

CALL FOR PRE-PROPOSALS

U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Office of Basic Energy Sciences Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DOE EPSCoR) Implementation Awards

Important Dates:

Pre-Proposal Submission: May 16, 2011

Anticipated Full Proposal Submission to DOE: Prior to October 1, 2011

Where to Submit:

All pre-proposals should be sent to the SC EPSCoR/IDeA State Office as a single PDF file via email to Mr. Lee Snelgrove (lee.snelgrove@scra.org).

Eligibility:

The South Carolina EPSCoR/IDeA Committee is accepting pre-proposals from institutions of higher education in South Carolina. Each institution can submit up to two pre-proposals.

General inquiries should be directed to:

T. Scott Little, PhD

Phone: 803-733-9060

Cell: 803-467-9643

Summary:

The state of South Carolina is eligible to submit a single application in response to the Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES) in the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Implementation Award Program under its Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). This application need be identified by the South Carolina EPSCoR/IDeA State Committee. To identify this application, pre-proposals are sought for improvement of the academic research infrastructure in key science and technology energy-related areas. This program is meant to support a group of scientists and researchers working on a common scientific theme across South Carolina or other EPSCoR jurisdictions, and is not an appropriate mechanism to provide support for individual faculty science and technology research projects. Other jurisdictions that are eligible under this funding opportunity include: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming, and U.S. Virgin Islands. The DOE EPSCoR Implementation Program is also designed to jumpstart infrastructure development through increased human and technical resources, and promote partnering where appropriate, with other universities, industry and with national laboratories with strong participation by students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty.

Supplementary Information:

DOE EPSCoR is a federal-state partnership program designed to enhance the capacity of South Carolina and other designated jurisdictions to conduct sustainable and nationally competitive energy-related research. DOE EPSCoR supports the DOE's overarching mission by supporting scientific research across a wide range of program offices and topical areas in the Department, including but not restricted to: Advanced Scientific Computing Research, Basic Energy Sciences, Biological and Environmental Research,

Fusion Energy Sciences, High Energy Physics, and Nuclear Physics, in the Office of Science; and may support research from other DOE Program Offices including but not limited to the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management; the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability; the Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy; the Office of Environmental Management; the Office of Fossil Energy; the Office of Legacy Management; and, the Office of Nuclear Energy.

This program is designed to develop the energy-related research capacity within South Carolina's research institutions; however, for the program to have a statewide impact, successful applications will likely include significant partnering between institutions. Pre-proposals in response to this call should include the relationship of the proposed project to technological resources residing in South Carolina's research universities and industrial or economic sectors. Competitive pre-proposals are those that focus on a single energy-related research area that brings together multiple researchers. Pre-proposals should represent the opportunities for enhanced academic research and for improving competitiveness of South Carolina in the acquisition of sustained non-EPSCoR support. It is critical that a pre-proposal gives adequate attention to the coordination of effort between the investigators both in the application and subsequent management of an award. External advisory boards are a useful tool for the Principal Investigator and for the jurisdiction's DOE EPSCoR director in managing Implementation Awards and DOE EPSCoR encourages their formation and regular use. In all instances, performance milestones and a timetable for achieving project goals and deliverables are prerequisites for DOE EPSCoR support. The relevant program office(s) (and associated program manager(s)) must be identified in the pre-proposal narrative in order for it to be considered for EPSCoR support. As a measure of relevance to DOE missions, the Program Office will be requested to contribute (e.g. 10%) to the support for the proposed effort upon submission of a full proposal. Applications are open for scientific research across the entire range of energy-related disciplines supported by DOE. Additional information on the DOE Research Programs is available at the following website addresses:

Department of Energy (General Information):
<http://www.energy.gov>

Office of Science:
<http://www.science.doe.gov>

Basic Energy Sciences:
<http://www.sc.doe.gov/bes/bes.html>

Biological and Environmental Research:
http://www.sc.doe.gov/ober/ober_top.html

Advanced Scientific Computing Research:
<http://www.sc.doe.gov/ascr/index.html>

Fusion Energy Sciences:
<http://www.science.doe.gov/ofes>

High Energy Physics:
<http://www.science.doe.gov/hep/index.shtml>

Nuclear Physics:
<http://www.sc.doe.gov/np>

Office of Scientific and Technical Information
<http://www.osti.gov>

Energy Information Administration
<http://www.eia.doe.gov>

National Nuclear Security Administration:
<http://www.nnsa.doe.gov>

Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
<http://www.oe.energy.gov>

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy:
<http://www.eere.doe.gov>

Office of Fossil Energy:
<http://www.fe.doe.gov>

Office of Environmental Management:
<http://www.em.doe.gov>

Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management:
<http://www.rw.doe.gov>

Office of Nuclear Energy:
<http://www.ne.doe.gov>

It is recommended that Implementation Awards work toward: 1) building beneficial relationships between the research team and one or more of the 10 national laboratories managed by the Office of Science, 2) leveraging DOE national user facilities, or 3) exploring opportunities for scientific collaboration across the DOE system. Applications proposing research similar to that funded under previous Implementation Awards will not be considered.

