

# NJIT Research Newsletter

Issue: ORN-2020-31

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**NJIT Research Newsletter** includes recent awards, and announcements of research related seminars, webinars, national and federal research news related to research funding, and **Grant Opportunity Alerts** (with links to sections). The Newsletter is posted on the NJIT Research Website <https://research.njit.edu/funding-opportunities>.

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## Special Announcements

### **NSF Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Proposal submission Internal Competition**

**Grant Program: NSF Major Research Instrumentation Program: (MRI)**

**Agency: National Science Foundation NSF 18-513**

**RFP Website:** <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18513/nsf18513.htm>

**Brief Description:** The Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program serves to increase access to multi-user scientific and engineering instrumentation for research and research training in our Nation's institutions of higher education and not-for-profit scientific/engineering research organizations. An MRI award supports the acquisition or development of a multi-user research instrument that is, in general, too costly and/or not appropriate for support through other NSF programs.

MRI provides support to acquire critical research instrumentation without which advances in fundamental science and engineering research may not otherwise occur. MRI also provides support to develop next-generation research instruments that open new opportunities to advance the frontiers in science and engineering research. Additionally, an MRI award is expected to enhance research training of students who will become the next generation of instrument users, designers and builders.

An MRI proposal may request up to \$4 million for either acquisition or development of a research instrument. Beginning with the FY 2018 competition, each performing organization may submit in *revised* “Tracks” as defined below, *with no more than two submissions in Track 1 and no more than one submission in Track 2*.

- Track 1: Track 1 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to \$100,000<sup>1</sup> and less than \$1,000,000.
- Track 2: Track 2 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to \$1,000,000 up to and including \$4,000,000.

Consistent with the America COMPETES Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-69), cost sharing of precisely 30% of the total project cost is required for Ph.D.-granting institutions of higher education and for non-degree-granting organizations. Non-Ph.D.-granting institutions of higher education are exempt from the cost-sharing requirement and cannot include it. National Science Board policy prohibits voluntary committed cost sharing.

***Please see the solicitation text for organizational definitions used by the MRI program.***

The MRI Program especially seeks broad representation of PIs in its award portfolio, including women, underrepresented minorities and persons with disabilities. Since demographic diversity may be greater among early-career researchers the MRI program also encourages proposals with early-career PIs and proposals that benefit early-career researchers.

**Awards Range:** \$100,000-\$4 million; **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$75,000,000

**Letter of Intent:** Not Required

**Submission Deadline:** January 01, 2021 - January 19, 2021

**Limit on Number of Proposals per Organization:**

Three (3) as described below. Potential PIs are advised to contact their institutional office of research regarding processes used to select proposals for submission.

The MRI program requires that an MRI-eligible organization may, as a performing organization, submit or be included as a significantly funded <sup>[3]</sup> subawardee in no more than three MRI proposals. Beginning with this competition, each performing organization is now limited to a maximum of three proposals in *revised* “Tracks” as defined below, with no more than two submissions in Track 1 and no more than one submission in Track 2. Any MRI proposal may request support for either the acquisition or development of a research instrument. Within their submission limit, NSF strongly encourages organizations to submit proposals for innovative development projects.

**Award Type:** Any MRI proposal may request support for either the acquisition or development of a research instrument.

- Track 1: Track 1 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to \$100,000<sup>1</sup> and less than \$1,000,000.
- Track 2: Track 2 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to \$1,000,000 up to and including \$4,000,000.

Note: The 30% cost-sharing requirement applies to only the portion of the total project cost budgeted to non-exempt organizations, including those participating through subawards. When required, cost-sharing must be precisely 30%. Cost sharing is required for Ph.D.-granting institutions of higher education and for non-degree-granting organizations. Non-Ph.D.-granting institutions of higher education are exempt from cost-sharing and cannot provide it. National Science Board policy is that voluntary committed cost

sharing is prohibited. See section V.B. for specific information on cost-sharing calculations and the solicitation text for definitions of organizational types used for the MRI program.

[3] An unfunded collaboration does not count against the submission limit. Inclusion as a funded subawardee on a development proposal at a level in excess of 20% of the total budget requested from NSF, or as a funded subawardee, when allowed, on any acquisition proposal, will be counted against an organization's proposal submission limit. Separately submitted linked collaborative proposals count against the submission limit of each of the submitting organizations. However, if a subaward to an organization in a *development proposal* is 20% or less of the proposal's total budget request from NSF, the subawardee's submission limit will not be affected. For subawards within a linked collaborative proposal, the 20% threshold applies to the budget request from NSF in the proposal containing the subaward(s), not to the combined budget request from NSF for the collaborative project.

**Internal Competition Deadline to College Dean's Office: November 1, 2020:** Please submit up to 5 pages pre-proposal white paper to your respective Dean by November 1, 2020 in the following format. College level reviews will be conducted by Deans to forward recommendations for up to 2 proposals to the Office of Research and Development by November 7, 2020. The final selection will be announced by November 15, 2020. The following format for the pre-proposal is suggested which is consistent with actual proposal guidelines and review criterion:

1. Cover Sheet (not counted in the page limit):
  - a. Title of the project proposal
  - b. Track Type: I or II
  - c. PI name and affiliation and contact information
  - d. Co-PIs name and affiliation
  - e. Additional users or any consortium information, if applicable
  - f. Date submitted to College Dean
2. Project Summary

Each proposal must contain a summary of the proposed project not more than one page in length. The Project Summary consists of an overview, a statement on the intellectual merit of the proposed activity, and a statement on the broader impacts of the proposed activity.

