, choose “Select PI.”

- If the PI for whom you are submitting does not appear on the list, it means he or she has not yet registered in PAMS. For your convenience, you may have PAMS send an email invitation to the PI to register in PAMS. To do so, click the “Invite PI” link at the top left of the “Select PI” screen. You can enter an optional personal message to the PI in the “Comments” box, and it will be included in the email sent by PAMS to the PI. You must wait until the PI registers before you can submit the preproposal. Save the preproposal for later work by clicking the “Save” button at the bottom of the screen. It will be stored in “My Preproposals” for later editing.
- Enter a title for your preproposal.
- Select the appropriate technical contact from the Program Manager dropdown.
- To upload the preproposal file into PAMS, click the “Attach File” button at the far right side of the screen. Click the “Browse” (or “Choose File” depending on your browser) button to search for your file. You may enter an optional description of the file you are attaching. Click the “Upload” button to upload the file.
- At the bottom of the screen, click the “Submit to DOE” button to save and submit the preproposal to DOE.
- Upon submission, the PI will receive an email from the PAMS system <PAMS.Autoreply@science.doe.gov> acknowledging receipt of the preproposal.

You are encouraged to register for an account in PAMS at least a week in advance of the preproposal submission deadline so that there will be no delays with your submission.

For help with PAMS, click the “External User Guide” link on the PAMS website, <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/>. You may also contact the PAMS Help Desk, which can be reached Monday through Friday, 9 AM – 5:30 PM Eastern Time. Telephone: (855) 818-1846 (toll free) or (301) 903-9610, email: sc.pams-helpdesk@science.doe.gov. All submission and inquiries about this Funding Opportunity Announcement should reference **DE-FOA-0001879**.

Preapplications submitted outside PAMS will not be considered. Preapplications may not be submitted through grants.gov or www.FedConnect.net.

C. GRANTS.GOV APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND RECEIPT PROCEDURES

This section provides the application submission and receipt instructions for applications to SC. Please read the following instructions carefully and completely.

1. Electronic Delivery

SC is participating in the Grants.gov initiative to provide the grant community with a single site to find and apply for grant funding opportunities. SC requires applicants to submit their applications online through Grants.gov.

2. How to Register to Apply through Grants.gov

a. Instructions: Read the instructions below about registering to apply for SC funds. Applicants should read the registration instructions carefully and prepare the information requested before beginning the registration process. Reviewing and assembling the required information before beginning the registration process will alleviate last-minute searches for required information.

The registration process can take up to four weeks to complete. Therefore, registration should be done in sufficient time to ensure it does not impact your ability to meet required application submission deadlines.

If individual applicants are eligible to apply for this grant funding opportunity, refer to: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/individual-registration.html>

Organization applicants can find complete instructions here: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration.html>

1) Obtain a DUNS Number: All entities applying for funding, including renewal funding, must have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number from Dun & Bradstreet (D&B). Applicants must enter the DUNS number in the data entry field labeled “Organizational DUNS” on the SF-424 form.

For more detailed instructions for obtaining a DUNS number, refer to: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-1-obtain-duns-number.html>

2) Register with SAM: In addition to having a DUNS number, organizations applying online through Grants.gov must register with the System for Award Management (SAM). All organizations must register with SAM in order to apply online. Failure to register with SAM will prevent your organization from applying through Grants.gov.

For more detailed instructions for registering with SAM, refer to: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-2-register-with-sam.html>

3) Create a Grants.gov Account: The next step in the registration process is to create an account with Grants.gov. Applicants must know their organization’s DUNS number to complete this process. Completing this process automatically triggers an email request for applicant roles to the organization’s E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) for review. The EBiz POC is a representative from your organization who is the contact listed for SAM. To apply for grants on behalf of your organization, you will need the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) role.

For more detailed instructions about creating a profile on Grants.gov, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-3-username-password.html>

4) Authorize Grants.gov Roles: After creating an account on Grants.gov, the EBiz POC receives an email notifying them of your registration and request for roles. The EBiz POC will then log in to Grants.gov and authorize the appropriate roles, which may include the AOR role, thereby giving you permission to complete and submit applications on behalf of the organization. You will be able to submit your application online anytime after you have been approved as an AOR.

For more detailed instructions about creating a profile on Grants.gov, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-4-aor-authorization.html>

5) Track Role Status: To track your role request, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-5-track-aor-status.html>

b. Electronic Signature: When applications are submitted through Grants.gov, the name of the organization's AOR that submitted the application is inserted into the signature line of the application, serving as the electronic signature. The EBiz POC must authorize individuals who are able to make legally binding commitments on behalf of the organization as an AOR; this step is often missed and it is crucial for valid and timely submissions.

3. How to Submit an Application to the Office of Science via Grants.gov

Grants.gov applicants can apply online using Workspace. Workspace is a shared, online environment where members of a grant team may simultaneously access and edit different web forms within an application. For each funding opportunity announcement (FOA), you can create individual instances of a workspace.

Below is an overview of applying on Grants.gov. For access to complete instructions on how to apply for opportunities, refer to:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html>

1) Create a Workspace: Creating a workspace allows you to complete it online and route it through your organization for review before submitting.

2) Complete a Workspace: Add participants to the workspace, complete all the required forms, and check for errors before submission.

a. Adobe Reader: If you decide not to apply by filling out web forms you can download individual PDF forms in Workspace so that they will appear similar to other Standard forms. The individual PDF forms can be downloaded and saved to your local device storage, network drive(s), or external drives, then accessed through Adobe Reader.

NOTE: Visit the Adobe Software Compatibility page on Grants.gov to download the appropriate version of the software at: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/adobe-software-compatibility.html>

b. Mandatory Fields in Forms: In the forms, you will note fields marked with an asterisk and a different background color. These fields are mandatory fields that must be completed to successfully submit your application.

c. Complete SF-424 Fields First: The forms are designed to fill in common required fields across other forms, such as the applicant name, address, and DUNS number. To trigger this feature, an applicant must complete the SF-424 information first. Once it is completed, the information will transfer to the other forms.

3) Submit a Workspace: An application may be submitted through workspace by clicking the Sign and Submit button on the Manage Workspace page, under the Forms tab. Grants.gov recommends submitting your application package at least 24-48 hours prior to the close date to provide you with time to correct any potential technical issues that may disrupt the application submission.

4) Track a Workspace: After successfully submitting a workspace package, a Grants.gov Tracking Number (GRANTXXXXXXXX) is automatically assigned to the package. The number will be listed on the Confirmation page that is generated after submission.

For additional training resources, including video tutorials, refer to: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-training.html>

Applicant Support: Grants.gov provides applicants 24/7 support via the toll-free number 1-800-518-4726 and email at support@grants.gov. For questions related to the specific grant opportunity, contact the number listed in the application package of the grant you are applying for.

If you are experiencing difficulties with your submission, it is best to call the Grants.gov Support Center and get a ticket number. The Support Center ticket number will assist the Office of Science with tracking your issue and understanding background information on the issue.

4. Timely Receipt Requirements and Proof of Timely Submission

Proof of timely submission is automatically recorded by Grants.gov. An electronic date/time stamp is generated within the system when the application is successfully received by Grants.gov. The applicant AOR will receive an acknowledgement of receipt and a tracking number (GRANTXXXXXXXX) from Grants.gov with the successful transmission of their application. Applicant AORs will also receive the official date/time stamp and Grants.gov Tracking number in an email serving as proof of their timely submission.

When SC successfully retrieves the application from Grants.gov, and acknowledges the download of submissions, Grants.gov will provide an electronic acknowledgment of receipt of

the application to the email address of the applicant with the AOR role. Again, proof of timely submission shall be the official date and time that Grants.gov receives your application. Applications received by Grants.gov after the established due date for the program will be considered late and will not be considered for funding by SC.

Applicants using slow internet, such as dial-up connections, should be aware that transmission can take some time before Grants.gov receives your application. Again, Grants.gov will provide either an error or a successfully received transmission in the form of an email sent to the applicant with the AOR role. The Grants.gov Support Center reports that some applicants end the transmission because they think that nothing is occurring during the transmission process. Please be patient and give the system time to process the application.

D. CONTENT AND APPLICATION FORMS

APPLICATION PREPARATION

You must download the application package, application forms and instructions, from Grants.gov at <http://www.grants.gov/>. (Additional instructions are provided in [Section IV, Part C](#) of this FOA.)

You are required to use the compatible version of Adobe Reader software to complete a [Grants.gov](#) Adobe application package. To ensure you have the [Grants.gov](#) compatible version of Adobe Reader, visit the download software page at http://www.grants.gov/help/download_software.jsp.

You must complete the mandatory forms and any applicable optional forms (e.g., Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)) in accordance with the instructions on the forms and the additional instructions below.

Files that are attached to the forms must be in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) unless otherwise specified in this announcement. Attached PDF files must be plain files consisting of text, numbers, and images without editable fields, signatures, passwords, redactions, or other advanced features available in some PDF-compatible software. Do not use PDF portfolios or binders.

Please note: you may only use the following UTF-8 characters when naming your application attachments: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore (_), hyphen (-), space, period. You must limit the file name to 50 or fewer characters. Attachments that do not follow this rule may cause the entire application to be rejected or cause issues during processing.

LETTERS

Letters of support are not necessary with pre-proposals, but may be useful with full applications.

RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

For renewal applications only, the Principal Investigator is required to submit a Renewal Proposal Products section through the SC's PAMS website at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov>. The Principal Investigator must enter into PAMS each product created during the course of the previous project period. Types of products include publications, intellectual property, technologies or techniques, and other products such as databases or software. As soon as the renewal application is assigned to a program manager, the Principal Investigator will receive an automated email from PAMS (<PAMS.Autoreply@science.doe.gov>) instructing him or her to navigate to the PAMS Task tab to complete and submit the Renewal Proposal Products. The submitted product list will be sent for merit review as part of the application. The application will not be considered complete and cannot be sent for review until the product list has been submitted.

IMPROPER CONTENTS OF APPLICATIONS

Applications submitted under this FOA will be stored in controlled-access systems, but they may be made publicly available if an award is made. As such, it is critical that applicants follow these guidelines:

- Do not include information subject to any legal restriction on its open distribution, whether classified, export control, or unclassified controlled nuclear information.
- Do not include sensitive and protected personally identifiable information, including social security numbers, birthdates, citizenship, marital status, or home addresses. Pay particular attention to the content of biographical sketches and curriculum vitae.
- Do not include letters of support from Federal officials.
- Do not include letters of support on Federal letterhead. Letters that are not letters of support (such as letters confirming access to sites, facilities, equipment, or data; or letters from cognizant contracting officers) may be on Federal letterhead.
- Clearly mark all proprietary or trade-secret information.

1. SF-424 (R&R)

Complete this form first to populate data in other forms. Complete all the required fields in accordance with the pop-up instructions on the form. The list of certifications and assurances referenced in Field 17 is available on the DOE Financial Assistance Forms Page at <http://energy.gov/management/office-management/operational-management/financial-assistance/financial-assistance-forms> under Certifications and Assurances.

PUBLIC POLICY REQUIREMENTS

The applicant assures DOE of its compliance with applicable public policy requirements, including the following:

Animal Welfare Act	7 USC 2131 et seq.,
Buy American Act	41 USC 10 et seq.
Cargo Preference Act	46 USC 55305, 46 CFR 381.7
Civil Rights Protections	10 CFR 1040
Debarment and Suspension	2 CFR 180, 2 CFR 901
Drug-Free Workplace Act	41 USC 701, 10 CFR 607
Environmental Protections	42 USC 7401, 33 USC 1251, 42 USC 4321
False Claims Act	31 USC 3729, 18 USC 287, 18 USC 1001, 10 CFR 1013
Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act	P.L. 109-282, 2 CFR 170
Fly America Act	49 USC 40118
Hatch Act	5 USC 1501 et seq.
Human Research Subjects Protections	10 CFR 745
Lobbying Disclosure Act	2 USC 1601 et seq.
Lobbying Prohibitions	31 USC 1352, 10 CFR 601
Metric System use	EO 12770
Non-delinquency on Federal Debt	28 USC 3201
Prohibition on benefitting Members of Congress	41 USC 6306
Seat Belt Use	EO 13043
Terrorist Financing	EO 13224, 66 FR 49079
Text Messaging While Driving	EO 13513, 74 FR 51225
Trafficking in Persons	22 USC 7104, 2 CFR 175

2. Research and Related Other Project Information

Note concerning question 4.a. and 4.b.

If any environmental impact, positive or negative, is anticipated, indicate “yes” in response to question 4.a., “potential impact – positive or negative - on the environment.” Disclosure of the impact should be provided in response to question 4.b. First indicate whether the impact is positive or negative and then identify the area of concern (e.g., air, water, exposure to radiation, etc.).

DOE understands the phrase in field 4.a., “potential impact ... *negative*” to apply if the work described in the application could potentially have any of the impacts listed in (1) through (5) of 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, Conditions that Are Integral Elements of the Classes of Action. (<https://www.ecfr.gov>)

Additionally, for actions which could have any other adverse impacts to the environment or have any possibility for adverse impacts to human health (e.g., use of human subjects, Biosafety Level 3-4 laboratory construction/operation, manufacture or use of certain nanoscale materials which are known to impact human health, or any activities involving transuranic or high level radioactive waste, or use of or exposure to any radioactive materials beyond de minimis

levels), applicants should indicate a “negative” impact on the environment.

Lastly, if there would be 1) extraordinary circumstances (i.e., scientific or public controversy) related to the significance of environmental effects (10 CFR 1021.410 (b)(2)), 2) if the work is connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (10 CFR 1021.410 (b)(3)), or 3) if the work is related to other nearby actions with the potential for cumulatively significant impacts (10 CFR 1021.410 (b)(3)), applicants should indicate a “negative” impact on the environment.