Subcontracts:

Pre-proposals in response to this solicitation must contain collaborative efforts with DOE National Laboratories; however DOE EPSCoR funds may not be provided to the National Laboratories. South Carolina's institutions of higher education may submit up to two pre-proposals in response to this solicitation; other organizations may be included as subcontractors. Pre-proposals may contain subcontractual agreements with collaborators at institutions in other EPSCoR-designated jurisdictions; however DOE EPSCoR funds may not be subcontracted to non-EPSCoR jurisdictions. Collaborations to these jurisdictions can be supported through consulting, student and faculty exchange, and travel. The pre-proposal should clearly describe the role to be played by each organization, specify the managerial arrangements and explain the advantages of the multi-organizational effort. It is recommended that the PI be the lead technical director for the application (from the lead institution) with a specified lead Project Administrator, preferably the jurisdiction's DOE EPSCoR director, to work with the PI to manage the award.

Estimated Funding

Subject to Congressional authorization and approval of funds in Fiscal Year 2011, it is anticipated that greater than \$2-3 million will be available for awards to fund collaborative research and human resource development in energy-related science and engineering disciplines. Approximately 1-2 awards are anticipated in Fiscal Year 2011, at a maximum award level of up to \$2,500,000 per year, the maximum period of funding is six years with an initial grant period of three years. Continuation funding for the awards will be contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds, progress of the research, and continuing program need. Renewal applications for Implementation Awards beyond the initial three-year period will be considered for an additional three years, subject to continuing meritorious performance and progress in the previous budget periods, as well as the value added of the proposed effort and the availability of funds. Requests for supplemental Implementation Awards funded under this FOA in subsequent years will be entertained as budget circumstances permit. DOE is under no obligation to pay for any costs associated with the preparation or submission of an application. DOE reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all, or none of the applications submitted. Cost sharing is not required.

Content and Form of Pre-Proposals

Submit the following information as a single pdf.

SC EPSCoR Cover Sheet for Proposal (use program form)

Project Summary/Abstract

The project summary/abstract must contain a summary of the proposed activity suitable for dissemination to the public. It should be a self-contained document that identifies the name of the applicant, the Project Administrator (PA), the Principal Investigator (PI), the project title, the objectives of the project, a description of the project, including methods to be employed, the potential impact of the project (i.e., benefits, outcomes), and major participants (for collaborative projects). 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.

Project Narrative

The pre-proposal project narrative **must not exceed 10 pages** 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. Do not include any internet addresses (URLs) that provide information necessary to review the application, because the information contained in these sites will not be reviewed. Confidential or proprietary information is discouraged, but any such information must be clearly marked.

The first page of your narrative must include the following information (this page will not count in the project narrative page limitation):

Applicant/Institution:

Street Address/City/State/Zip:

Principal Investigator:

Address:

Telephone Number:

Email:

Project Administrator:

Address:

Telephone Number:

Email:

DOE/Office of Science Program Office: DOE EPSCoR

DOE/Office of Science Program Office Technical Contact: Tim Fitzsimmons

DOE/Partner Program Office(s):

If the proposed project is a collaboration, please list all collaborating institutions/Pis.

The narrative comprises the research plan for the project. Letters of support from all non-funded collaborators and short curriculum vitae (3 pages or less) of all senior personnel must be included in the application.

The project narrative must include:

Project Objectives: This section should provide a clear, concise statement of the specific objectives/aims of the proposed project. The Project Narrative comprises the research plan for the project; it should contain enough background material in the Introduction, including review of the relevant literature, to demonstrate sufficient knowledge of the state of the science. The major part of the narrative should be devoted to a description and justification of the proposed project, including details of the method to be used. It should also indicate which project personnel will be responsible for which activities.

Project Timetable: This section should outline as a function of time, year by year, all the important activities or phases of the project, including any activities planned beyond the project period. Funded proposals will use this project timetable to report progress.

Appendix 1: Biographical Sketch

Provide a biographical sketch for the project director/principal investigator (PD/PI) and each senior/key person listed in the budget. Provide the biographical sketch information as an appendix to your project narrative. The biographical sketch appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation. The biographical information (curriculum vitae) for each

person must not exceed 3 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 most closely related to the proposed project. This may be part of a more extensive publications listing if desired. 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 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 coauthors with you on a research project, book or book article, report, abstract, or paper during the 60 months preceding the submission of this application. 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 36 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.