3. Proposal Description covering the subsections (a)-(e) as posted on the previous RFP on <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18513/nsf18513.htm> with the section:

(a) **a1. Instrument Location and Type**

**a2. ONLY REQUIRED FOR DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS: Justification for submission as a Development proposal**

- (b) Research Activities to be Enabled
  - (c) Description of the Research Instrumentation and Needs
  - (d) Broader Impacts (Including Impact on Research and Training Infrastructure)
  - (e) Management Plan
4. Preliminary Budget and Budget Justification; and Required Cost-Sharing
  5. Brief biographical sketch of PI with a brief description of current and previous accomplishments.

For pre-proposal review, the NSF MRI proposal review criterion may be used to help faculty receive some feedback on their proposals that may be helpful for their final or future proposal submissions. The merit review criterion as posted on the RFP is:

- **Intellectual Merit:** The Intellectual Merit criterion encompasses the potential to advance knowledge; and
- **Broader Impacts:** The Broader Impacts criterion encompasses the potential to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes

### ***Instrument Acquisition Proposals.***

- The extent to which the instrument is used for multi-user, shared-use research and/or research training.
- Whether the management plan demonstrates sufficient commitment and technical expertise for effective scheduling and usage of the instrument.
- The organization's commitment to ensuring successful operations and maintenance over the expected lifetime of the instrument.
- Whether the research to be enabled is compelling and justifies the instrument request.
- Whether the budget request is appropriate and well justified.
- if student involvement is in the form of direct support for operations and maintenance of the instrument, reviewers will be asked to evaluate the involvement in terms of both instrument needs and the training of the next generation of instrumentalists.
- For instrument acquisition proposals of \$1 million or above, the potential impact of the instrument on the research community of interest at the regional or national level, if appropriate.

### ***Instrument Development Proposals:***

- The appropriateness of submission as a development proposal.
- The need for development of a new instrument. Will the proposed instrument enable enhanced performance over existing instruments, or new types of measurement or information gathering? Is there a strong need for the new instrument in the larger user community to advance new frontiers of research?
- The adequacy of the project's management plan. Does the plan have a realistic schedule that is described in sufficient detail to be assessed? Are mechanisms described to mitigate and deal with potential risks?
- The availability of appropriate technical expertise to design and construct the instrument. If direct support for student involvement in development efforts is requested, reviewers will be asked to evaluate the involvement in terms of both project needs and training the next generation of instrumentalists.
- The appropriateness of the cost of the new technology.

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## **Northeast Big Data Innovation Hub Seed Fund Grants**

<http://nebigdatahub.org/seedfund/>

Proposal Submission Deadlines:

First Round Deadline: August 31, 2020

Second Round Deadline: October 1, 2020

Program Webinar: August 10, 2020; 1.00 PM

The Northeast Big Data Hub is delighted to announce our Seed Fund program this month. The Seed Fund is designed to promote collaboration and support the cross-pollination of tools, data, and ideas across disciplines and sectors including academia, industry, government, and communities. Funding provided through this program is intended to support the northeast region and align with the Major Goals and Focus Areas of the Northeast Big Data Hub. Two programs are open for applications as part of the 2020 Seed Fund program:

[Seed Fund Grants](#) | [Northeast Student Data Corps](#)

Applications will be considered in two rounds, with deadlines on August 31st and October 1st, 2020. Learn more via the above links. Join our webinar this Monday, August 10th from 1-2pm ET to hear from our seed fund steering committee chair David Bader (NJIT) and find out how to apply. [Register for the Webinar](#) Any questions? Drop us a line at [contact@nebigdatahub.org](mailto:contact@nebigdatahub.org).

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## **New Jersey Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science (NJ ACTS) Institutional Career Development (KL2) Program**

The New Jersey Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science (NJ ACTS), NJ's CTSA, is delighted to announce that it is soliciting applications for its Institutional Career Development (KL2) program. The second class of KL2 Scholars will be appointed starting July 1, 2021. This is an important opportunity for early stage faculty to be able to devote 80% effort to their projects, receive research funding and have the support of the community. The program Description and application information is posted on the NJACTS website <https://njacts.rbhs.rutgers.edu/education-training/kl2-career-development/>. Applications are due November 2, 2021. For more information, contact [KL2NJACTS@rbhs.rutgers.edu](mailto:KL2NJACTS@rbhs.rutgers.edu).