Complete questions 1 through 6 and attach files. The files must comply with the following instructions:

PROJECT SUMMARY/ABSTRACT (FIELD 7 ON THE FORM)

The project summary/abstract is a summary of the proposed activity suitable for distribution to the public and sufficient to permit potential reviewers to identify conflicts of interest. It must be a self-contained document. Provide the name of the applicant, the project title, the project director/principal investigator(s) (PD/PI) and the PD/PI’s institutional affiliation, any coinvestigators and their institutional affiliations, the objectives of the project, a description of the project, including methods to be employed, and the potential impact of the project (i.e., benefits, outcomes. A sample is provided below:

A Really Great Idea

A. Smith, Lead Institution (Principal Investigator)
A. Brown, Institution 2 (Co-Investigator)
A. Jones, Institution 3 (Co-Investigator)

Text of abstract

The project summary must not exceed 1 page when printed using standard 8.5” by 11” paper with 1” margins (top, bottom, left and right) with font not smaller than 11 point. To attach a Project Summary/Abstract, click “Add Attachment.”

- Do not include any proprietary or sensitive business information.
- DOE may use the abstract may to prepare public reports about supported research.

DOE COVER PAGE

(PART OF PROJECT NARRATIVE ATTACHED TO FIELD 8 ON THE FORM)

The application narrative should begin with a cover page that will not count toward the project narrative page limitation. The cover page must include the following items:

- The project title
- Applicant/Institution:

- Street Address/City/State/Zip:
- Postal Address:
- Lead PI name, telephone number, email:
- Administrative Point of Contact name, telephone number, email:
- Funding Opportunity FOA Number: DE-FOA-0001879
- DOE/Office of Science Program Office: High Energy Physics
- DOE/Office of Science Program Office Technical Contact:
Eric.Colby@science.doe.gov
- DOE Award Number (if Renewal Application):
- PAMS Pre-Application tracking number:
- Research Track as identified in Section I of this FOA:
- Topical Area as identified in Section I of this FOA:
- Include a table modeled on the following chart providing summary budget information from all collaborating institutions. Provide the total costs of the budget request in each year for each institution and totals for all rows and columns. Include the value of any institutional commitment being offered. If necessary, modify the table below for the correct number of years.

Name and Yearly Budget for Proposals with Multiple Institutions							
	Name	Institution	Year 1 Budget	Year 2 Budget	Year 3 Budget	Total Budget	Institutional Commitment
Lead PI							
Co-PI							
Co-PI							
Co-PI							

SAMPLE BUDGET TABLE

Important Instructions to the Sponsored Research Office of Submitting Institutions: The DOE Office of Science requires that you create one single PDF file that contains the DOE Cover Page, project narrative, biographical sketch, current and pending support, bibliography and references cited, facilities and other resources, equipment, data management plan, and other attachments. This single PDF file must be attached in Field 8 on the Grants.gov form. Do not attach any of the items listed in this paragraph separately in any other field in Grants.gov. If you do, these additional attachments will not become part of the application in PAMS.

COVER PAGE SUPPLEMENT FOR COLLABORATIONS

(PART OF PROJECT NARRATIVE ATTACHED TO FIELD 8 ON THE FORM)

APPLICABLE **ONLY** TO TRACK 3 APPLICATIONS.

Do **NOT** INCLUDE THIS COVER PAGE SUPPLEMENT FOR A TRACK 1 OR TRACK 2 APPLICATION.]

Collaborative Track 3 applications submitted from different institutions must clearly indicate they are part of a collaborative project/group. Every partner institution must submit an application through its own sponsored research office. Each collaborative group can have only one lead institution. Each application within the collaborative group, including the narrative and all required appendices and attachments, must be identical with the following exceptions:

- Each application must contain a correct SF-424 (R&R) cover page for the submitting institution only.
- Each application must contain a unique budget corresponding to the expenditures for that application's submitting institution only.
- Each application must contain a unique budget justification corresponding to the expenditures for that application's submitting institution only.

Each Track 3 application belonging to a collaborative group should have the same title in Block 11 of the SF 424 (R&R) form.

SC will use the multiple applications associated with a collaborative group to create one consolidated document for merit review that consists of the common, identical application materials combined with a set of detailed budgets from the partner institutions. It is very important that every application in the collaborative group be identical (including the title) with the exception of the budget and budget justification pages.

If the Track 3 project is a collaboration, provide the following information on a separate page as a supplement to the cover page.

- List all collaborating institutions by name with each institution's principal investigator on the same line.
- Indicate the lead PI who will be the point of contact and coordinator for the combined research activity.
- Provide a statement explaining the leadership structure of the collaboration.
- Include a description of each collaborating institution's facilities, equipment, and resources that will be made available to the collaborative group.
- If applicable, explain how students and junior researchers will be trained and mentored by the collaborators.

* Note that separate collaborative applications must be submitted by each participating institution.

PROJECT NARRATIVE (FIELD 8 ON THE FORM)

The project narrative **must not exceed 16 pages for Track 1 and Track 2 proposals, and must not exceed 5 pages for Track 3 proposals** of technical information, including charts, graphs, maps, photographs, and other pictorial presentations, when printed using standard 8.5" by 11" paper with 1 inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right). The font must not be smaller than 11 point. Merit reviewers will only consider the number of pages specified in the first sentence of this paragraph. This page limit does not apply to the Cover Page, Budget Page(s), Budget Justification,

biographical material, publications and references, and appendices, each of which may have its own page limit.

- For each senior investigator, clearly indicate the fraction of total research time during the academic year as well as summer that will be spent on the proposed research.
- References needed to cite the research described in the narrative can be listed in the Appendix material described below.

Merit reviewers will only consider the number of pages specified in the above requirement. Applications exceeding the page limit will not be reviewed and, therefore, won't be considered for funding.

Do not include any Internet addresses (URLs) that provide supplementary or additional information that constitutes a part of the application. Using Internet sites in an attempt to avoid page limits will fail: the content of those sites will not be reviewed. References posted to an Internet-based archive or publication are permitted in a list of references. See Part VIII.D for instructions on how to mark proprietary application information. To attach a Project Narrative, click "Add Attachment."

The narrative required depends on the Track to which the grant application is being submitted. Read this section carefully to understand the appropriate format and content to include.

Narrative Format for Track 1: Accelerator Stewardship Topical Areas

Track 1 grant applications must not exceed **16 pages** and must include the following sections, with a recommended page length for each section indicated in braces:

A. {1 page} Background/Introduction. Explanation of the importance and relevance of the proposed work as well as a review of the relevant literature. A brief description of research activities conducted by the primary team members and their R&D groups, including accomplishments and impacts made during the recent past (typically the past three years), is also encouraged.

B. {6 pages} Proposed Research, Innovative Claims, Technical Rationale, and Approach. If appropriate, identify the hypotheses to be tested and details of the methods to be used. This section should describe the scientific and technical challenges, unique approach(es), and potential anticipated technical solutions in the topical area that will be addressed. Proposals should clearly explain the technical approach(es) that will be employed and provide ample justification for their feasibility. This section should demonstrate that the proposer has a clear understanding of the state-of-the-art, and it should provide sufficient technical details to permit complete evaluation of the feasibility of the approach. Additionally, comparison with other ongoing research efforts should be provided indicating advantages and disadvantages of the proposed effort.

C. {2 pages} Program Plan & Risk Assessment. A narrative explaining the explicit timelines, milestone achievements, and quantitative metrics by which progress toward the goals can be evaluated. The proposed period of performance of the overall program, and each

program phase, should be clearly stated. The narrative should include a specific plan detailing how all program metrics will be accurately assessed. This section should also identify major technical risk elements specific to the proposed approach, estimate the risk magnitude for each such element, and describe specific plans to mitigate risk.

D. {1 page} Statement of Work. Clearly and concisely define the technical work to be performed on a task-by-task basis, listing the durations and the dependencies among the tasks. The statement of work **must** include a table defining the program metrics to be applied.

For each task, provide:

- A general description of its objective;
- A detailed description of the approach to be taken to accomplish it;
- Identification of the primary organization responsible for task execution (prime, sub, team member, by name, etc.);
- The completion criteria for each task/activity – a product, event, or milestone that defines its completion.

E. {2 pages} Description of the results, products, transferable technology, and expected technology transfer path. Summary of objectives associated with the proposed research and, where appropriate, the plans and capability to accomplish technology transfer and commercialization. If this application has a commercial product as the end goal, clearly describe the market opportunity. If intellectual property rights will be reserved and assigned, describe the expected assignment of such rights, the measures to be used to protect proprietary information, and include relevant agreements in Appendix 7: Other Attachment See also Section VIII. “Intellectual Property” for instructions on marking proprietary information in the application.

F. {2 pages} Teaming and Management Plan. A clearly defined organization chart for the program team that includes, as applicable: (1) the programmatic relationship of the primary team member; (2) the unique capabilities of the primary team members; (3) the task responsibilities of the primary team members; (4) the teaming strategy among the team members; and (5) the key personnel along with the amount of effort to be expended by each person during each year. Please include in Appendix 7: Other Attachment any formal teaming agreements that are required to execute this plan.

G. {2 pages} Cost, schedule, and measurable milestones for the proposed research, including estimates of cost for each task in each year of the effort, broken down by the primes and major subcontractors, total cost, and any cost sharing. (Note: Measurable milestones should capture key development points in tasks and should be clearly articulated and defined in time relative to start of effort.) Where the effort consists of multiple portions which could reasonably be partitioned for purposes of funding, these should be identified as options with separate cost estimates for each. Describe the institutional commitment being offered (see section III.B).

Narrative Format for Track 2: Long-Term Generic Accelerator R&D

Track 2 grant applications must not exceed **16 pages** and must include the following sections:

Background/Introduction: Explanation of the importance and relevance of the proposed work as well as a review of the relevant literature. Describe the application(s) that are most likely to be impacted by this work, citing prior workshops, studies, white papers, or other documented evidence of the need for progress in this application area†. A brief description of research activities conducted by the PD/PI and his/her group, including specific roles and responsibilities in collaborative research efforts, and accomplishments and impacts made during the recent past (typically the past three years), is also encouraged.

Multiple Principle Investigators: In applications with more than one senior investigator, the accomplishments, milestones, and plans of each senior investigator must be clearly identified. Reviewers will be asked to assess the accomplishments and plans of each senior investigator and these evaluations will be used as input to the funding decisions.

Proposed Research and Methods: Identify the hypotheses to be tested (if any) and details of the methods to be used.

Project Objectives: This section should provide a clear, concise statement of the specific objectives/aims of the proposed project.

Timetable of Activities: This section should outline, year-by-year, all the important activities or phases of the project, including any activities planned beyond the project period. Successful applicants must use this project timetable to report progress.

Narrative Format for Track 3: Accelerator Stewardship Test Facility Program

Track 3 awards are considerably shorter in duration and smaller in scope, and consequently have an abbreviated proposal format that is similar to a Track 1 proposal. Track 3 Grant applications must not exceed **5 pages** and must include the following sections, with a recommended page length for each section indicated in braces:

A. {0.5 page} Background/Introduction. Explanation of the importance and relevance of the proposed work as well as a review of the relevant literature. A brief description of research activities conducted by the primary team members and their R&D groups, including accomplishments and impacts made during the recent past (typically the past three years), is also encouraged.

B. {1.5 pages} Proposed Research, Innovative Claims, Technical Rationale, and Approach. If appropriate, identify the hypotheses to be tested and details of the methods to

† Please note that proposals are scored on how well the proposed work meets the needs of one or more Stewardship Customers. See section V.A.2 for a definition of the term “Stewardship Customer”, and for examples of what constitutes evidence of customer interest.

be used. This section should describe the scientific and technical challenges, unique approach(es), and potential anticipated technical solutions in the topical area that will be addressed. Proposals should clearly explain the technical approach(es) that will be employed and provide ample justification for their feasibility. This section should demonstrate that the proposer has a clear understanding of the state-of-the-art, and it should provide sufficient technical details to permit complete evaluation of the feasibility of the approach. Additionally, comparison with other ongoing research efforts should be provided indicating advantages and disadvantages of the proposed effort.

C. {1 page} Statement of Work. Clearly and concisely define the technical work to be performed on a task-by-task basis, listing the durations and the dependencies among the tasks. This section must clearly define the role of the requested National Laboratory capabilities. Details about the specific National Laboratory facilities and expertise required should be included in Appendix 4 and an explanation of the requested costs to use these capabilities should be provided in the Budget Explanation.

For each task, provide:

- A general description of its objective;
- A detailed description of the approach to be taken to accomplish it;
- Identification of the primary organization responsible for task execution (prime, sub, team member, by name, etc.);
- The completion criteria for each task/activity – a product, event, or milestone
- that defines its completion.

D. {1 page} Description of the results, products, transferable technology, and expected technology transfer path. Summary of objectives associated with the proposed research and, where appropriate, the plans and capability to accomplish technology transfer and commercialization. If this application has a commercial product as the end goal, clearly describe the market opportunity. If intellectual property rights will be reserved and assigned, describe the expected assignment of such rights, the measures to be used to protect proprietary information, and include relevant agreements in Appendix 7: Other Attachments.

E. {1 page} Cost, schedule, and measurable milestones for the proposed research, including estimates of cost for each task in each year of the effort, broken down by the primes and major subcontractors, total cost, and any cost sharing. (Note: Measurable milestones should capture key development points in tasks and should be clearly articulated and defined in time relative to start of effort.) Describe the institutional commitment being offered (see Section III.B).

For Collaborative Track 3 Proposals Only: Each collaborating institution must submit an identical common narrative. The common narrative must identify which tasks and activities will be performed by which of the collaborating institutions in every budget period of the proposed project. The budget and the budget justification, which are unique to each collaborating institution;—may refer to parts of the common narrative to further identify each collaborating

institution's activities in the joint project. There should be no ambiguity about each institution's role and participation in the collaborative group.