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 ongoing projects and pending applications. For each organization providing support, show the total award amount for the entire award period (including indirect costs) and the number of person-months per year to be devoted to the project by the senior/key person. Concurrent submission of an application to other organizations for simultaneous consideration will not prejudice its review.

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. 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.

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.

Appendix 5: Equipment

List major items of equipment already available for this project and, if appropriate identify location and pertinent capabilities.

Please provide appendices as part of the project narrative. Appendices will not count in the project narrative page limitation.

Budget

Complete a separate budget for each year of support requested. Also complete one cumulative budget for the total project period. 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.

Budget Justification: Provide the required supporting information for the following costs: equipment; domestic and foreign travel; participant/trainees; material 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. Provide a single budget justification file for the entire project period.

Funding Restrictions

Costs must be allowable in accordance with the applicable Federal cost principles referenced in 10 CFR Part 600 and 2 CFR 215. Recipients may charge to an award resulting from this announcement 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 10 CFR Part 600 and 2 CFR 215. Recipients must obtain the prior approval of the awarding agency/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.

Application Review Information

Applications will be subjected to scientific merit review (peer review) and will be evaluated against the following evaluation criteria:

- Scientific and/or Technical Merit of the Project;
- Appropriateness of the Proposed Methods and/or Approach;
- Competency of the Applicant's Personnel and Adequacy of Proposed Resources;
- Reasonableness and Appropriateness of the Proposed Budget (Justification of the Proposed Budget); and
- The Likelihood of Success of the Implementation Award Application including:

- *Does the proposer have a plan to or has the awardee made competitive faculty hires and retained outstanding faculty within the scope of the implementation award?*
- *Does the proposer have a plan to attract or has the awardee hired outstanding graduate students and post docs?*
- *Does the proposer have plans to develop or have they developed as part of the implementation award unique infrastructure capabilities that are critical to the advancement of science or technology? Alternatively, are they planning to or making unique contributions to DOE oriented capabilities (e.g., building or developing unique capabilities for a DOE experiment or facility)?*
- *Does the proposer have plans to be or are the grantees on track to a sustained leadership position in their discipline(s)?*
- *Does the proposer have plans to or are the grantees effectively leveraging DOE funding and capabilities with local and regional resources?*

DOE reserves the right to include performance under previous implementation awards and management value added provided by the jurisdiction's EPSCoR Committee and their designees as a factor in award decisions. Site visits or reverse site visits may be used as part of the evaluation process and in the review of performance up to and including at the completion of an award.

The evaluation process will also include program policy factors such as the relevance of the proposed research to the terms of the announcement and 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 and previous conditions are acceptable to the investigator(s) and the submitting institution.

1000 Catawba Street
Columbia, SC 29201
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Fax: 803.376.1721
www.scepscoridae.org



South Carolina Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research and Institutional Development Awards

COVER SHEET FOR PROPOSAL

SC EPSCoR/IDeA SOLICITATION NAME AND NUMBER				DATE SUBMITTED	
IS THIS PROPOSAL BEING SUBMITTED TO ANOTHER AGENCY? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO IF YES, LIST NAME(S):					
NAME OF AWARDEE INSTITUTION (INSTITUTION OF PI)			ADDRESS OF AWARDEE ORGANIZATION, INCLUDING 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE		
NAME OF COLLABORATING ORGANIZATION			ADDRESS OF PERFORMING ORGANIZATION, IF DIFFERENT, INCLUDING 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE		
IS AWARDEE ORGANIZATION (Check All That Apply) <input type="checkbox"/> FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION <input type="checkbox"/> SMALL BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/> MINORITY BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/> WOMAN-OWNED BUSINESS EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN) OR TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (TIN)					
TITLE OF PROPOSED PROJECT					
REQUESTED AMOUNT \$		PROPOSED DURATION (1-12 MONTHS) Months		REQUESTED STARTING DATE	
TARGETED AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE)		SUBTOPIC (IF APPLICABLE)		FEDERAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE	
CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(ES) IF THIS PROPOSAL INCLUDES ANY OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW <input type="checkbox"/> PROPRIETARY & PRIVILEGED INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/> VERTEBRATE ANIMALS <input type="checkbox"/> HUMAN SUBJECTS <input type="checkbox"/> HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCLUDING REGULATED BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS AND/OR RADIOACTIVE AND/OR OTHER REGULATED CHEMICALS/MATERIALS <input type="checkbox"/> INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES: COUNTRY/COUNTRIES INVOLVED _____					
NAME	HIGHEST DEGREE	YEAR OF DEGREE	TELEPHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS	
PI					
Co-PI					
Co-PI					
Co-PI					
PI DEPARTMENT			PI MAILING ADDRESS		
PI FAX NUMBER					

CERTIFICATION PAGE

Certification for Principal Investigators and Co-Principal Investigators

I certify to the best of my knowledge that:

- (1) The statements herein (excluding scientific hypotheses and scientific opinions) are true and complete; and
- (2) The text and graphics herein as well as any accompanying publications or other documents, unless otherwise indicated, are the original work of the signatories or individuals working under their supervision. I agree to accept responsibility for the scientific conduct of the project and to provide the required project reports if an award is made as a result of this proposal. I understand that the willful provision of false information or concealing a material fact in this proposal or any other communication submitted is a criminal offense (U.S.Code, Title 18, Section 1001).