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## **NJIT Pandemic Recovery Plan Research Continuity and Phased Recovery Plan**

Updated: July 27, 2020

<https://research.njit.edu/njit-pandemic-recovery-plan>

NJIT faculty, staff, and students at research facilities must follow the specific social distancing and safety protocols including the use of personnel protective equipment (PPE) as required by the institutional, state and federal guidelines in the respective phase of the research continuity plan. State and national information regarding current conditions can be found at:

- New Jersey's COVID-19 information hub: <https://covid19.nj.gov/index.html>
- CDC guidelines on "Symptoms of Coronavirus": <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
- CDC guidelines on "Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19": <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

The details on NJIT Research Continuity and Phased Recovery Plan and associated protocols are posted on the website <https://research.njit.edu/njit-pandemic-recovery-plan>

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## **Grant Opportunity Alerts**

Keywords and Areas Included in the Grant Opportunity Alert Section Below

**NSF: Innovations in Graduate Education (IGE) Program; Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Research Initiation Initiative (CRII); Cyberinfrastructure for Sustained Scientific Innovation (CSSI); Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE): Core**

Programs; Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP); Division of Materials Research: Topical Materials Research Programs: Biomaterials (BMAT), Condensed Matter Physics (CMP), Metals and Metallic Nanostructures (MMN), Polymers (POL) (DMR-TMRP BMAT, CMP, MMN, POL)

**NIH: BRAIN Initiative: Data Archives for the BRAIN Initiative (R24 Emergency Awards: RADx-rad Data Coordination Center (DCC) (U24); Emergency Awards: RADx-rad Wastewater Detection of SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) (U01); Emergency Awards RADx-RAD: Novel Biosensing for Screening, Diagnosis and Monitoring of COVID-19 From Skin and The Oral Cavity (Fast-Track STTR); Emergency Awards: RADx-RAD Multimodal COVID-19 surveillance methods for high risk clustered populations (R01); Ethical, Legal and Social Implications (ELSI) Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant (R21); Senator Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Specialized Research Centers (MDSRC) (P50); Harnessing Data Science for Health Discovery and Innovation in Africa**

**Department of Defense/US Army/DARPA/ONR: Verified Security and Performance Enhancement of Large Legacy Software (V-SPELLS); DoD Combat Readiness, Rapid Development and Translational Research Award; Defense Sciences Office Office-wide; C4ISR, Information Operations, Cyberspace Operations and Information Technology System Research**

**Department of Transportation: Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment Initiative**

**Department of Agriculture: NRCS's Regional Conservation Partnership Program; Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Foundational and Applied Science; REAP-Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements**

**Department of Labor: Supply Chains Tracing Project**

**EPA: Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) Grants**

**Department of Energy: American-Made Solar Prize; Research and Development for Advanced Water Resource Recovery Systems**

**NASA: Human Exploration Research Opportunities (HERO); ROSES 2020: Science Team for the OCO Missions; SAGE III/ ISS Science Team; Solar Irradiance Science Team; The New (Early Career) Investigator Program in Earth Science; ROSES 2020: Space Weather Science Application Operations-to-Research**

**National Endowment of Humanities: Public Humanities Projects**

**Private Foundations: Activate.Org: Activate Fellowships; Research Corporation for Science Advancement: Cottrell Scholar Award**

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### **Recent Research Grant and Contract Awards**

Congratulations to faculty and staff on receiving research grant and contract awards!

**PI:** Yassine Boubendir (PI)

**Department:** Mathematical Sciences

**Grant/Contract Project Title:** Collaborative Research: Novel Microlocal-Analysis and Domain-Decomposition Based Fast Algorithms for Elastic Wave Modeling and Inversion in Variable Media

**Funding Agency:** NSF

**Duration:** 08/01/20-07/31/23

**PI:** Bin Chen (PI)

**Department:** Center for Solar Terrestrial Research

**Grant/Contract Project Title:** Exploring Energy Release and Conversion in Solar Eruptive Events Using Multi-Wavelength Observations and Numerical Simulations

**Funding Agency:** NASA

**Duration:** 07/13/20-07/12/23

**PI:** Wenda Cao (PI)

**Department:** Center for Solar Terrestrial Research

**Grant/Contract Project Title:** On-Site Technical Support of Global Oscillation Network Group (GONG)

**Funding Agency:** NSF

**Duration:** 07/01/20-06/30/21

**PI:** Wen Zhang (PI)

**Department:** Civil and Environmental Engineering

**Grant/Contract Project Title:** (INTERN Supplement) Probing Facet Dependent Properties of Crystalline Nanomaterials and Interactions with Biomolecules using Hybrid AFM

**Funding Agency:** NSF

**Duration:** 09/01/18-02/28/22

**PI:** Joerg Kliewer (PI)

**Department:** Electrical and Computer Engineering

**Grant/Contract Project Title:** (Travel Supplement) SaTC: CORE: Small: Collaborative: Covert/Secret and Efficient Message Transfer in (Mobile) Multi-Agent Environments

**Funding Agency:** NSF

**Duration:** 09/01/18-08/31/21

**PI:** Louis Lanzerotti (PI) and Andrew Gerrard (Co-PI)

**Department:** Center for Solar Terrestrial Research

**Grant/Contract Project Title:** Van Allen Probes RBSPICE Phase E Operations - Extended Mission I and II (ARDES) passed through from NASA

**Funding Agency:** NASA

**Duration:** 07/15/16-10/31/20

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### **In the News...**

(National and Federal News Related to Research Funding and Grant Opportunities)

**Robot Assistants Help Hospital Workers Treat Coronavirus Patients:** [NBC Nightly News](#) (8/5) reported on how robots are “helping humans in the battle against COVID-19.” NBC’s Jake Ward said, “At this Dallas hospital, a robot called Moxi is the newest medical assistant. Moxi works full-time delivering PPE, COVID-19 tests, and even helps keep inventory.” He added that the robot “takes on tasks and reduces exposure risk for front line workers.” Separately, Ward said, “Johns Hopkins is testing a

small robot attached to a touch screen ventilator so that no one has to put on protective equipment and risk infection in an ICU room.”