The Office of Science will use the multiple applications associated with a collaborative group to create one consolidated document for merit review that consists of the common, identical application materials combined with a set of detailed budgets from the partner institutions. It is very important that every application in the collaborative group be identical (including the title) with the exception of the budget and budget justification pages.

General Instructions That Apply to Track 1, Track 2, and Track 3 Grant Applications

It is important that the project narrative section provide a complete description of the proposed work, because reviewers are not obliged to read the last Appendix in any detail. Applications exceeding the page limits will be declined without review. The page count limitation does not include the Cover Page and Budget Pages, the Title Page, the biographical material and publication information, or any Appendices.

Do not include in any section or any appendix of the application any sensitive personally identifiable information (PII) such as a Social Security Number, date of birth, or city of birth. Do not include information that a merit reviewer should not make use of. Applications containing PII will be declined without review.

APPENDIX 1: BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide a biographical sketch for the Project Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) and each senior/key person listed in Section A on the R&R Budget form.

- Provide the biographical sketch information as an appendix to your project narrative.
- Do not attach a separate file.
- The biographical sketch appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation.
- The biographical information (curriculum vitae) for each person must not exceed **2** pages when printed on 8.5" by 11" paper with 1 inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) with font not smaller than 11 point and must include:

Education and Training: Undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral training, provide institution, major/area, degree and year.

Research and Professional Experience: Beginning with the current position list, in chronological order, professional/academic positions with a brief description.

Publications: Provide a list of up to 10 publications most closely related to the proposed project. For each publication, identify the names of all authors (in the same sequence in which they appear in the publication), the article title, book or journal title, volume number, page numbers, year of publication, and website address if available electronically. Patents, copyrights and software systems developed may be provided in addition to or substituted for publications.

Synergistic Activities: List no more than five (5) professional and scholarly activities related to the effort proposed.

Identification of Potential Conflicts of Interest or Bias in Selection of Reviewers: Provide the following information in this section:

- **Collaborators and Co-editors:** List in alphabetical order all persons, including their current organizational affiliation, who are, or who have been, collaborators or co-authors with you on a research project, book or book article, report, abstract, or paper during the 48 months preceding the submission of this application. For publications or collaborations with more than 10 authors or participants, only list those individuals in the core group with whom the Principal Investigator interacted on a regular basis while the research was being done. Also, list any individuals who are currently, or have been, co-editors with you on a special issue of a journal, compendium, or conference proceedings during the 24 months preceding the submission of this application. If there are no collaborators or co-editors to report, state “None.”
- **Graduate and Postdoctoral Advisors and Advisees:** List the names and current organizational affiliations of your graduate advisor(s) and principal postdoctoral sponsor(s). Also, list the names and current organizational affiliations of your graduate students and postdoctoral associates.

Personally Identifiable Information (PII): Do not include sensitive personally identifiable information such as a Social Security Number, date of birth, or city of birth. Do not include information that a merit reviewer should not make use of. Pay particular attention to the content of biographical sketches and curriculum vitae.

- Do not attach a separate file.
- This appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation.

APPENDIX 2: CURRENT AND PENDING SUPPORT

Provide a list of all current and pending support (both Federal and non-Federal) for the Project Director/Principal Investigator(s) (PD/PI) and senior/key persons, including subawardees, for on-going projects and pending applications. List all sponsored activities or awards requiring a measurable commitment of effort, whether paid or unpaid.

For every activity, list the following items:

- The sponsor of the activity or the source of funding
- The award or other identifying number
- The title of the award or activity
- The total cost or value of the award or activity, including direct and indirect costs. For pending proposals, provide the total amount of requested funding.
- The person-months of effort per year being dedicated to the award or activity
- Award period (either actual or expected)
- Include a “Project Abstract”, which includes brief details on the scope of research. A level of detail sufficient to identify similarities and difference with the work presented

in the application being submitted is required. Do not simply list the title of the current and/or pending grant.

Provide the Current and Pending Support as an appendix to your project narrative. Concurrent submission of a proposal to other organizations for simultaneous consideration will not prejudice its review.

- Do not attach a separate file.
- This appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation.

APPENDIX 3: BIBLIOGRAPHY & REFERENCES CITED

Provide a bibliography of any references cited in the Project Narrative. Each reference must include the names of all authors (in the same sequence in which they appear in the publication), the article and journal title, book title, volume number, page numbers, and year of publication. For research areas where there are routinely more than ten coauthors of archival publications, you may use an abbreviated style such as the Physical Review Letters (PRL) convention for citations (listing only the first author). For example, your paper may be listed as, “A Really Important New Result,” A. Aardvark et. al. (MONGO Collaboration), PRL 999. Include only bibliographic citations. Applicants should be especially careful to follow scholarly practices in providing citations for source materials relied upon when preparing any section of the application. Provide the Bibliography and References Cited information as an appendix to your project narrative.

- Do not attach a separate file.
- This appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation.

APPENDIX 4: FACILITIES & OTHER RESOURCES

This information is used to assess the capability of the organizational resources, including subawardee resources, available to perform the effort proposed. Identify the facilities to be used (Laboratory, Animal, Computer, Office, Clinical and Other). If appropriate, indicate their capacities, pertinent capabilities, relative proximity, and extent of availability to the project. Describe only those resources that are directly applicable to the proposed work. Describe other resources available to the project (e.g., machine shop, electronic shop) and the extent to which they would be available to the project. For proposed investigations requiring access to experimental user facilities maintained by institutions other than the applicant, please provide a document from the facility manager confirming that the researchers will have access to the facility. Please provide the Facility and Other Resource information as an appendix to your project narrative.

- Do not attach a separate file.
- This appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation.

APPENDIX 5: EQUIPMENT

List major items of equipment already available for this project and, if appropriate identify location and pertinent capabilities. Provide the Equipment information as an appendix to your project narrative.

- Do not attach a separate file.
- This appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation.

APPENDIX 6: DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

Provide a Data Management Plan (DMP) that addresses the following requirements:

1. DMPs should describe whether and how data generated in the course of the proposed research will be shared and preserved. If the plan is not to share and/or preserve certain data, then the plan must explain the basis of the decision (for example, cost/benefit considerations, other parameters of feasibility, scientific appropriateness, or limitations discussed in #4). At a minimum, DMPs must describe how data sharing and preservation will enable validation of results, or how results could be validated if data are not shared or preserved.
2. DMPs should provide a plan for making all research data displayed in publications resulting from the proposed research open, machine-readable, and digitally accessible to the public at the time of publication. This includes data that are displayed in charts, figures, images, etc. In addition, the underlying digital research data used to generate the displayed data should be made as accessible as possible to the public in accordance with the principles stated in the Office of Science Statement on Digital Data Management (<http://science.energy.gov/funding-opportunities/digital-data-management/>). This requirement could be met by including the data as supplementary information to the published article, or through other means. The published article should indicate how these data can be accessed.
3. DMPs should consult and reference available information about data management resources to be used in the course of the proposed research. In particular, DMPs that explicitly or implicitly commit data management resources at a facility beyond what is conventionally made available to approved users should be accompanied by written approval from that facility. In determining the resources available for data management at SC User Facilities, researchers should consult the published description of data management resources and practices at that facility and reference it in the DMP. Information about other Office of Science facilities can be found in the additional guidance from the sponsoring program.
4. DMPs must protect confidentiality, personal privacy, Personally Identifiable Information, and U.S. national, homeland, and economic security; recognize proprietary interests, business confidential information, and intellectual property rights; avoid significant negative impact on innovation, and U.S. competitiveness; and otherwise be consistent with all applicable laws, and regulations. There is no requirement to share proprietary data.

DMPs will be reviewed as part of the overall SC research proposal merit review process.

Applicants are encouraged to consult the SC website for further information and suggestions for how to structure a DMP: <http://science.energy.gov/funding-opportunities/digital-data-management/>

- This appendix should not exceed **2** pages including charts, graphs, maps, photographs, and other pictorial presentations, when printed using standard 8.5” by 11” paper with 1 inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right)
- Do not attach a separate file.
- This appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation.

APPENDIX 7: OTHER ATTACHMENT

If you need to elaborate on your responses to questions 1-6 on the “Other Project Information” document, please provide the Other Attachment information as an appendix to your project narrative. Information not easily accessible to a reviewer may be included in this appendix, but do not use this appendix to circumvent the page limitations of the application. Reviewers are not required to consider information in this appendix.

For Track 1 Grant applications, include in this appendix documents that support the teaming arrangements, intellectual property sharing arrangements, and so on. Examples include letters from subcontractors/consultants indicating availability and expected charges to work on the project, teaming agreements, non-disclosure agreements, IP sharing agreements, etc.

Reviewers may not have time to read extensive appendix materials with the same care they would use with the application proper.

- Do not include copies of previously presented and/or published research papers, technical notes, and/or reports written for respective experiments or collaborations. Further, do not include presentations made at any meetings or conferences
- Do not attach a separate file.
- This appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation.

- **Do not attach any of the requested appendices described above as files for fields 9, 10, 11, and 12.**
- **Follow the above instructions to include the information as appendices to the project narrative file.**
- **These appendices will not count toward the project narrative’s page limitation.**
- **Do not attach any files to fields 9, 10, 11, or 12.**

3. Research And Related Budget

Complete the Research and Related Budget form in accordance with the instructions on the form (Activate Help Mode to see instructions) and the following instructions. You must complete a separate budget for each year of support requested. The form will generate a cumulative budget for the total project period. You must complete all the mandatory information on the form before the NEXT PERIOD button is activated. You may request funds under any of the categories listed as long as the item and amount are necessary to perform the proposed work, meet all the criteria for allowability under the applicable Federal cost principles, and are not prohibited by the funding restrictions in this FOA (See Section IV, G).

A demonstration of institutional commitment to the proposed activity **is strongly encouraged** for all applications, especially for Track 1 and Track 3 applicants.

Examples of non-Federal contributions that may be considered as demonstrating institutional commitment include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The provision of space, facilities, equipment, or resources as no or reduced charge;
- The provision of release time for faculty;
- The provision of scholarship support for students; or
- The waiver of facilities and administrative costs, in whole or in part.

The institutional commitment is not to be documented on the application’s budget: it is not a formal cost-sharing, but it must be described in the budget justification.

Institutional commitments may not include the following:

- Revenues or royalties from the prospective operation of an activity beyond the time considered in the award;
- Proceeds from the prospective sale of an asset of an activity; or
- Other Federal awards.

Reviewers will be asked to evaluate the degree of institutional commitment; for Track 1 and Track 3 applications, the demonstration of institutional commitment will be taken as evidence of the Stewardship customer’s interest in the outcome. See Sections V.A.2 and V.B.2.

Budget Fields

Section A Senior/Key Person	For each Senior/Key Person, enter the requested information. List personnel, base salary, the number of months that person will be allocated to the project, requested salary fringe benefits, and the total funds requested for each person. The requested salary must be the product of the base salary and the effort. Include a written narrative in the budget justification that justifies the need for requested personnel.
Section B Other Personnel	List personnel, the number of months that person will be allocated to the project, requested salary fringe benefits, and the total funds requested for each person. Include a written narrative in the budget justification that fully justifies the need for requested personnel.
Section C Equipment	For the purpose of this budget, equipment is designated as an item of property that has an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more and an expected service life of more than one year. (Note that this designation applies for proposal budgeting only and differs from the DOE definition of capital equipment.) List each item of equipment separately and justify each in the budget justification section. Do not aggregate items of equipment. Allowable items ordinarily will be limited to research equipment and apparatus not already available for the conduct of the work. General-purpose office equipment is not eligible for support unless primarily or exclusively used in the actual conduct of scientific research.
Section D Travel	For purposes of this section only, travel to Canada or to Mexico is considered domestic travel. In the budget justification, list each trip’s destination, dates, estimated costs including transportation and

	<p>subsistence, number of staff traveling, the purpose of the travel, and how it relates to the project. Indicate the basis for the cost estimate (quotes from vendors or suppliers, past experience of similar items, or some other basis). To qualify for support, attendance at meetings or conferences must enhance the PD/PI's capability to perform the research, plan extensions of it, or disseminate its results. Domestic travel is to be justified separately from foreign travel.</p>
<p>Section E Participant/Trainee Support Costs</p>	<p>If applicable, submit training support costs. Educational projects that intend to support trainees (precollege, college, graduate and post graduate) must list each trainee cost that includes stipend levels and amounts, cost of tuition for each trainee, cost of any travel (provide the same information as needed under the regular travel category), and costs for any related training expenses. Participant costs are those costs associated with conferences, workshops, symposia or institutes and breakout items should indicate the number of participants, cost for each participant, purpose of the conference, dates and places of meetings and any related administrative expenses.</p> <p>Indicate the basis for the cost estimate (quotes from vendors or suppliers, past experience of similar items, or some other basis).</p>
<p>Section F Other Direct Costs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials and Supplies: Enter total funds requested for materials and supplies in the appropriate fields. In the budget justification, indicate general categories such as glassware, and chemicals, including an amount for each category (items not identified under "Equipment"). Categories less than \$1,000 are not required to be itemized. Indicate the basis for the cost estimate (quotes from vendors or suppliers, past experience of similar items, or some other basis). • Publication Costs: Enter the total publication funds requested. The proposal budget may request funds for the costs of documenting, preparing, publishing or otherwise making available to others the findings and products of the work conducted under the award. In the budget justification, include supporting information. Indicate the basis for the cost estimate (quotes from vendors or suppliers, past experience of similar items, or some other basis). • Consultant Services: Enter total funds requested for all consultant services. In the budget justification, identify each consultant, the services he/she will perform, total number of days, travel costs, and total estimated costs. Indicate the basis for the cost estimate (quotes from vendors or suppliers, past experience of similar items, or some other basis). • ADP/Computer Services: Enter total funds requested for ADP/Computer Services. The cost of computer services, including computer-based retrieval of scientific, technical and education information may be requested. In the budget justification, include the established computer service rates at the

	<p>proposing organization if applicable. Indicate the basis for the cost estimate (quotes from vendors or suppliers, past experience of similar items, or some other basis).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subawards/Consortium/Contractual Costs: Enter total costs for all subawards/consortium organizations and other contractual costs proposed for the project. In the budget justification, justify the details. • Equipment or Facility Rental/User Fees: Enter total funds requested for Equipment or Facility Rental/User Fees. In the budget justification, identify each rental/user fee and justify. Indicate the basis for the cost estimate (quotes from vendors or suppliers, past experience of similar items, or some other basis). • Alterations and Renovations: Enter total funds requested for Alterations and Renovations. In the budget justification, itemize by category and justify the costs of alterations and renovations, including repairs, painting, removal or installation of partitions, shielding, or air conditioning. Where applicable, provide the square footage and costs. • Other: Add text to describe any other Direct Costs not requested above. Enter costs associated with “Other” item(s). Use the budget justification to further itemize and justify.
Section G Direct Costs	This represents Total Direct Costs (Sections A through F)
Section H Other Indirect Costs	Enter the Indirect Cost information for each field. Only four general categories of indirect costs are allowed/requested on this form, so please consolidate if needed. Include the cognizant Federal agency and contact information if using a negotiated rate agreement.
Section I Total Direct and Indirect Costs	This is the total of Sections G and H

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION (FIELD K ON THE FORM)

Provide the required supporting information for the following costs (See R&R Budget instructions): equipment; domestic and foreign travel; participant/trainees; materials and supplies; publication; consultant services; ADP/computer services; subaward/consortium/contractual; equipment or facility rental/user fees; alterations and renovations; and indirect cost type. Provide any other information you wish to submit to justify your budget request. **Attach a single budget justification file for the entire project period in field K.** The file automatically carries over to each budget year.