Name (Typed)	Signature	Date
PI		
Co-PI		
Co-PI		
Co-PI		

Certification for Authorized Organizational/Institutional Representative

By signing and submitting this proposal, the individual applicant or the authorized official of the applicant firm or company certifies that:

- (1) The statements made herein are true and complete to the best of their knowledge;
- (2) It agrees to accept the award terms and conditions and should these terms not be met, to negotiate a fair and reasonable plan to reimburse the South Carolina EPSCoR/IDeA Program/South Carolina Research Authority for expenditures incurred under the award;
- (3) The organization or its principals are not presently disbarred, suspended, proposed for disbarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal or State department or agency;
- (4) The organization is not delinquent on any Federal or State debt;
- (5) The organization operates as a drug-free workplace;
- (6) Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. § 1681 -1683, and 1685 -1686), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 6101-6107);
- (7) No funds will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement;
- (8) Submission of a complete proposal, including a signed Cover Sheet and Budget Page, signifies the applicant's agreement to release the proposal for external review; and
- (9) Failure to submit a proposal to the targeted agency or organization as listed on page 1 of the Cover Sheet will constitute DEFAULT under the related program. Further, SC EPSCoR/IDeA reserves the right to recover all previously expended funds issued under the related award and the right to refuse any future proposals for SC EPSCoR/IDeA funding.

Name (Typed)	Signature	Date
Telephone Number	Fax Number	Email Address

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www.scepscoridae.org

SC EPSCoR/IDeA

South Carolina Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research and Institutional Development Awards

BUDGET PAGE

INSTITUTION						
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR						
A. SENIOR PERSONNEL: PI/PD, Co-PI's. Faculty and other Senior Associates(List each separately with title)	EPSCoR/IDeA FUNDED PERS. MOS.			FUNDS REQUESTED FROM EPSCoR/IDeA	NON-FEDERAL MATCHING FUNDS	TOTAL
	CL	AC	SU			
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6. () OTHERS (LIST INDIVIDUALLY)						
7. () TOTAL SENIOR PERSONNEL (1-6)						
B. OTHER PERSONNEL (SHOW NUMBERS IN BRACKETS)						
1. () POST DOCTORAL ASSOCIATES						
2. () OTHER PROFESSIONALS (TECHNICIAN, PROGRAMMER, ETC.)						
3. () GRADUATE STUDENTS						
4. () UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS						
5. () SECRETARY CLERICAL						
6. () OTHER						
TOTAL SALARIES AND WAGES (A+B)						
C. FRINGE BENEFITS (IF CHARGED AS DIRECT COSTS)						
TOTAL SALARIES, WAGES AND FRINGE BENEFITS (A+B+C)						
D. PERMANENT EQUIPMENT (LIST ITEM AND DOLLAR AMOUNT FOR EACH ITEM EXCEEDING \$1,000)						
TOTAL PERMANENT EQUIPMENT						
E. TRAVEL 1. DOMESTIC (INCL. CANADA AND U.S. POSSESSIONS)						
2. FOREIGN						
TOTAL TRAVEL						
F. PARTICIPANT SUPPORT COSTS						
TOTAL PARTICIPANT COSTS						
G. OTHER DIRECT COSTS						
1. MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES						
2. PUBLICATION COSTS/DOCUMENTATION/DISSEMINATION						
3. CONSULTANT SERVICES						
4. COMPUTER (ADP) SERVICES						
5. SUBCONTRACTS						
6. OTHER						
TOTAL OTHER DIRECT COSTS						
H. TOTAL DIRECT COSTS (A THROUGH G)						
I. INDIRECT COSTS (SPECIFY)						
TOTAL INDIRECT COSTS						
J. TOTAL DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS (H+I)						
K. AMOUNT OF ANY REQUIRED COST-SHARING FROM NON-FEDERAL SOURCES						
L. TOTAL COST OF PROJECT (J + K)						
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR - TYPED NAME AND SIGNATURE				DATE		
AUTHORIZED ORGANIZATIONAL/INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATIVE - TYPED NAME AND SIGNATURE				DATE		