**Bipartisan Bill with Multi-Agency Effort for Carbon Removal:** Sens. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska; Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz.; Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I.; and Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va., introduced the “[Carbon Removal, Efficient Agencies, Technology Expertise Act](#)” on Tuesday to bolster carbon reduction efforts. Since the Industrial Revolution — during the late 1700s to early 1800s — the concentration of carbon dioxide, a heat-trapping greenhouse gas, in the atmosphere has increased by 45% and is “the principal human-produced driver of climate change,” [according](#) to a NASA report last year. If enacted, the legislation would establish a carbon management committee within the National Science and Technology Council that would include officials from the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; Energy, Agriculture and Defense departments; and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The committee would create a strategic plan for federal research and technology development on carbon removal and storage as well as oversee four working groups.

**House of Representatives Passes Second Appropriations Minibus:** The House passed a 6-bill \$1.3 trillion appropriations package today, bringing the total number of passed appropriations bills to 11. The last bill remaining is the Legislative Branch - no action is currently planned, though it has been widely speculated that the bill will be used as a vehicle for other "must pass" items. The White House issued a formal veto threat over a variety of provisions, including several affecting the federal workforce. The legislation contains \$1.3 trillion in funding for fiscal 2021, and includes the Defense, Commerce, Justice, Energy and Water Development, Financial Services and General Government, Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development appropriations bills.

**Research Security Bill:** A U.S. Senate panel unanimously endorsed [legislation](#) to tighten oversight of federally funded researchers with ties to foreign governments. The move came despite objections from universities whose faculty would come under increased scrutiny if the bill becomes law. The bipartisan support from the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs for the Safeguarding American Innovation Act (S. 3997) reflects an apparent growing consensus that Congress should respond to Chinese-backed research collaborations seen as threatening national security. The bill includes expanded authority for the State Department to limit immigration, stiffer penalties for scientists who fail to disclose their foreign ties on grant applications, a lower threshold for individuals and institutions to report foreign gifts, and a new research oversight body led by the White House Office of Management and Budget. However, a bevy of higher education organizations are worried that taking such actions would actually undermine innovation by making U.S. institutions less attractive to foreign scholars and increase paperwork requirements without making the country safer. More information is on the [website](#).

**NSF Releases INCLUDES Special Report:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) has [issued a “special report to the nation”](#) to provide updates on its Inclusion Across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science, or [INCLUDES](#), program. As one of the NSF’s [10 Big Ideas](#), INCLUDES seeks to develop new strategies to broaden the participation of underrepresented groups in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The report provides highlights on developing alliance networks and includes lessons learned about increasing broadening participation efforts.

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## Webinar and Events

### **Event: DEB Virtual Office Hour: DISES**

**Sponsor:** NSF

**When:** August 10, 2020 1.00 PM – 2.00 PM

**Website:** [https://www.nsf.gov/events/event\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=300983&org=NSF](https://www.nsf.gov/events/event_summ.jsp?cntn_id=300983&org=NSF)

**Brief Description:** Join us August 10th from 1pm-2pm EDT for DEB's next Virtual Office Hour. Program Officers will provide an introduction to the Dynamics of Integrated Socio-Environmental System (DISES) Solicitation ([NSF 20-579](#)). This solicitation is an update of the program previously known as CNH and CNH2. Representatives from each of the four DEB core programs will be available for questions, which can be on any DEB or NSF topic.

**To Join the Webinar:** [REGISTER HERE](#)

### **Event: National Academies Webinars**

**Sponsor:** The national Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine

**When:** August 11, 18, 25, 2020 and September 1, 8, 2020; 3.00 PM – 4.00 PM

**Website:** [webinar series](#)

**Brief Description:** The mathematical sciences play a critical role in advancing crucial innovations and improving our prosperity, health, and security. Join us for a series of webinars featuring mathematicians telling the most important stories of how math has made an impact, from precision medicine to climate science.

This webinar series is part of a larger National Academies' study that will identify and illustrate the broad impact of the mathematical sciences. Learn more about the study at [nas.edu/bmsa](https://nas.edu/bmsa).

**August 11 from 3-4pm ET: Understanding Uncertainty ([join here](#))**

In this webinar, "Understanding Uncertainty," invited speakers will explore the math that helps us quantify uncertainty, and why doing so is important.

- Moderator: Xiao-Li Meng (Harvard University)
- Speaker 1: Bradley Efron (Stanford University)
- Speaker 2: Susan Holmes (Stanford University)

**August 18 from 3-4pm ET: Super-Compatibility and the Design of Materials ([join here](#))**

In this webinar, "Supercompatibility and the Design of Materials," invited speakers will discuss how mathematical methodologies can aid the design of smart materials, which have incredible potential to impact the future of how things are made.