4. R&R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form

Budgets for Subawardees, other than DOE FFRDC Contractors: You must provide a separate R&R budget for each subawardee. Download the R&R Budget Attachment from the R&R SUBAWARD BUDGET ATTACHMENT(S) FORM and e-mail it to each subawardee that

is required to submit a separate budget. After the subawardee has e-mailed its completed budget back to you, attach it to one of the blocks provided on the form. Use up to 10 letters of the subawardee's name (plus.pdf) as the file name (e.g., ucla.pdf or energyres.pdf). Filenames should not exceed 50 characters.

If the project involves more subawardees than there are places in the SUBAWARD BUDGET ATTACHMENT(S) FORM, the additional subaward budgets may be saved as PDF files and appended to the Budget Justification attached to Field K.

Ensure that any files received from subawardees are the PDF files extracted from the SUBAWARD BUDGET ATTACHMENT(S) FORM. Errors will be created if a subawardee sends a prime applicant a budget form that was not extracted from the application package.

5. Project/Performance Site Location(s)

Indicate the primary site where the work will be performed. If a portion of the project will be performed at any other site(s), identify the site location(s) in the blocks provided.

Note that the Project/Performance Site Congressional District is entered in the format of the 2 digit state code followed by a dash and a 3 digit Congressional district code, for example VA-001. Hover over this field for additional instructions.

Use the Next Site button to expand the form to add additional Project/Performance Site Locations.

Indicate the primary site where the work will be performed. If a portion of the project will be performed at any other site(s), identify the site location(s) in the blocks provided.

6. Summary of Required Forms/Files

Your application must include the following items:

Name of Document	Format	Attach to
SF 424 (R&R)	Form	N/A
RESEARCH AND RELATED Other Project Information	Form	N/A
Project Summary/Abstract	PDF	Field 7
Project Narrative, including required appendices	PDF	Field 8
RESEARCH & RELATED BUDGET	Form	N/A
Budget Justification	PDF	Field K
PROJECT/PERFORMANCE SITE	Form	N/A

LOCATION(S)		
SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, if applicable	Form	N/A

E. SUBMISSIONS FROM SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

If selected for award, DOE reserves the right to request additional or clarifying information for any reason deemed necessary, including, but not limited to:

- Indirect cost information
- Other budget information
- Name and phone number of the Designated Responsible Employee for complying with national policies prohibiting discrimination (See 10 CFR 1040.5)
- Representation of Limited Rights Data and Restricted Software, if applicable
- Commitment Letter from Third Parties Contributing to Cost Sharing, if applicable
- Environmental Information

F. SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES

1. Letter of Intent Due Date

None.

2. Pre-application Due Date

March 13, 2018, at 5 PM Eastern Time.

You are encouraged to submit your pre-application well before the deadline.

3. Application Due Date

April 26, 2018, at 5 PM Eastern Time.

You are encouraged to transmit your application well before the deadline.

4. Late Submissions

Delays in submitting letters of intent, pre-applications, and applications may be unavoidable. DOE has accepted late submissions when applicants have been unable to make timely submissions because of widespread technological disruptions or significant natural disasters. DOE has made accommodations for incapacitating or life-threatening illnesses and for deaths of immediate family members. Other circumstances may or may not justify late submissions.

Unacceptable justifications include the following:

- Failure to begin submission process early enough.
- Failure to provide sufficient time to complete the process.
- Failure to understand the submission process.
- Failure to understand the deadlines for submissions.
- Failure to satisfy prerequisite registrations.
- Unavailability of administrative personnel.

You are responsible for beginning the submission process in sufficient time to accommodate reasonably foreseeable incidents, contingencies, and disruptions.

Applicants must contact the Program Office/Manager listed in this FOA to discuss the option of late submission.

DOE notes that not all requests for late submission will be approved.

G. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372 Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

H. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

Funding for all awards and future budget periods are contingent upon the availability of funds appropriated by Congress for the purpose of this program and the availability of future-year budget authority.

Cost Principles: Costs must be allowable, allocable and reasonable in accordance with the applicable Federal cost principles referenced in 2 CFR 200 as modified by 2 CFR 910 (DOE Financial Assistance Regulation).

Pre-award Costs: Recipients may charge to an award resulting from this FOA pre-award costs that were incurred within the ninety (90) calendar day period immediately preceding the effective date of the award, if the costs are allowable in accordance with the applicable Federal cost principles referenced in 2 CFR 200 as modified by 2 CFR 910 (DOE Financial Assistance Regulation). Recipients must obtain the prior approval of the contracting officer for any pre-award costs that are for periods greater than this 90 day calendar period.

Pre-award costs are incurred at the applicant's risk. DOE is under no obligation to reimburse such costs if for any reason the applicant does not receive an award or if the award is made for a lesser amount than the applicant expected.

I. OTHER SUBMISSION AND REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must complete a series of registrations and enrollments to submit applications in response to this FOA. Applicants not currently registered with SAM and grants.gov should allow

at least 4 weeks to complete these requirements.

You should start the process as soon as possible.

You may not be able to use your preferred Internet browser: Each system has its own requirements.

Applicants must obtain a DUNS number at <https://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>.

Applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov/>. If you had an active registration in the Central Contractor Registry (CCR), you should have an active registration in SAM. More information about SAM registration for applicants is found at https://www.sam.gov/sam/transcript/Quick_Guide_for_Grants_Registrations.pdf. SAM maintains a complete user guide at https://www.sam.gov/sam/SAM_Guide/SAM_User_Guide.htm.

Applicants must provide a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) to complete their registration in SAM.gov. An applicant's TIN is an Employer Identification Number (EIN) assigned by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). In limited circumstances, a Social Security Number (SSN) assigned by the Social Security Administration (SSA) may be used as a TIN. You may obtain an EIN from the IRS at <https://www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/apply-for-an-employer-identification-number-ein-online>.

DOE discourages the use of a SSN as a TIN. You are encouraged to obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) using the website listed above.

Applicants must register with FedConnect at www.fedconnect.net. The full, binding version of assistance agreements will be posted to FedConnect.

Recipients must register with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Subaward Reporting System at <https://www.fsr.gov>. This registration must be completed before an award may be made: you are advised to register while preparing your application.

2. Registering in Grants.gov

Applicants must register with Grants.gov.

For organizations, please follow the procedures detailed below:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration.html>

For individuals, please follow the procedures detailed below:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/individual-registration.html>

3. Where to Submit an Application

Applications must be submitted through grants.gov to be considered for award.

Applicants must download the application package, application forms and instructions, from grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/> (Additional instructions are provided in Section IV A of this FOA.)

Submit electronic applications through the “Apply for Grants” function at www.grants.gov. If you have problems completing the registration process or submitting your application, call grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or send an email to support@grants.gov.

Please ensure that you have read the applicable instructions, guides, help notices, frequently asked questions, and other forms of technical support on grants.gov.

4. DOE Office of Science Portfolio Analysis and Management System (PAMS)

After you submit your application through grants.gov, the application will automatically transfer into the Portfolio Analysis and Management System (PAMS) for processing by the DOE Office of Science. Many functions for grants and cooperative agreements can be done in PAMS, which is available at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov>.

You will want to “register to” your application: a process of linking yourself to the application after it has been submitted through grants.gov and processed by DOE.

You must register in PAMS to submit a pre-application or a letter of intent.

You may use the Internet Explorer, Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari browsers to access PAMS.

Notifications sent from the PAMS system will come from the PAMS email address <PAMS.Autoreply@science.doe.gov>. Please make sure your email server/software allows delivery of emails from the PAMS email address to yours.

Registering to PAMS is a two-step process; once you create an individual account, you must associate yourself with (“register to”) your institution. Detailed steps are listed below.

1. CREATE PAMS ACCOUNT:

To register, click the “Create New PAMS Account” link on the website <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/>.

- Click the “No, I have never had an account” link and then the “Create Account” button.
- You will be prompted to enter your name and email address, create a username and password, and select a security question and answer. Once you have done this, click the “Save and Continue” button.
- On the next page, enter the required information (at least one phone number and your mailing address) and any optional information you wish to provide (e.g., FAX number, website, mailstop code, additional email addresses or phone numbers, Division/Department). Click the “Create Account” button.

- Read the user agreement and click the “Accept” button to indicate that you understand your responsibilities and agree to comply with the rules of behavior for PAMS.
- PAMS will take you to the “Having Trouble Logging In?” page. (If you have been an Office of Science merit reviewer or if you have previously submitted an application, you may already be linked to an institution in PAMS. If this happens, you will be taken to the PAMS home page.)

2. REGISTER TO YOUR INSTITUTION:

- Click the link labeled “Option 2: I know my institution and I am here to register to the institution.” (Note: If you previously created a PAMS account but did not register to an institution at that time, you must click the Institutions tab and click the “Register to Institution” link.)
- PAMS will take you to the “Register to Institution” page.
- Type a word or phrase from your institution name in the field labeled, “Institution Name like,” choose the radio button next to the item that best describes your role in the system, and click the “Search” button. A “like” search in PAMS returns results that contain the word or phrase you enter; you do not need to enter the exact name of the institution, but you should enter a word or phrase contained within the institution name. (If your institution has a frequently used acronym, such as ANL for Argonne National Laboratory or UCLA for the Regents of the University of California, Los Angeles, you may find it easiest to search for the acronym under “Institution Name like.” Many institutions with acronyms are listed in PAMS with their acronyms in parentheses after their names.)
- Find your institution in the list that is returned by the search and click the “Actions” link in the Options column next to the institution name to obtain a dropdown list. Select “Add me to this institution” from the dropdown. PAMS will take you to the “Institutions – List” page.
- If you do not see your institution in the initial search results, you can search again by clicking the “Cancel” button, clicking the Option 2 link, and repeating the search.
- If, after searching, you think your institution is not currently in the database, click the “Cannot Find My Institution” button and enter the requested institution information into PAMS. Click the “Create Institution” button. PAMS will add the institution to the system, associate your profile with the new institution, and return you to the “Institutions – List” page when you are finished.

For help with PAMS, click the “External User Guide” link on the PAMS website, <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/>. You may also contact the PAMS Help Desk, which can be reached Monday through Friday, 9AM – 5:30 PM Eastern Time. Telephone: (855) 818-1846 (toll free) or (301) 903-9610, email: sc.pams-helpdesk@science.doe.gov. All submission and inquiries about this FOA should reference DE-FOA-0001879.

5. Viewing Submitted Applications

Each grants.gov application submitted to SC automatically transfers into PAMS and is subsequently assigned to a DOE Program Manager. At the time of program manager assignment, the three people listed on the SF-424 (R&R) cover page will receive an email with the subject

line, “Receipt of Proposal 0000xxxxxx by the DOE Office of Science.” These three people are the Principal Investigator (Block 14), Authorized Representative (Block 19), and Point of Contact (Block 5). In PAMS notation, applications are known as proposals, the Principal Investigator is known as the PI, the Authorized Representative is known as the Sponsored Research Officer/Business Officer/Administrative Officer (SRO/BO/AO), and the Point of Contact is known as the POC.

There will be a period of time between the application’s receipt at Grants.gov and its assignment to a DOE SC. Program managers are typically assigned two weeks after applications are due at Grants.gov: please refrain from attempting to view the proposal in PAMS until you receive an email providing the assignment of a program manager.

Once the email is sent, the PI, SRO/BO/PO, and POC will each be able to view the submitted proposal in PAMS. Viewing the proposal is optional.

You may use the Internet Explorer, Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari browsers to access PAMS.

Following are two sets of instructions for viewing the submitted proposal, one for individuals who already have PAMS accounts and one for those who do not.

