

**NOTICE: LETTERS OF INTENT DUE DECEMBER 11, 2009**

**TO:** SC Faculty Researchers  
**FROM:** Mitch Colgan, SC Space Grant Director  
**VIA:** Scott Little, SC EPSCoR/IDeA Office  
**REGARDING:** NASA EPSCoR Opportunity

This is an official call for pre-proposals in response to the release of the FY2010 NASA EPSCoR Cooperative Agreement Notice (NNH10ZNE003C). The statewide call for pre-proposals is the mechanism that will be used to identify the two applications that South Carolina EPSCoR/IDeA may submit in response to this notice. NASA EPSCoR proposals are expected to establish research programs that will make significant contributions to the strategic research and technology priorities of one or more of the four NASA Mission Directorates and/or one or more of the ten NASA Field Centers, and contribute to the overall research infrastructure, science and technology capabilities, higher education, and economic development of the state or jurisdiction. Briefly, the program parameters are:

- Each EPSCoR state can submit a “state package” that contains no more than two proposals.
- Each proposal may request federal funds of up to \$750,000 total costs (direct + indirect) for a three-year project period (i.e., ~\$250,000/yr).
- All NASA EPSCoR monies must be cost-shared at a level of at least 50% with non-federal monies. In-kind matches are allowable.

In view of the short timeline and highly competitive nature of this NASA EPSCoR Program, the SC Space Grant Office, together with the SC EPSCoR/IDeA Office, has instituted the following process to identify the two proposals to be included in the state package:

**December 11, 2009:** Letters of Intent due by 5pm in SC EPSCoR/IDeA Office.  
**January 11, 2010:** Pre-proposals due by 5pm in SC EPSCoR/IDeA Office.  
**January 12-22, 2010:** Pre-proposals are reviewed by external panel comprised of scientists and engineers from non-EPSCoR states who have expertise and knowledge in NASA mission areas. The panel will identify the two pre-proposals that best respond to the federal solicitation; all other pre-proposals will be returned without comment. The two selected pre-proposals will be provided feedback for further development for inclusion in the South Carolina package.  
**January 25, 2010:** Results of the external panel review will be announced.  
**February 15, 2010:** Fully-developed narratives of the two proposals to be included in the state package are due in the SC Space Grant Office.

Investigators with strong, established, active relationships with NASA research and spaceflight centers, especially with Marshall, Glenn, Langley, and Johnson, are encouraged to apply. An examination of NASA’s “2006 Strategic Plan” and NASA’s “Vision for Exploration” reveals several research initiatives that are consistent with South Carolina’s research priorities. These include research on technologies to enable safe, reliable, capable, and efficient spaceflight vehicles, especially systems engineering, light weight materials, and energy, propulsion and power systems. Research on how the space environment affects astronaut health and capabilities is also included in NASA’s vision for exploration. Proposals that

are multi-investigator or multi-institutional, and meet NASA workforce needs through undergraduate or graduate education with attention to diversity, are encouraged.

### **Letters of Intent**

Investigators planning to submit a pre-proposal under this call are required to submit a Letter of Intent prepared in 11-point font or greater with 0.75 inch margins. The letter must include the following elements in the order listed:

- 1. Proposed Title**
- 2. Principal Investigator Name(s), Affiliation(s), and Contact Information**
- 3. Abstract** not to exceed 150 words that addresses the scope of the proposed research

**Letters of Intent that include all of the items above must be submitted as a single pdf file by close of business (5pm) on Friday, December 11, 2009 to the SC EPSCoR/IDeA Office by email to Lee Snelgrove (lee.snelgrove@scra.org).**

### **Pre-Proposals**

Pre-proposals must be prepared in 11-point font or greater with 0.75 inch margins, and must include the following elements in the order listed:

- 1. Cover Page** that includes title of proposed project; and name, address, and contact information (telephone, fax, email) for Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator(s), if applicable.
- 2. Proposal Narrative** (not to exceed 3 pages) that succinctly addresses the intrinsic merit of the project. These include (a) a description of the proposed research (~2 pages); (b) a description of existing research capacity in the proposed area; (c) relevance to NASA mission and state research priorities; (d) partnerships and plan for sustainability; (e) interactions with NASA personnel; and (f) diversity.
- 3. Three-Year Summary Budget and Explanation.** Using the three-column budget page attached, prepare a three-year summary budget for requested funds from NASA (not to exceed \$750,000) in addition to cost-sharing funds. Provide a 1-2 page explanation for the requested funds.
- 4. Biographical Sketches:** 2 pages for Principal Investigator, 1 page for Co-Investigators, that include educational background, professional employment, publications, and any other information deemed relevant.
- 5. Past/Current/Pending Support:** Provide information on research support for PI and Co-investigators including past research support (within past 3 years), current, and pending. For each project, provide Project Title, Agency and Grant Award No., Period of Award, Amount and Role in Project.

**Pre-proposals that include all of the items above must be submitted as a single pdf file by close of business (5 pm) on Monday, January 11, 2009 to the SC EPSCoR/IDeA Office by email to Lee Snelgrove (lee.snelgrove@scra.org).**