- Moderator: Irene Fonseca (Carnegie Mellon University)
- Speaker 1: Richard James (University of Minnesota)
- Speaker 2: Robert Kohn (New York University)

**August 25 from 3-4pm ET: Precision Medicine ([join here](#))**

In this webinar, "Precision Medicine," invited speakers will discuss how mathematics improves healthcare by helping researchers and doctors make better-informed diagnostic and treatment decisions.

- Moderator: Trachette Jackson (University of Michigan)
- Speaker 1: Kristin Swanson (Mayo Clinic)
- Speaker 2: Charley Taylor (Heartflow)

**September 1 from 3-4pm ET: Deep Learning and Neural Networks ([join here](#))**

In this webinar, "Deep Learning and Neural Networks," invited speakers will illustrate the math that facilitated the development of the complex computational learning systems that we take advantage of every day, perhaps without even realizing it.

- Moderator: Montse Fuentes (University of Iowa)
- Speaker 1: Mikhail Belkin (Ohio State University)

- Speaker 2: Rachel Ward (University of Texas)

**September 8 from 3-4pm ET: Climate and Weather ([join here](#))**

In this webinar, “Climate and Weather,” invited speakers will examine what really drives forecasts and allows us to be better-prepared for natural disasters and climate variability - mathematical models!

- Moderator: Russ Caflisch (New York University)
- Speaker 1: Tim Delsole (George Mason University)
- Speaker 2: Laure Zanna (New York University)

**To Join the Webinar:** Please use the above links.

**Event: Webinar: Shared Block Storage in the Cloud is Nothing New**

**Sponsor: NetApp**

**When: August 12, 2020 11.30 AM**

**Website: [Webinar Registration and Information](#)**

**Brief Description:** Shared block storage powers databases, containers, machine learning, and file systems—exactly the kind of business-critical workloads you want to run on a well-proven system. **Join our live webinar on August 12th** to see how Cloud Volumes ONTAP has been providing shared block storage in the public cloud for years, with features that enable you to:

- Optimize storage management
- Reduce cloud storage footprint and costs
- Failover quickly and seamlessly with RPO=0
- Protect data locally and remotely
- Manage data on every cloud through a centralized interface
- And more

**To Join the Webinar:** Please register on above link.

**Event: August Virtual Office Hour with The Division of Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS)!**

**Sponsor: NSF**

**When: August 20, 2020 1.00 PM – 2.00 PM**

**Website: [https://www.nsf.gov/events/event\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=301015&org=NSF](https://www.nsf.gov/events/event_summ.jsp?cntn_id=301015&org=NSF)**

**Brief Description:** The August IOS Virtual Office Hour will be held August 20, 2020 from 1pm-2pm EST. This Office Hour will include discussion of recent solicitations and Dear Colleague Letters that have been announced by NSF and we’ll move on to a discussion of the Enabling Discovery through Genomic Tools (EDGE; [NSF 20-532](#)) program. The discussion will be followed by an open question and answer period for questions about EDGE, any other IOS-program questions, [COVID-19 concerns and questions](#), or other NSF-related questions you might have.

Join us remotely and bring your questions, comments, and ideas!

**To Join the Webinar:** Register for the August Virtual Office Hour [here](#), and be sure to choose August 20<sup>th</sup>.

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## **Grant Opportunities**

### **National Science Foundation**

**Grant Program: Innovations in Graduate Education (IGE) Program**

**Agency: National Science Foundation NSF 20-595**

**RFP Website:** <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20595/nsf20595.htm>

**Brief Description:** The Innovations in Graduate Education (IGE) program is designed to encourage the development and implementation of bold, new, and potentially transformative approaches to STEM graduate education training. The program seeks proposals that explore ways for graduate students in research-based master's and doctoral degree programs to develop the skills, knowledge, and competencies needed to pursue a range of STEM careers. IGE focuses on projects aimed at piloting, testing, and validating innovative and potentially transformative approaches to graduate education. IGE projects are intended to generate the knowledge required for their customization, implementation, and broader adoption. The program supports testing of novel models or activities with high potential to enrich and extend the knowledge base on effective graduate education approaches.

The program addresses both workforce development, emphasizing broad participation, and institutional capacity building needs in graduate education. Strategic collaborations with the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government agencies, national laboratories, field stations, teaching and learning centers, informal science centers, and academic partners are encouraged.

As a special emphasis under this solicitation, IGE seeks proposals that will result in a single cooperative agreement for the development and implementation of an IGE Innovation Acceleration Hub. The Hub will facilitate IGE awardee communications about research activities and outcomes and provide a platform for external stakeholder engagement. Only Hub proposals submitted to the November 2020 deadline will be considered for funding.

**Awards:** Standard or continuing grants; **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$4,000,000

**Letters of Intent:** Not required

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** November 04, 2020

**Limit on Number of Proposals per Organization:** 2

An eligible organization may participate in two Innovations in Graduate Education proposals per competition. Participation includes serving as a lead organization on a non-collaborative proposal or as a lead organization, non-lead organization, or subawardee on a collaborative proposal.