If you already have a PAMS account, follow these instructions:

1. Log in to PAMS at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/>.
2. Click the “Proposals” tab and click “Access Previously Submitted Grants.gov Proposal.”
3. Enter the following information:
 - Proposal ID: Enter the ten-digit PAMS proposal ID, including the leading zeros (e.g., 00002xxxxx). Do not use the grants.gov proposal number. Use the PAMS number previously sent to you in the email with subject line, “Receipt of Proposal ...”.
 - Email (as entered in grants.gov application): Enter your email address as it appears on the SF424(R&R) Cover Page.
 - Choose Role: Select the radio button in front of the role corresponding to the SF-424 (R&R) cover page. If your name appears in block 19 of the SF-424 (R&R) cover page as the authorizing representative, select “SRO/BO/AO (Sponsored Research Officer/Business Officer/Administrative Officer).” If your name appears in block 14 of the SF424 R&R cover page as the PI, select “Principal Investigator (PI).” If your name appears in block 5 of the SF424 R&R as the point of contact, select “Other (POC).”
4. Click the “Save and Continue” button. You will be taken to your “My Proposals” page. The grants.gov proposal will now appear in your list of proposals. Click the “Actions/Views” link in the options column next to this proposal to obtain a dropdown list. Select “Proposal” from the dropdown to see the proposal. Note that the steps above will work only for proposals submitted to the DOE SC since May 2012.

If you do not already have a PAMS account, follow these instructions:

1. To register, click the “Create New PAMS Account” link on the website <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/>.

2. Click the “No, I have never had an account” link and then the “Create Account” button.
3. You will be prompted to enter your name and email address, create a username and password, and select a security question and answer. Once you have done this, click the “Save and Continue” button.
4. On the next page, enter the required information (at least one phone number and your mailing address) and any optional information you wish to provide (e.g., FAX number, website, mailstop code, additional email addresses or phone numbers, Division/Department). Click the “Create Account” button.
5. Read the user agreement and click the “Accept” button to indicate that you understand your responsibilities and agree to comply with the rules of behavior for PAMS.
6. You will be taken to the Register to Institution page. Select the link labeled, “Option 1: My institution has submitted a proposal in grants.gov. I am here to register as an SRO, PI, or POC (Sponsored Research Officer, Principal Investigator, or Point of Contact).”
7. Enter the following information:
 - Proposal ID: Enter the ten-digit PAMS proposal ID, including the leading zeros (e.g., 00002xxxxx). Do not use the grants.gov proposal number. Use the PAMS number previously sent to you in the email with subject line, “Receipt of Proposal ...”.
 - Email (as entered in grants.gov proposal): Enter your email address as it appears on the SF424(R&R) Cover Page.
 - Choose Role: Select the radio button in front of the role corresponding to the SF-424 (R&R) cover page. If your name appears in block 19 of the SF-424 (R&R) cover page as the authorizing representative, select “SRO/BO/AO (Sponsored Research Officer/Business Officer/Administrative Officer).” If your name appears in block 14 of the SF424 R&R cover page as the PI, select “Principal Investigator (PI).” If your name appears in block 5 of the SF424 R&R as the point of contact, select “Other (POC).”
8. Click the “Save and Continue” button. You will be taken to your “My Proposals” page. The grants.gov proposal will now appear in your list of proposals. Click the “Actions/Views” link in the options column next to this proposal to obtain a dropdown list. Select “Proposal” from the dropdown to see the proposal.

If you were listed as the PI on a prior submission but you have not previously created an account, you may already be listed in PAMS. If this is the case, you will be taken to the PAMS home page after agreeing to the Rules of Behavior. If that happens, follow the instructions listed above under “If you already have a PAMS account...” to access your grants.gov proposal.

The steps above will work only for proposals submitted to the DOE SC since May 2012.

For help with PAMS, click the “External User Guide” link on the PAMS website, <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/>. You may also contact the PAMS Help Desk, which can be reached Monday through Friday, 9 AM – 5:30 PM Eastern Time. Telephone: (855) 818-1846 (toll free) or (301) 903-9610, Email: sc.pams-helpdesk@science.doe.gov. All submission and inquiries about this FOA should reference DE-FOA-0001879.

Section V - APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. CRITERIA

1. Initial Review Criteria

Prior to a comprehensive merit evaluation, DOE will perform an initial review in accordance with 10 CFR 605.10(b) to determine that (1) the applicant is eligible for the award; (2) the information required by the FOA has been submitted; (3) all mandatory requirements are satisfied; (4) the proposed project is responsive to the objectives of the funding opportunity announcement, and (5) the proposed project is not duplicative of programmatic work. Applications that fail to pass the initial review will not be forwarded for merit review and will be eliminated from further consideration.

Applications submitted without a pre-application having been previously submitted by the pre-application deadline of **March 13, 2018, at 5 PM Eastern Time** will be declined without review.

Applications submitted after the deadline of **April 26, 2018, at 5 PM Eastern Time** will be declined without review.

2. Merit Review Criteria

Applications will be subjected to scientific merit review (peer review) and will be evaluated against the following criteria, listed in descending order of importance as found in 10 CFR 605.10 (d), the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Rule.

- Scientific and/or Technical Merit of the Project;
- Appropriateness of the Proposed Method or Approach;
- Competency of Applicant's Personnel and Adequacy of Proposed Resources; and
- Reasonableness and Appropriateness of the Proposed Budget.

Merit reviewers will be asked to evaluate stewardship proposals based on an additional criterion:

- Quality of the Accelerator R&D Stewardship Opportunity.

The evaluation process will include program policy factors such as the relevance of the proposed research to the terms of the FOA and the agency's programmatic needs. Note that external peer reviewers are selected with regard to both their scientific expertise and the absence of conflict-of-interest issues. Both Federal and non-Federal reviewers may be used, and submission of an application constitutes agreement that this is acceptable to the investigator(s) and the submitting institution.

The questions below are provided to the merit reviewers to elaborate the criteria established by regulation:

SCIENTIFIC AND/OR TECHNICAL MERIT OF THE PROPOSED RESEARCH

- What is the scientific and/or technical innovation of the proposed research?
- How might the results of the proposed work impact the direction, progress, and thinking in relevant scientific fields of research?
- What is the likelihood of achieving valuable results?
- Does the proposed work have the potential to significantly impact the Stewardship use described by the PI?
- How does the proposed work compare with other efforts in its field, both in terms of scientific and/or technical merit and originality?
- Does the proposed work have synergy with the HEP mission?
- Is the Data Management Plan suitable for the proposed research and to what extent does it support the validation of research results?
- For Track 3 proposals:
 - Does the non-DOE entity “own” the work? Who is “driving” this proposal? Who benefits the most if the work succeeds?

APPROPRIATENESS OF THE PROPOSED METHOD OR APPROACH

- For Track 1 proposals:
 - Does the plan clearly describe the current technology state, and the technical gaps that must be addressed, to realize the application?
 - Does the proposal clearly describe specific technical milestones that can be used to evaluate the progress of the R&D?
 - Does the Program Plan and Risk Assessment correctly identify the primary risks, and appropriate mitigations for each?
 - If intellectual property protection is required, has a clear plan been spelled out?
 - If the application could result in a commercial product, has the market opportunity been clearly assessed and described? How good is the market opportunity?
- For Track 2 proposals:
 - Does the proposed effort employ innovative concepts or methods?
 - How logical and feasible are the approaches?
 - Are the conceptual framework, methods, and analyses well justified, adequately developed, and likely to lead to scientifically valid conclusions?
 - Does the applicant recognize significant potential problems and consider alternative strategies?
- For Track 3 proposals:
 - Does the plan clearly describe the current technology state, and the technical advances that will result from the R&D?
 - Does the proposal clearly describe specific technical milestones that can be used to evaluate the progress of the R&D?

- Can the proposed R&D goals be accomplished effectively by other means that do not require the use of a DOE National Laboratory's facilities?

COMPETENCY OF APPLICANT'S PERSONNEL AND ADEQUACY OF PROPOSED RESOURCES

- Does the proposed work take advantage of unique facilities and capabilities?
- What is the past performance of the leading members of the collaboration?
- Are the proposed plans for recruiting any additional scientific and/or technical personnel including new senior staff, students and postdocs reasonable, justified, and appropriate?
- Are the environment and facilities adequate for performing the proposed effort?
- Are the senior investigator(s) or any members of the research group that are being reviewed leaders within the proposed effort(s) and/or potential future leaders in the field?
- Additional questions for Track 1 proposals:
 - Does the Teaming and Management Plan clearly define the roles and responsibilities of all key participants?
 - Does the collaborative team have an appropriate balance of accelerator-technology-side experts and application-side experts?
 - If the application could result in a commercial product, does the team include an appropriate industrial partner?
- Additional questions for Track 2 proposals:
 - No additional questions.
- Additional questions for Track 3 proposals:
 - Does the Teaming and Management Plan clearly define the roles and responsibilities of all key participants?
 - Does the collaborative team have an appropriate balance of accelerator-technology-side experts and application-side experts?
 - If the application could result in a commercial product, does the team include an appropriate industrial partner?
 - Is the proposed work an effective use of DOE National Laboratory resources?
 - Are you aware of specific private sector resources that could be used to accomplish this R&D instead?

REASONABLENESS AND APPROPRIATENESS OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET

- Are the proposed budget and staffing levels adequate to carry out the proposed work?
- Are all travel, student costs, and other ancillary expenses adequately estimated and justified?
- Is the budget reasonable and appropriate for the scope?
- Additional questions for Track 1 and Track 3 proposals:
 - Has the applicant listed institutional commitment?
 - Does the amount and type of institutional commitment provide evidence of substantial material participation and risk sharing by the institution?

AS INDICATED ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE ALSO PROVIDED TO MERIT REVIEWERS WHEN EVALUATING THE ADDITIONAL CRITERION:

QUALITY OF THE ACCELERATOR R&D STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITY

In the questions that follow, the term “Stewardship customer” is used broadly to refer to the entity (other than HEP) whose mission or research objectives encompass the proposed work. The Stewardship customer can be another SC (e.g., BES, NP, FES), another DOE program office (e.g., NNSA, EERE, ARPA-E) another Federal Agency (e.g., NIH, DoD), or industries that use accelerator technology.

- Does the proposed work require significant scientific or technical advances in accelerators or accelerator-related technology? (Accelerator-related technology includes such things as: superconducting magnets and RF cavities, RF and magnet power systems, specialized laser systems, specialized diagnostics and controls, and so on.)
- Will the proposed work result in substantial impact on the Stewardship customer’s needs **and** result in some synergy with the HEP mission? (synergies might include: developing additional expertise or facilities relevant to present or future HEP-supported work).
- For the primary participating institution(s), is the activity reasonably consistent with the institution’s primary mission? (e.g., if a National Laboratory is involved, is the activity consistent with that Laboratory’s primary mission?)
- Is the PD/PI/collaboration arguably the best performer/provider for the Stewardship activity? Are other entities capable of providing a substantially similar (or superior) capability?
- What evidence is there that the goal is important to the Stewardship customer? Does this proposal address issues that have been identified in writing (e.g., advisory committee reports, workshop reports, white papers, roadmaps) by the Stewardship customer? Does the Stewardship customer participate substantially and materially in this effort (e.g., by co-funding, cost-sharing, in-kind donation or equipment, donation of effort)?

B. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

1. Merit Review

Applications that pass the initial review will be subjected to a formal merit review and will be evaluated based on the criteria codified at 10 CFR 605.10(d) in accordance with the guidance provided in the “Office of Science Merit Review System for Financial Assistance,” which is available at: <http://science.energy.gov/grants/policy-and-guidance/merit-review-system/>.

2. Program Policy Factors

The Selection Official may consider any of the following program policy factors in making the selection, listed in no order of significance:

- Scientific and technical merit of the proposed activity as determined by merit review, using the criteria set out in Section V.A.2;

- The advice of other federal agencies with specific expertise and interest in the accelerator R&D topics listed in this solicitation:
 - At the pre-application phase, and again
 - At the application review phase;
- Availability of funds;
- Amount of institutional commitment offered;
- Relevance of the proposed activity to SC priorities, as commented on by merit reviewers;
- Ensuring an appropriate balance of activities within SC programs;
- Previous performance;
- Extent to which the proposed work will
 - Engage the expertise and facilities of the existing U. S. accelerator R&D ecosystem in a manner that enhances the ability of the DOE Office of Science specifically, and other federal agencies generally, to conduct their missions;
 - Enhance the accelerator technology capabilities and economic competitiveness of U. S. industry;
 - Foster collaboration between developers of accelerator technology and experts who apply accelerator technology;
- Degree to which the proposed work is synergistic with, but not duplicative of, existing awards;
- Other available advice and information.

3. Selection

The Selection Official will consider the findings of the merit review and may consider any of the Program Policy Factors described above.

4. Review of Risk

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.205, DOE will conduct an additional review of the risk posed by applications submitted under this FOA. Such review of risk will include:

- Technical merit of the application,
- Reports and findings from audits performed under 2 CFR 200 or OMB Circular A-133, and
- Systems maintained under 2 CFR 180.

DOE may make use of other publicly available information and the history of an applicant's performance under DOE or other Federal Agency awards.

Applicants with no prior performance of DOE awards may be asked to provide information about their financial stability and or their ability to comply with the management standards of 2 CFR 200.

5. Discussions and Award

The Government may enter into discussions with a selected applicant for any reason deemed necessary, including but not limited to the following: (1) the budget is not appropriate or

reasonable for the requirement; (2) only a portion of the application is selected for award; (3) the Government needs additional information to determine that the recipient is capable of complying with the requirements in 2 CFR 200 as modified by 2 CFR 910 (DOE Financial Assistance Regulation); and/or (4) special terms and conditions are required. Failure to resolve satisfactorily the issues identified by the Government will preclude award to the applicant.

C. ANTICIPATED NOTICE OF SELECTION AND AWARD DATES

DOE is striving to make awards within six months of the receipt of applications.