**Internal Letter of Intent Review and Competition:** If you are interested in submitting a proposal, please send a one-page NSF format summary with a list of Key Investigators to Atam Dhawan, Senior Vice Provost for Research at [dhawan@njit.edu](mailto:dhawan@njit.edu) by September 1, 2020 with copy to respective college dean. The selected Letter of Intent will be notified by September 7, 2020.

**Contacts:** Daniel Denecke, telephone: (703) 292-8072, email: [ddenecke@nsf.gov](mailto:ddenecke@nsf.gov)

- Vinod K. Lohani, telephone: (703) 292-2330, email: [vlohani@nsf.gov](mailto:vlohani@nsf.gov)
- John Weishampel, telephone: (703) 292-2162, email: [jweisham@nsf.gov](mailto:jweisham@nsf.gov)

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## **Grant Program: Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Research Initiation Initiative (CRII)**

**Agency:** National Science Foundation NSF 20-593

**RFP Website:** <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20593/nsf20593.htm>

**Brief Description:** The NSF Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) seeks to award grants intended to support research independence among early-career academicians who specifically lack access to adequate organizational or other resources. It is expected that funds obtained through this program will be used to support untenured faculty or research scientists (or equivalent) in their first three years in a primary academic position after the PhD, but not more than five years after completion of their PhD. Applicants for this program may not yet have received any other grants or contracts in the PI role from any department, agency, or institution of the federal government, including from the CAREER program or any other program, post-PhD, regardless of the size of the grant or contract,

with certain exceptions as noted below. Serving as co-PI, Senior Personnel, Postdoctoral Fellow, or other Fellow does not count against this eligibility rule.

Importantly, the CRII program seeks to provide essential resources to enable early-career PIs to launch their research careers. For the purposes of this program, CISE defines “essential resources” as sufficient funds for 48 months of graduate student support. Faculty at undergraduate and two-year institutions may use funds to support undergraduate students, and may optionally use the additional RUI designation (which requires inclusion of a RUI Impact Statement) -- see [https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5518](https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5518) for additional information. In addition, submissions from all institutions may use funds for PI salary, postdoctoral scholars, travel, and/or research equipment.

**Awards:** Standard grants; **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$10,000,000

**Letters of Intent:** Not required

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** November 02, 2020

**Contacts:** Jeremy J. Epstein, Program Director, CNS, phone: (703) 292-8338, email: [jepstein@nsf.gov](mailto:jepstein@nsf.gov)

- Almadena Y. Chtchelkanova, Program Director, CCF, telephone: (703) 292-8910, email: [achtchel@nsf.gov](mailto:achtchel@nsf.gov)
  - Ephraim P. Glinert, Program Director, IIS, telephone: (703) 292-8930, email: [eglinert@nsf.gov](mailto:eglinert@nsf.gov)
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## **Grant Program: Cyberinfrastructure for Sustained Scientific Innovation (CSSI): Elements and Framework Implementations**

**Agency:** National Science Foundation NSF 20-592

**RFP Website:** <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20592/nsf20592.htm>

**Brief Description:** The Cyberinfrastructure for Sustained Scientific Innovation (CSSI) umbrella program seeks to enable funding opportunities that are flexible and responsive to the evolving and emerging needs in cyberinfrastructure (CI). This program continues the CSSI program by removing the distinction between *software* and *data* elements/framework implementations, and instead emphasizing integrated CI services, quantitative metrics with targets for delivery and usage of these services, and community creation.

The CSSI umbrella program anticipates two classes of awards:

- **Elements:** These awards target small groups that will create and deploy robust services for which there is a demonstrated need, and that will advance one or more significant areas of science and engineering.
- **Framework Implementations:** These awards target larger, interdisciplinary teams organized around the development and application of services aimed at solving common research problems faced by NSF researchers in one or more areas of science and engineering, and resulting in a sustainable community framework providing CI services to a diverse community or communities.

Prospective Principal Investigators (PIs) should be aware that this is a multi-directorate activity and that they are encouraged to submit proposals with broad, interdisciplinary interests. Further, not all divisions are participating at the same level and division-specific priorities differ. Prospective PIs should also refer to the directorate/division-specific descriptions contained in Section II of this solicitation.

Finally, it is strongly recommended that prospective PIs contact program officer(s) from the list of Cognizant Program Officers in the division(s) that typically support the scientists and engineers who would make use of the proposed work, to gain insight into the priorities for the relevant areas of science and engineering to which their proposals should be responsive. As part of contacting Cognizant Program Officers, prospective PIs are also encouraged to ascertain that the focus and budget of their proposed work are appropriate for this solicitation.

**Awards:** Standard or continuing grants; **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$33,000,000

**Letters of Intent:** Not required

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** October 28, 2020

**Contacts:** Stefan A. Robila, Program Director, CISE/OAC, telephone: (703) 292-2303, email: [CSSIQueries@nsf.gov](mailto:CSSIQueries@nsf.gov)

- Amy Walton, Program Director, CISE/OAC, telephone: (703) 292-4538, email: [CSSIQueries@nsf.gov](mailto:CSSIQueries@nsf.gov)
  - Tevfik Kosar, Program Director, CISE/OAC, telephone: (703) 292-8970, email: [CSSIQueries@nsf.gov](mailto:CSSIQueries@nsf.gov)
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**Grant Program: Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE): Core Programs**

**Agency: National Science Foundation NSF 20-591**

**RFP Website:** <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20591/nsf20591.htm>

**Brief Description:** The NSF CISE Directorate supports research and education projects that develop new knowledge in all aspects of computing, communications, and information science and engineering, as well as advanced cyberinfrastructure, through the following core programs:

Division of Computing and Communication Foundations (CCF):

- Algorithmic Foundations (AF) program;
- Communications and Information Foundations (CIF) program;
- Foundations of Emerging Technologies (FET) program; and
- Software and Hardware Foundations (SHF) program.

Division of Computer and Network Systems (CNS):

- CNS Core (CNS Core) program.

Division of Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS):

- Human-Centered Computing (HCC) program (formerly the Cyber-Human Systems [CHS] program);
- Information Integration and Informatics (III) program; and
- Robust Intelligence (RI) program.

Office of Advanced Cyberinfrastructure (OAC):

- OAC Core Research (OAC Core) program;

**Awards:** Standard or continuing grants; **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$280,000,000

Proposers are invited to submit proposals in several project classes, which are defined as follows:

- Small Projects -- up to \$500,000 total budget with durations up to three years: projects in this class may be submitted to CCF, CNS, and IIS;
- Medium Projects -- \$500,001 to \$1,200,000 total budget with durations up to four years: projects in this class may be submitted to CCF, CNS, and IIS only; and
- OAC Core Projects -- up to \$500,000 total budget with durations up to three years: projects in this class may be submitted to OAC only.

**Letters of Intent:** Not required

**Proposal Submission Deadline:**

October 28, 2020 - November 12, 2020

MEDIUM Projects

October 28, 2020 - November 12, 2020

OAC Core Projects

Proposals Accepted Anytime beginning October 1st, 2020

SMALL Projects

**Contacts:** Tracy J. Kimbrel, Point of Contact, Algorithmic Foundations (AF), telephone: (703) 292-8910, email: [ccf-af@nsf.gov](mailto:ccf-af@nsf.gov)

- Phillip A. Regalia, Point of Contact, Communications and Information Foundations (CIF), telephone: (703) 292-8910, email: [ccf-cif@nsf.gov](mailto:ccf-cif@nsf.gov)
  - Mitra Basu, Point of Contact, Foundations of Emerging Technologies (FET), telephone: (703) 292-8910, email: [ccf-fet@nsf.gov](mailto:ccf-fet@nsf.gov)
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**Grant Program: Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP)**

**Agency: National Science Foundation NSF 20-590**

**RFP Website:** <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20590/nsf20590.htm>

**Brief Description:** The Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) program is an alliance-based program. The program's theory is based on the Tinto model for student retention referenced in the 2005 LSAMP program evaluation<sup>1</sup>. The overall goal of the program is to assist universities and colleges in diversifying the nation's science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workforce by increasing the number of STEM baccalaureate and graduate degrees awarded to populations historically underrepresented in these disciplines: African Americans, Hispanic Americans, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Native Pacific Islanders. LSAMP's efforts to increase diversity in STEM are aligned with the goals of the Federal Government's five-year strategic plan for STEM education, *Charting a Course for Success: America's Strategy for STEM Education*.

The LSAMP program takes a comprehensive approach to student development and retention. Particular emphasis is placed on transforming undergraduate STEM education through innovative, evidence-based recruitment and retention strategies, and relevant educational experiences in support of racial and ethnic groups historically underrepresented in STEM disciplines.

The LSAMP program also supports knowledge generation, knowledge utilization, assessment of program impacts and dissemination activities. The program seeks new learning and immediate diffusion of scholarly research into the field. Under this program, funding for STEM educational and broadening participation research activities could include research to develop new models in STEM engagement, recruitment and retention practices for all critical pathways to STEM careers or research on interventions such as mentoring, successful learning practices and environments, STEM efficacy studies, and use of technology to improve learning or student engagement.

**Awards:** Standard or continuing grants; **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$10,000,000

**Letters of Intent:** Not required

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** November 20, 2020

**Contacts:** LSAMP Program Team, telephone: (703) 292-8640, fax: (703) 292-9018, email: [LSAMP\\_national@nsf.gov](mailto:LSAMP_national@nsf.gov)

- A. James Hicks, Co-Lead/Program Director, telephone: (703) 292-4668, email: [ahicks@nsf.gov](mailto:ahicks@nsf.gov)
  - Martha James, Co-Lead/Program Officer, telephone: (703) 292-7772, email: [mjames@nsf.gov](mailto:mjames@nsf.gov)
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**Grant Program: Division of Materials Research: Topical Materials Research Programs: Biomaterials (BMAT), Condensed Matter Physics (CMP), Metals and Metallic Nanostructures (MMN), Polymers (POL) (DMR-TMRP BMAT, CMP, MMN, POL)**

**Agency: National Science Foundation NSF 20-589**

**RFP Website:** <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20589/nsf20589.htm>

**Brief Description:** Research supported by the Division of Materials Research (DMR) focuses on advancing fundamental understanding of materials, materials discovery, design, synthesis, characterization, properties, and materials-related phenomena. DMR awards enable understanding of the electronic, atomic, and molecular structures, mechanisms, and processes that govern nanoscale to macroscale morphology and properties; manipulation and control of these properties; discovery of

emerging phenomena of matter and materials; and creation of novel design, synthesis, and processing strategies that lead to new materials with unique characteristics. These discoveries and advancements transcend traditional scientific and engineering disciplines. The Division supports research and education activities in the United States through funding of individual investigators, teams, centers, facilities, and instrumentation. Projects supported by DMR are essential for the development of future technologies and industries that meet societal needs, as well preparation of the next generation of materials researchers.