Section VI - AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. AWARD NOTICES

1. Notice of Selection

Selected Applicants Notification: DOE will notify applicants selected for award. This notice of selection is not an authorization to begin performance. (See Section IV.G with respect to the allowability of pre-award costs.)

Non-selected Notification: Organizations whose applications have not been selected will be advised as promptly as possible. This notice will explain why the application was not selected.

2. Notice of Award

An Assistance Agreement issued by the contracting officer is the authorizing award document. It normally includes, either as an attachment or by reference, the following items: (1) Special Terms and Conditions; (2) Applicable program regulations, if any; (3) Application as approved by DOE; (4) 2 CFR 200 as modified by 2 CFR 910 (DOE Financial Assistance Regulation); (5) National Policy Assurances To Be Incorporated As Award Terms; (6) Budget Summary; and (7) Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist, which identifies the reporting requirements.

For grants and cooperative agreements made to universities, non-profits and other entities subject to Title 2 CFR, research awards made under this funding opportunity will be subject to the government-wide Research Terms and Conditions published at https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/rtc/rtcoverlay_march17.pdf and the DOE Agency Specific Standard Research Terms and Conditions published at https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/rtc/agencyspecifics/doe_417.pdf. These Terms and Conditions will be incorporated in the award by reference.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

1. Administrative Requirements

The administrative requirements for DOE Grants and Cooperative Agreements are contained in 2 CFR 200 as modified by 2 CFR 910 (DOE Financial Assistance Regulation).

NONDISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS REPRESENTATIONS (JUNE 2015)

In submitting an application in response to this FOA the Applicant represents that:

(1) It **does not and will not** require its employees or contractors to sign internal nondisclosure or confidentiality agreements or statements prohibiting or otherwise restricting its employees or contractors from lawfully reporting waste, fraud, or abuse to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

(2) It **does not and will not** use any Federal funds to implement or enforce any nondisclosure

and/or confidentiality policy, form, or agreement it uses unless it contains the following provisions:

a. *“These provisions are consistent with and do not supersede, conflict with, or otherwise alter the employee obligations, rights, or liabilities created by existing statute or Executive order relating to (1) classified information, (2) communications to Congress, (3) the reporting to an Inspector General of a violation of any law, rule, or regulation, or mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or (4) any other whistleblower protection. The definitions, requirements, obligations, rights, sanctions, and liabilities created by controlling Executive orders and statutory provisions are incorporated into this agreement and are controlling.”*

b. The limitation above shall not contravene requirements applicable to Standard Form 312, Form 4414, or any other form issued by a Federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

c. Notwithstanding provision listed in paragraph (a), a nondisclosure or confidentiality policy form or agreement that is to be executed by a person connected with the conduct of an intelligence or intelligence-related activity, other than an employee or officer of the United States Government, may contain provisions appropriate to the particular activity for which such document is to be used. Such form or agreement shall, at a minimum, require that the person will not disclose any classified information received in the course of such activity unless specifically authorized to do so by the United States Government. Such nondisclosure or confidentiality forms shall also make it clear that they do not bar disclosures to Congress, or to an authorized official of an executive agency or the Department of Justice, that are essential to reporting a substantial violation of law.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Additional administrative requirements for DOE grants and cooperative agreements are contained in 2 CFR 25 (See: <http://www.ecfr.gov>). Prime awardees must keep their data at the System for Award Management (SAM) current at <http://www.sam.gov>. SAM is the government-wide system that replaced the Central Contractor Registry (CCR). If you had an active registration in the CCR, you have an active registration in SAM. Subawardees at all tiers must obtain DUNS numbers and provide the DUNS to the prime awardee before the subaward can be issued.

SUBAWARD AND EXECUTIVE REPORTING

Additional administrative requirements necessary for DOE Grants and Cooperative Agreements to comply with the Federal Funding and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) are contained in 2 CFR 170. (See: <http://www.ecfr.gov>). Prime awardees must register with the new FSRS database and report the required data on their first tier subawardees. Prime awardees must report the executive compensation for their own executives as part of their registration profile in the (SAM).

PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING ACTIVITY

By accepting funds under this award, you agree that none of the funds obligated on the award shall be expended, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before Congress, other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 USC 1913. This restriction is in addition to those prescribed elsewhere in statute and regulation.

2. Terms and Conditions

The DOE Special Terms and Conditions for Use in Most Grants and Cooperative Agreements are located at <http://energy.gov/management/office-management/operational-management/financial-assistance/financial-assistance-forms> under Award Terms.

The standard DOE Financial Assistance Intellectual Property Provisions applicable to various types of recipients are located at:

<http://energy.gov/gc/standard-intellectual-property-ip-provisions-financial-assistance-awards>

3. National Policy Assurances

The National Policy Assurances To Be Incorporated As Award Terms are located at <http://energy.gov/management/office-management/operational-management/financial-assistance/financial-assistance-forms> under Award Terms.

4. Additional Conditions

CONFERENCE SPENDING (FEBRUARY 2015)

The recipient shall not expend any funds on a conference not directly and programmatically related to the purpose for which the grant or cooperative agreement was awarded that would defray the cost to the United States Government of a conference held by any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office for which the cost to the United States Government would otherwise exceed \$20,000, thereby circumventing the required notification by the head of any such Executive Branch department, agency, board, commission, or office to the Inspector General (or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General), of the date, location, and number of employees attending such conference.

CORPORATE FELONY CONVICTION AND FEDERAL TAX LIABILITY REPRESENTATIONS (MARCH 2014)

In submitting an application in response to this FOA the Applicant represents that:

- It is **not** a corporation that has been convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months,
- It is **not** a corporation that has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that

is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability.

For purposes of these representations the following definitions apply:

- A Corporation includes any entity that has filed articles of incorporation in any of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, or the various territories of the United States [but not foreign corporations]. It includes both for-profit and non-profit organizations.

PUBLICATIONS

The recipient is expected to publish or otherwise make publicly available the results of the work conducted under any award resulting from this FOA. Publications and other methods of public communication describing any work based on or developed under an award resulting from this FOA must contain an acknowledgment of DOE SC support. The format for such acknowledgments is provided at <http://science.energy.gov/funding-opportunities/acknowledgements/>. The author's copy of any peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for funding must be announced to DOE's Office of Scientific and Technical Information and made publicly available in accordance with the instructions contained in the Reporting Requirements Checklist incorporated in all Assistance Agreements.

C. REPORTING

Reporting requirements are identified on the Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist, DOE F 4600.2, attached to the award agreement. The checklist is available at <http://energy.gov/management/office-management/operational-management/financial-assistance/financial-assistance-forms> under Award Forms.

Section VII - QUESTIONS/AGENCY CONTACTS

A. QUESTIONS

Questions relating to the grants.gov registration process, system requirements, how an application form works, or the submittal process must be directed to Grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov. DOE cannot answer these questions.

Please only contact the grants.gov help desk for questions related to grants.gov.

For help with PAMS, click the “External User Guide” link on the PAMS website, <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/>. You may also contact the PAMS Help Desk, which can be reached Monday through Friday, 9AM – 5:30 PM Eastern Time. Telephone: (855) 818-1846 (toll free) or (301) 903-9610, Email: sc.pams-helpdesk@science.doe.gov. All submission and inquiries about this FOA should reference DE-FOA-0001879.

Please contact the PAMS help desk for technological issues with the PAMS system.

Questions regarding the specific program areas and technical requirements may be directed to the technical contacts listed for each program within the FOA or below.

Please contact the program staff with all questions not directly related to the grants.gov or PAMS systems.

B. AGENCY CONTACTS

Grants.gov Customer Support	800-518-4726 (toll-free) support@grants.gov
PAMS Customer Support	855-818-1846 (toll-free) 301-903-9610 sc.pams-helpdesk@science.doe.gov
Administrative Contact	For questions about non-technical matters, including program rules, please contact sc.hepfoa@science.doe.gov
DOE Program Manager Scientific Contact	For questions about specific program areas and/or technical requirements, please contact Eric.Colby@science.doe.gov

Section VIII - OTHER INFORMATION

A. MODIFICATIONS

Notices of any modifications to this FOA will be posted on grants.gov and the FedConnect portal. You can receive an email when a modification or an FOA message is posted by registering with FedConnect as an interested party for this FOA. It is recommended that you register as soon after release of the FOA as possible to ensure you receive timely notice of any modifications or other FOAs. More information is available at <http://www.fedconnect.net>.

B. GOVERNMENT RIGHT TO REJECT OR NEGOTIATE

DOE reserves the right, without qualification, to reject any or all applications received in response to this FOA and to select any application, in whole or in part, as a basis for negotiation and/or award.

C. COMMITMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

(a) A DOE financial assistance award is valid only if it is in writing and is signed, either in writing or electronically, by a DOE Contracting Officer.

(b) Recipients are free to accept or reject the award. A request to draw down DOE funds constitutes the Recipient's acceptance of the terms and conditions of this Award.

D. PROPRIETARY APPLICATION INFORMATION

Patentable ideas, trade secrets, proprietary or confidential commercial or financial information, disclosure of which may harm the applicant, should be included in an application only when such information is necessary to convey an understanding of the proposed project. The use and disclosure of such data may be restricted, provided the applicant includes the following legend on the first page of the project narrative and specifies the pages of the application which are to be restricted:

“The data contained in pages _____ of this application have been submitted in confidence and contain trade secrets or proprietary information, and such data shall be used or disclosed only for evaluation purposes, provided that if this applicant receives an award as a result of or in connection with the submission of this application, DOE shall have the right to use or disclose the data herein to the extent provided in the award. This restriction does not limit the government's right to use or disclose data obtained without restriction from any source, including the applicant.”

To protect such data, each line or paragraph on the pages containing such data must be specifically identified and marked with a legend similar to the following:

“The following contains proprietary information that (name of applicant) requests not be released to persons outside the Government, except for purposes of review and evaluation.”

E. EVALUATION AND ADMINISTRATION BY NON-FEDERAL PERSONNEL

In conducting the merit review evaluation, the Government may seek the advice of qualified non-Federal personnel as reviewers. The Government may also use non-Federal personnel to conduct routine, nondiscretionary administrative activities. The applicant, by submitting its application, consents to the use of non-Federal reviewers/administrators. Non-Federal reviewers must sign a conflict of interest agreement prior to reviewing an application. Non-Federal personnel conducting administrative activities must sign a non-disclosure agreement.

F. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEVELOPED UNDER THIS PROGRAM

Patent Rights: The government will have certain statutory rights in an invention that is conceived or first actually reduced to practice under a DOE award. 42 USC 5908 provides that title to such inventions vests in the United States, except where 35 USC 202 provides otherwise for nonprofit organizations or small business firms. However, the Secretary of Energy may waive all or any part of the rights of the United States subject to certain conditions. (See “Notice of Right to Request Patent Waiver” in paragraph G below.)

Rights in Technical Data: Normally, the government has unlimited rights in technical data created under a DOE agreement. Delivery or third party licensing of proprietary software or data developed solely at private expense will not normally be required except as specifically negotiated in a particular agreement to satisfy DOE’s own needs or to insure the commercialization of technology developed under a DOE agreement.

G. NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REQUEST PATENT WAIVER

Applicants may request a waiver of all or any part of the rights of the United States in inventions conceived or first actually reduced to practice in performance of an agreement as a result of this FOA, in advance of or within 30 days after the effective date of the award. Even if such advance waiver is not requested or the request is denied, the recipient will have a continuing right under the award to request a waiver of the rights of the United States in identified inventions, i.e., individual inventions conceived or first actually reduced to practice in performance of the award. Any patent waiver that may be granted is subject to certain terms and conditions in 10 CFR 784. For more information, see <http://energy.gov/gc/services/technology-transfer-and-procurement/office-assistant-general-counsel-technology-transf-1>

Domestic small businesses and domestic nonprofit organizations will receive the patent rights clause at 37 CFR 401.14, i.e., the implementation of the Bayh-Dole Act. This clause permits domestic small business and domestic nonprofit organizations to retain title to subject inventions. Therefore, small businesses and nonprofit organizations do not need to request a waiver.

H. NOTICE REGARDING ELIGIBLE/INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Eligible activities under this program include those, which describe and promote the understanding of scientific and technical aspects of specific energy technologies, but not those,

which encourage or support political activities such as the collection and dissemination of information related to potential, planned or pending legislation.

I. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

Funds are not presently available for this award. The Government's obligation under this award is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds from which payment for award purposes can be made. No legal liability on the part of the Government for any payment may arise until funds are made available to the DOE Contracting Officer for this award and until the awardee receives notice of such availability, to be confirmed in writing by the DOE Contracting Officer.

J. ENVIRONMENTAL, SAFETY AND HEALTH (ES&H) PERFORMANCE OF WORK AT DOE FACILITIES

With respect to the performance of any portion of the work under this award which is performed at a DOE-owned or controlled site, the recipient agrees to comply with all state and Federal ES&H regulations, and with all other ES&H requirements of the operator of such site. The recipient shall apply this provision to all subawardees at any tier.

K. FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL REQUIREMENTS

With respect to the performance of any portion of the work under this award, the recipient agrees to comply with all applicable local, state, and Federal ES&H regulations. The recipient shall apply this provision to all sub awardees at any tier.

L. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) COMPLIANCE

If question 4.a. on the "Research and Related Other Project Information" document indicates "potential impact on the environment", or if DOE's own review indicates it, DOE may ask the applicant to provide additional information on those impacts in order to prepare an environmental critique/synopsis per 10 CFR 1021.216. Note that this pre-award environmental critique/synopsis process would be separate from the preparation of a NEPA document such as an environmental impact statement (EIS) or an environmental assessment (EA). If DOE determines the latter documentation is necessary, this process would need to be completed, funded by and with the participation of the awardee, prior to them taking any action on the proposed project that could have adverse environmental effects or that could limit the choice of reasonable alternatives. The inability to satisfy the NEPA requirements after an award would result in cancellation of the award. Note that in most cases, even where potential impact on the environment exists, preparation of such NEPA documents is rarely necessary, but DOE has the expectation that the Applicant will disclose the potential, which would serve to initiate dialog with DOE if necessary. Should the applicant have any uncertainty, they should check "yes."

Section IX - APPENDICES/REFERENCE MATERIAL

Glossary of Useful Grants and Cooperative Agreement terms

Acquisition cost	<i>Acquisition cost</i> means the cost of the asset including the cost to ready the asset for its intended use. Acquisition cost for equipment, for example, means the net invoice price of the equipment, including the cost of any modifications, attachments, accessories, or auxiliary apparatus necessary to make it usable for the purpose for which it is acquired. Acquisition costs for software includes those development costs capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Ancillary charges, such as taxes, duty, protective in transit insurance, freight, and installation may be included in or excluded from the acquisition cost in accordance with the non-Federal entity's regular accounting practices.
Administrative requirements	<i>Administrative requirements</i> means the general business management practices that are common to the administration of all grants, such as financial accountability, reporting, equipment management, and retention of records.
Advance payment	<i>Advance payment</i> means a payment that a Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity makes by any appropriate payment mechanism, including a predetermined payment schedule, before the non-Federal entity disburses the funds for program purposes.
Allocation	<i>Allocation</i> means the process of assigning a cost, or a group of costs, to one or more cost objective(s), in reasonable proportion to the benefit provided or other equitable relationship. The process may entail assigning a cost(s) directly to a final cost objective or through one or more intermediate cost objectives.
Allocability	<i>Allocability</i> means the principle which requires that an expense or service charged must directly benefit and be necessary for the performance of the project; when multiple projects are benefited reasonable proportions must be able to be assigned.
Allowable cost	<i>Allowable cost</i> means a cost incurred by a recipient that is: (1) reasonable for the performance of the award; (2) allocable; (3) in conformance with any limitations or exclusions set forth in the Federal cost principles applicable to the organization incurring the cost or in the award documents as to the type or amount of cost; (4) consistent with regulations, policies, and procedures of the recipient that are applied uniformly to both federally supported and other activities of the organization; (5) accorded consistent treatment as a direct or indirect cost; (6) determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; and (7) not included as a cost in any other federally supported award (unless specifically authorized by statute).
Application	<i>Application</i> means a request for financial support of a project or activity submitted to DOE on specified forms and in accordance with DOE instructions. Also known as a proposal
Appropriation Act	<i>Appropriation act</i> means the statute that provides the authority for Federal agencies to incur obligations to and make payments out of the U.S. treasury for specified purposes.
Approved budget	<i>Approved budget</i> means the financial expenditure plan for the grant-supported project or activity, including revisions approved by DOE and permissible revisions made by the grantee. The approved budget consists of Federal (grant) funds and, if required by the terms and conditions of the award, non-Federal participation in the form of matching or cost sharing. The approved budget specified in the award documents may be shown in detailed budget categories or as total costs without a categorical breakout. Expenditures charged to an approved budget that consists of both Federal and non-Federal shares are deemed to be borne by the grantee in the same proportion as the percentage of

	Federal/non-Federal participation in the overall budget.
Assurance	<i>Assurance</i> means a certification by an applicant, normally included with the application or State plan, indicating that the entity is in compliance with, or that it will abide by, a particular requirement if awarded a Federal grant.
Authorized organizational representative	<i>Authorized organizational representative</i> means the individual, named by the applicant organization, who is authorized to act for the applicant and to assume the obligations imposed by the Federal laws, regulations, requirements, and conditions that apply to grant applications or grant awards.
Award	<i>Award</i> means the provision of funds by DOE, based on an approved application and budget or progress report, to an organizational entity or an individual to carry out a project or activity.
Award documents	<i>Award documents</i> means the entirety of the documents describing the legal relationship between DOE and an awardee or recipient. The award documents include an Assistance Agreement and other documents which may be incorporated by reference or as attachments to the Assistance Agreement. The award documents are the official, legally binding document, signed (or the electronic equivalent of signature) by a contracting officer that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • notifies the recipient of the award of a grant; • contains or references all the terms and conditions of the grant and Federal funding limits and obligations; and, • provides the documentary basis for recording the obligation of Federal funds in the DOE accounting system.
Bayh-Dole Act	<i>Bayh-Doyle Act</i> means a law which encourages universities and researchers to develop their inventions into marketable products; formal citation is Section 6 of the Patent and Trademark Amendment of 1980, Pub. L 96-517
Budget	<i>Budget</i> means the financial plan for the project or program that the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity approves during the Federal award process or in subsequent amendments to the Federal award. It may include the Federal and non-Federal share or only the Federal share, as determined by the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity.
Budget period	<i>Budget period</i> means the intervals of time (usually 12 months each) into which a project period is divided for budgetary and funding purposes.
Business officer	<i>Business officer</i> means the financial official of the grantee who has primary fiscal responsibility for the grant. Also known as authorized organizational representative.
Capital assets	<i>Capital assets</i> means tangible or intangible assets used in operations having a useful life of more than one year which are capitalized in accordance with GAAP. Capital assets include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Land, buildings (facilities), equipment, and intellectual property (including software) whether acquired by purchase, construction, manufacture, lease-purchase, exchange, or through capital leases; and (b) Additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life (not ordinary repairs and maintenance)
Carryover	<i>Carryover</i> means unobligated Federal funds remaining at the end of any budget period that, with the approval of the contracting officer or under an automatic authority, may be carried forward to another budget period to cover allowable costs of that budget period (whether as an offset or additional

	authorization). Obligated, but unliquidated, funds are not considered carryover.
Change in scope	<i>Change in scope</i> means an activity whereby the objectives or specific aims identified in the approved grant application are significantly changed by the grantee after award. Contracting officer prior approval is required for a change in scope to be allowable under an award.
Closeout	<i>Closeout</i> means the process by which a Federal awarding agency determines that all applicable administrative actions and all required work under an award have been completed by the grantee and the Federal awarding agency.
Competitive segment	<i>Competitive segment</i> means the initial project period recommended for support or each extension of a project period resulting from a renewal award.
Conference (domestic or international)	<i>Conference (domestic or international)</i> means a symposium, seminar, workshop, or any other organized and formal meeting, whether conducted face-to-face or via the Internet, where individuals assemble (or meet virtually) to exchange information and views or explore or clarify a defined subject, problem, or area of knowledge, whether or not a published report results from such meeting.
Consortium or sub-award agreement	<i>Consortium or sub-award agreement</i> means a formalized agreement whereby a research project is carried out by the grantee and one or more other organizations that are separate legal entities. Under the agreement, the grantee must perform a substantive role in the conduct of the planned research and not merely serve as a conduit of funds to another party or parties. These agreements typically involve a specific level of effort from the consortium organization's PD/PI and a categorical breakdown of costs, such as personnel, supplies, and other allowable expenses, including F&A costs. The relationship between the recipient and the collaborating organizations is considered a sub-award relationship.
Consultant	<i>Consultant</i> means an individual who provides professional advice or services for a fee, but normally not as an employee of the engaging party. In unusual situations, an individual may be both a consultant and an employee of the same party, receiving compensation for some services as a consultant and for other work as a salaried employee. To prevent apparent or actual conflicts of interest, grantees and consultants must establish written guidelines indicating the conditions of payment of consulting fees. Consultants also include firms that provide professional advice or services.
Continuation application/award	<i>Continuation application/award</i> means a financial assistance request (in the form of an application or progress report) or resulting award for a subsequent budget period within a previously approved project period for which a recipient does not have to compete with other applicants.
Contract	<i>Contract</i> means a legal instrument by which a non-Federal entity purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a Federal award. The term as used in this part does not include a legal instrument, even if the non-Federal entity considers it a contract, when the substance of the transaction meets the definition of a Federal award or sub-award (see §200.92 Sub-award).
Contractor	<i>Contractor</i> means an entity that receives a contract as defined in §200.22 Contract.
Contract (or Grants Management) officer	<i>Contract (or Grants Management) officer</i> means a DOE official responsible for the business management aspects of grants and cooperative agreements, including review, negotiation, award, and administration, and for the interpretation of grants administration policies and provisions. COs and GMOs are delegated the authority to obligate DOE to the expenditure of funds and permit changes to approved projects on behalf of DOE.
Contract (or Grants Management) specialist	<i>Contract (or Grants Management) specialist</i> means a DOE staff member who works with a contract or grants management officer and is assigned the day-to-day management of a portfolio of grants and/or cooperative agreements. These

	activities include, but are not limited to, evaluating grant applications for administrative content and compliance with statutes, regulations, and guidelines; negotiating grants; providing consultation and technical assistance to grantees; and administering grants after award.
Cooperative agreement	<i>Cooperative agreement</i> means a type of financial assistance used when there will be substantial Federal scientific or programmatic involvement. Substantial involvement means that, after award, scientific or program staff will assist, guide, coordinate, or participate in project activities.
Cost principles	<i>Cost principles</i> means the government-wide principles, issued by OMB (or, in the case of commercial organizations, the Federal Acquisition Regulation [48 CFR 21], or, in the case of hospitals, 45 CFR 74, Appendix E, “Principles For Determining Costs Applicable to Research and Development Under Grants and Contracts with Hospitals”), on allowability and unallowability of costs under federally sponsored agreements. As of December 26, 2014, the cost principles will be consolidated in 2 CFR 200.
Cost sharing or matching	<i>Cost sharing or matching</i> means the portion of project costs not paid by Federal funds (unless otherwise authorized by Federal statute). See also §200.306 Cost sharing or matching.
Deadline	<i>Deadline</i> means the published date and/or time that a grant application is to be either postmarked/mailed or electronically submitted to the funding agency.
Debarment and suspension	<i>Debarment and suspension</i> means the actions taken by a debarring official in accordance with OMB guidance at 2 CFR 180, “Non-procurement Debarment and Suspension,” to exclude a person or organization from participating in grants and other non-procurement awards government-wide. If debarred or suspended, the person or organization may not receive financial assistance (under a grant, cooperative agreement, or sub-award, or contract under a grant) for a specified period of time. Debarments and suspensions carried out pursuant to 2 CFR 376 are distinct from post-award suspension action by an awarding agency.
Direct costs	<i>Direct costs</i> means costs that can be identified specifically with a particular sponsored project, an instructional activity, or any other institutional activity, or that can be directly assigned to such activities relatively easily with a high degree of accuracy.
Disallowed costs	<i>Disallowed costs</i> means those charges to a Federal award that the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity determines to be unallowable, in accordance with the applicable Federal statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of the Federal award.
Domestic organization	<i>Domestic organization</i> means a public (including a State or other governmental agency) or private non-profit or for-profit organization that is located in the United States or its territories, is subject to U.S. laws, and assumes legal and financial accountability for awarded funds and for the performance of the grant-supported activities.
DUNS number	<i>DUNS number</i> means a nine-digit number established and assigned by Dun and Bradstreet to uniquely identify a business entity.
Effort	<i>Effort</i> means the amount of time, usually expressed as a percentage of the total, which a faculty member or other employee spends on a sponsored project. No one is allowed to spend more than 100% total commitment on all academic activities, including grant-sponsored research, university-sponsored research, teaching, administration, advising and other contracted duties. Effort is indicated on the budget in units of person-months.
Equipment	<i>Equipment</i> means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000. See also §§200.12 Capital assets, 200.20 Computing devices, 200.48

	General purpose equipment, 200.58 Information technology systems, 200.89 Special purpose equipment, and 200.94 Supplies.
Expanded authorities	<i>Expanded authorities</i> means authorization to grantees under certain research grant mechanisms which waives the requirement for prior agency approval for specified actions related to awards. Example: 90-day pre-award spending authority, no cost extensions for up to one additional year, and automatic carryover of unobligated funds from one budget period to the next. The expanded authorities are now contained in the standard terms and conditions for most research grants.
Expiration date	<i>Expiration date</i> means generally, the date signifying the end of the current project period, after which the grantee is not authorized to obligate grant funds.
Facilities and administrative costs	<i>Facilities and administrative costs</i> means costs that are incurred by a grantee for common or joint objectives and that, therefore, cannot be identified specifically with a particular project or program. These costs also are known as indirect costs.
Federal financial report	<i>Federal financial report</i> means submitted on Standard Form (SF) 425, to indicate the status of awarded funds for the period covered. Frequency of reporting is specified in the Reporting Checklist provided as part of the award documents. Replaces the SF-269 Financial Status Report (FSR)
Financial assistance	<i>Financial assistance</i> means transfer by DOE of money or property to an eligible entity to support or stimulate a public purpose authorized by statute.
Financial status report	<i>Financial status report</i> means see Federal Financial Report.
Foreign travel	<i>Foreign travel</i> is meant to include travel outside of the United States and its territories and possessions (Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Canal Zone) and Canada. A trip is considered foreign travel for all legs of the itinerary if the traveler does not return to his or her post prior to departure for a foreign destination. Costs for foreign travel may be restricted by the language of a Funding Opportunity Announcement.
Funding opportunity announcement (FOA)	<i>Funding opportunity announcement (FOA)</i> means A publicly available document by which a Federal Agency makes known its intentions to award discretionary grants or cooperative agreements, usually as a result of competition for funds. Funding opportunity announcements may be known as program announcements, requests for applications, notices of funding availability, solicitations, or other names depending on the Agency and type of program. Funding opportunity announcements can be found at Grants.gov/FIND . An FOA may also be known as a solicitation.
Grant agreement	<p><i>Grant agreement</i> means a legal instrument of financial assistance between a Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity and a non-Federal entity that, consistent with 31 U.S.C. 6302, 6304:</p> <p>(a) Is used to enter into a relationship the principal purpose of which is to transfer anything of value from the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity to the non-Federal entity to carry out a public purpose authorized by a law of the United States (see 31 U.S.C. 6101(3)); and not to acquire property or services for the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity's direct benefit or use;</p> <p>(b) Is distinguished from a cooperative agreement in that it does not provide for substantial involvement between the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity and the non-Federal entity in carrying out the activity contemplated by the Federal award.</p> <p>(c) Does not include an agreement that provides only:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Direct United States Government cash assistance to an individual; (2) A subsidy; (3) A loan; (4) A loan guarantee; or (5) Insurance.

Grant-supported project or activity	<i>Grant-supported project or activity</i> means those activities specified or described in a grant application or in a subsequent submission that are approved by DOE for funding, regardless of whether Federal funding constitutes all or only a portion of the financial support necessary to carry them out.
Grantee	<i>Grantee</i> means the organization or individual awarded a grant or cooperative agreement by DOE that is responsible and accountable for the use of the funds provided and for the performance of the grant-supported project or activity. The grantee is the entire legal entity even if a particular component is designated in award documents. The grantee is legally responsible and accountable to DOE for the performance and financial aspects of the grant-supported project or activity. Also known as awardee or recipient.
Grants.gov	<i>Grants.gov</i> (https://www.grants.gov/) has been designated by the Office of Management and Budget as the single access point for all grant programs offered by 26 Federal grant-making agencies. It provides a single interface for agencies to announce their grant opportunities and for all applicants to find and apply for those opportunities.
Indirect costs (facilities & administrative)	<i>Indirect (F&A) costs</i> means those costs incurred for a common or joint purpose benefitting more than one cost objective, and not readily assignable to the cost objectives specifically benefitted, without effort disproportionate to the results achieved. To facilitate equitable distribution of indirect expenses to the cost objectives served, it may be necessary to establish a number of pools of indirect (F&A) costs. Indirect (F&A) cost pools must be distributed to benefitted cost objectives on bases that will produce an equitable result in consideration of relative benefits derived.
Institutional base salary	<i>Institutional base salary</i> means the annual compensation paid by an organization for an employee's appointment, whether that individual's time is spent on research, teaching, patient care, or other activities. Base salary excludes any income that an individual may be permitted to earn outside of duties for the applicant/grantee organization. Base salary may not be increased as a result of replacing organizational salary funds with grant funds.
Matching or cost sharing	<i>Matching or cost sharing</i> means the value of third-party in-kind contributions and the portion of the costs of a federally assisted project or program not borne by the Federal government. Matching or cost sharing may be required by statute or program regulation. Costs used to satisfy matching or cost-sharing requirements are subject to the same policies governing allowability as other costs under the approved budget.
Merit (or peer) review	<i>Merit (or peer) review</i> means the process that involves the consistent application of standards and procedures that produce fair, equitable, and objective examinations of applications based on an evaluation of scientific or technical merit or other relevant aspects of the application. The review is performed by experts (reviewers) in the field of endeavor for which support is requested. Merit review is intended to provide guidance and to the DOE individuals responsible for making award decisions.
Monitoring	<i>Monitoring</i> means a process whereby the programmatic and business management performance aspects of a grant are assessed by reviewing information gathered from various required reports, audits, site visits, and other sources.
No-cost extension	<i>No-cost extension</i> means an extension of time to a project period and/or budget period to complete the work of the grant under that period, without additional Federal funds or competition.
Non-Federal share	<i>Non-Federal share</i> means when cost sharing or matching is required as a condition of an award, the portion of allowable project/program costs not borne by the Federal government.

Obligations	<i>Obligations</i> when used in connection with a non-Federal entity’s utilization of funds under a Federal award, <i>obligations</i> means orders placed for property and services, contracts and sub-awards made, and similar transactions during a given period that require payment by the non-Federal entity during the same or a future period.
OMB circulars	<i>OMB circulars</i> means government-wide guidance issued to Heads of Federal agencies by the Director of OMB. OMB Circulars directly pertinent to grants include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cost principles (OMB Circular A-21, OMB Circular A-87, and OMB Circular A-122); • uniform administrative requirements (OMB Circular A-102 and OMB Circular A-110); • audit requirements for non-profit organizations (OMB Circular A-133). Some (but not all) of these OMB Circulars have been reissued in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations. DOE administrative regulations are located in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
Other significant contributors	Other significant contributors means individuals who have committed to contribute to the scientific development or execution of the project, but are not committing any specified measurable effort (i.e., person months) to the project. These individuals are typically presented at “effort of zero person months” or “as needed.” Individuals with measurable effort may not be listed as Other Significant Contributors (OSCs). Consultants should be included if they meet this definition.
Program participant	<i>Program participants</i> are the recipients of service or training provided at a workshop, conference, seminar, symposium or other short-term instructional or information-sharing activity funded by an external grant or award, or the training beneficiaries of the project or program funded by an external grant or award. A participant is not involved in providing any deliverable to the grantee or a third party or would not be terminated or replaced for failure to perform.
Participant support costs	<i>Participant support costs</i> means direct costs for items such as stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances, and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants or trainees (but not employees) in connection with conferences, or training projects.
Person months	<i>Person months</i> is the metric for expressing the effort (amount of time) PD/PI(s), faculty and other senior/key personnel devote to a specific project. The effort is based on the type of appointment of the individual with the organization; e.g., calendar year, academic year, and/or summer term; and the organization’s definition of such. For instance, some institutions define the academic year as a 9-month appointment while others define it as a 10-month appointment.
Pre-application or pre-proposal	<i>Pre-application or pre-proposal</i> means a brief outline or narrative of proposed work and sometimes budget, for informal review by a sponsor to determine whether a full application should be submitted. Three predominant reasons for requiring submission of a preliminary pre-application are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the applicant’s unnecessary effort in proposal preparation when the chance of success is very small. This is particularly true of exploratory initiatives where the community senses that a major new direction is being identified, or competitions that will result in a small number of actual awards. • Increase the overall quality of the full submission. • Distill the number of applications that will be submitted to the agency and the number of anticipated reviewers needed to review.
Pre-award costs	<i>Pre-award costs</i> means any cost incurred prior to the beginning date of the project period or the initial budget period of a competitive segment (under a

	multi-year award), in anticipation of the award and at the applicant's own risk, for otherwise allowable costs.
Prior approval	<i>Prior approval</i> means written approval from the designated contracting officer required for specified post-award changes in the approved project or budget. Such approval must be obtained before undertaking the proposed activity or spending DOE funds
Program Director/ Principal Investigator	<i>Program Director/ Principal Investigator</i> means the individual(s) designated by the applicant organization to have the appropriate level of authority and responsibility to direct the project or program to be supported by the award. The applicant organization may designate multiple individuals as program directors/principal investigators (PD/PIs) who share the authority and responsibility for leading and directing the project, intellectually and logistically. When multiple PD/PIs are named, each is responsible and accountable to the applicant organization, or as appropriate, to a collaborating organization for the proper conduct of the project or program including the submission of all required reports. The presence of more than one PD/PI on an application or award diminishes neither the responsibility nor the accountability of any individual PD/PI.
Program income	<i>Program income</i> means gross income earned by the non-Federal entity that is directly generated by a supported activity or earned as a result of the Federal award during the period of performance except as provided in §200.307 paragraph (f). (See §200.77 Period of performance.) Program income includes but is not limited to income from fees for services performed, the use or rental or real or personal property acquired under Federal awards, the sale of commodities or items fabricated under a Federal award, license fees and royalties on patents and copyrights, and principal and interest on loans made with Federal award funds. Interest earned on advances of Federal funds is not program income. Except as otherwise provided in Federal statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of the Federal award, program income does not include rebates, credits, discounts, and interest earned on any of them. See also §200.407 Prior written approval (prior approval). See also 35 U.S.C. 200-212 "Disposition of Rights in Educational Awards" applies to inventions made under Federal awards.
Program Manager	<i>Program Manager</i> means the DOE official responsible for the programmatic, scientific, and/or technical aspects of a grant. The same role is filled by Program Directors, Program Officers, or Project Directors at other Federal agencies.
Progress report	<i>Progress report</i> means periodic, frequently annual, report submitted by the grantee and used by DOE to assess progress and to determine whether to provide funding for the budget period subsequent to that covered by the report.
Project/performance site	<i>Project/ performance site</i> means location(s) of where the work described in the research plan will be conducted.
Project period	<i>Project period</i> means the total time for which Federal support of a project has been programmatically approved as shown in the award documents; however, it does not constitute a commitment by the Federal government to fund the entire period. The total project period comprises the initial competitive segment, any subsequent competitive segments resulting from a renewal award(s), and extensions.
Proposal	See application.
Re-budgeting	<i>Re-budgeting</i> means reallocation of funds available for spending between budget categories to allow best use of funds to accomplish the project goals.
Recipient	<i>Recipient</i> means the organizational entity or individual receiving a grant or cooperative agreement.
Renewal application	<i>Renewal application</i> means an application requesting additional funding for a

	period subsequent to that provided by a current award. Renewal applications compete for funds with all other peer reviewed applications and must be developed as fully as though the applicant is applying for the first time.
Research	<i>Research</i> means a systematic, intensive study intended to increase knowledge or understanding of the subject studied, a systematic study specifically directed toward applying new knowledge to meet a recognized need, or a systematic application of knowledge to the production of useful materials, devices, and systems or methods, including design, development, and improvement of prototypes and new processes to meet specific requirements. Also termed “research and development.”
Research misconduct	Research misconduct means fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or other practices that seriously deviate from those that are commonly accepted within the scientific community in proposing, performing, or reporting research, or in reporting research results; does not include honest error or honest differences in interpretations or judgments of data.
SAM.gov	<i>SAM.gov</i> is the System for Award Management (SAM) is the Government-wide system that consolidated the Central Contractor Registration (CCR), the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS), the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA), and the Federal Agency Registration (FedReg).
Scope of work	<i>Scope of work</i> means the aims, objectives, and purposes of a grant; as well as the methodology, approach, analyses or other activities; and the tools, technologies, and timeframes needed to meet the grant’s objectives. This includes the research or training plan included with the original grant application, along with any approved modifications.
Senior/Key Personnel	<i>Senior/Key personnel</i> means the PD/PI and other individuals who contribute to the scientific development or execution of a project in a substantive, measurable way, whether or not they receive salaries or compensation under the grant. Typically, these individuals have doctoral or other professional degrees, although individuals at the masters or baccalaureate level may be considered senior/key personnel if their involvement meets this definition. Consultants and those with a postdoctoral role also may be considered senior/key personnel if they meet this definition. “Zero percent” effort or “as needed” is not an acceptable level of involvement for Senior/Key Personnel.
Significant re-budgeting	<i>Significant re-budgeting</i> means a threshold that is reached when expenditures in a single direct cost budget category deviate (increase or decrease) from the categorical commitment level established for the budget period by more than 25 percent of the total costs awarded. Significant re-budgeting is one indicator of change in scope.
Small business concern	<i>Small business concern</i> means a business that is independently owned and operated and not dominant in its field of operation; has its principal place of business in the United States and is organized for profit; is at least 51 percent owned, or in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of its voting stock is owned by U.S. citizens or lawfully admitted permanent resident aliens; has, including its affiliates, not more than 500 employees; and meets other regulatory requirements established by the SBA at 13 CFR 121.
Solicitation	See Funding Opportunity Announcement
Sub-award	<i>Sub-award</i> means a legal instrument by which a recipient provides funds (or property in lieu of funds) to an eligible sub-recipient (or a lower-tier transaction) to perform a substantive portion of the grant-supported program or project. The term includes such financial assistance when provided by any legal agreement (even if the agreement is called a contract) but does not include any form of assistance which is excluded from the definition of a grant, including the recipient’s procurement of property or services needed to carry out the project or program. The term includes consortium agreements.

Sub-recipient	<i>Sub-recipient</i> means a non-Federal entity that receives a sub-award from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. A sub-recipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.
Supplement	<i>Supplement</i> means a request for an increase in support during a current budget period for expansion of the project’s scope or to meet increased costs unforeseen at the time of the new or renewal application. A supplement may increase support for future years in addition to the current year. Supplements require applications and are subject to administrative, and merit review.
Terms and conditions of award	<i>Terms and conditions of award</i> means all legal requirements imposed on a grant by DOE, whether based on statute, regulation, policy, or other document referenced in the grant award, or specified by the grant award document itself. The award documents may include both standard and special conditions that are considered necessary to attain the grant’s objectives, facilitate post-award administration of the grant, conserve grant funds, or otherwise protect the Federal government’s interests.
Unallowable costs	<i>Unallowable costs</i> means specific categories of costs that cannot be charged, directly or indirectly, to federally sponsored agreements in accordance with federal regulations or the terms and conditions of the award.
Unliquidated obligations	<i>Unliquidated obligations</i> means, for financial reports prepared on a cash basis, obligations incurred by the non-Federal entity that have not been paid (liquidated). For reports prepared on an accrual expenditure basis, these are obligations incurred by the non-Federal entity for which an expenditure has not been recorded.
Unobligated balance	<i>Unobligated balance</i> means the amount of funds under a Federal award that the non-Federal entity has not obligated. The amount is computed by subtracting the cumulative amount of the non-Federal entity’s unliquidated obligations and expenditures of funds under the Federal award from the cumulative amount of the funds that the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity authorized the non-Federal entity to obligate.
Validate	In the context of the data management plan requirements, <i>validate</i> means to support, corroborate, verify, or otherwise determine the legitimacy of the research findings. Validation of research findings could be accomplished by reproducing the original experiment or analyses, comparing and contrasting the results against those of a news experiment or analyses, or by some other means.