This solicitation applies to the following four DMR Topical Materials Research Programs that fund research and educational projects by individual investigators or small groups: Biomaterials (BMAT), Condensed Matter Physics (CMP), Metals and Metallic Nanostructures (MMN), and Polymers (POL). It does not apply to the following four DMR Topical Materials Research Programs, which have their own solicitations: Ceramics (CER), Electronic and Photonic Materials (EPM), and Solid State and Materials Chemistry ([NSF 20-588](#)) and Condensed Matter and Materials Theory (CMMT) ([NSF 20-582](#)).

**Awards:** Standard or continuing grants; **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$38,000,000

**Letters of Intent:** Not required

**Proposal Submission Deadline:**

October 01, 2020 - November 02, 2020

**Contacts:** Randy Duran, Biomaterials (BMAT), telephone: (703) 292-5326, email: [rduran@nsf.gov](mailto:rduran@nsf.gov)

- Steve Smith, Biomaterials (BMAT), telephone: (703) 292-8158, email: [sjsmith@nsf.gov](mailto:sjsmith@nsf.gov)
- Tomasz Durakiewicz, Condensed Matter Physics (CMP), telephone: (703) 292-4892, email: [tdurakie@nsf.gov](mailto:tdurakie@nsf.gov)

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**Grant Program: Division of Materials Research: Topical Materials Research Programs: Ceramics (CER), Electronic and Photonic Materials (EPM), Solid State and Materials Chemistry (SSMC) (DMR-TMRP CER, EPM, SSMC)**

**Agency: National Science Foundation NSF 20-588**

**RFP Website:** <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20588/nsf20588.htm>

**Brief Description:** Research supported by the Division of Materials Research (DMR) focuses on advancing fundamental understanding of materials, materials discovery, design, synthesis, characterization, properties, and materials-related phenomena. DMR awards enable understanding of the electronic, atomic, and molecular structures, mechanisms, and processes that govern nanoscale to macroscale morphology and properties; manipulation and control of these properties; discovery of emerging phenomena of matter and materials; and creation of novel design, synthesis, and processing strategies that lead to new materials with unique characteristics. These discoveries and advancements transcend traditional scientific and engineering disciplines. The Division supports research and education activities in the United States through funding of individual investigators, teams, centers, facilities, and instrumentation. Projects supported by DMR are essential for the development of future technologies and industries that meet societal needs, as well preparation of the next generation of materials researchers.

This solicitation applies to the following three DMR Topical Materials Research Programs that fund research and educational projects by individual investigators or small groups: Ceramics (CER), Electronic and Photonic Materials (EPM), and Solid State and Materials Chemistry (SSMC). It does not apply to the following five DMR Topical Materials Research Programs, which have their own solicitations: Biomaterials (BMAT), Condensed Matter Physics (CMP), Metals and Metallic Nanostructures (MMN), and Polymers (POL) ([NSF 20-589](#)), and Condensed Matter and Materials Theory (CMMT) ([NSF 20-582](#)).

**Awards:** Standard or continuing grants; **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$28,000,000

**Letters of Intent:** Not required

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** Proposals Accepted Anytime

**Contacts:** Lynnette D. Madsen, Ceramics (CER), telephone: (703) 292-4936, email: [lmadsen@nsf.gov](mailto:lmadsen@nsf.gov)

- James H. Edgar, Electronic and Photonic Materials (EPM), telephone: (703) 292-2053, email: [jedgar@nsf.gov](mailto:jedgar@nsf.gov)
- Robert L. Opila, Electronic and Photonic Materials (EPM), telephone: (703) 292-7812, email: [robopila@nsf.gov](mailto:robopila@nsf.gov)

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## **National Institutes of Health**

### **Grant Program: BRAIN Initiative: Data Archives for the BRAIN Initiative (R24 Clinical Trial Optional)**

**Agency:** National Institutes of Health RFA-MH-20-600

**RFP Website:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-20-600.html>

**Brief Description:** The purpose of this FOA is to provide support for the creation and management of more than one data archive to hold data related to the BRAIN Initiative. These archives are part of the informatics infrastructure for the BRAIN Initiative. The other components of that infrastructure include developing data standards that are needed to describe the new experiments that are being created by or used in the BRAIN Initiative ([RFA-MH-17-256](#), [RFA-MH-19-146](#), and [RFA-MH-20-128](#)), and developing software to visualize and analyze the data ([RFA-MH-17-257](#) and [RFA-MH-19-147](#)). Each of these components is aimed at building an infrastructure that is used by a particular sub-domain of BRAIN Initiative related experiments rather than building a single all-encompassing informatics infrastructure. Building the infrastructure one experimental area at a time will ensure that the infrastructure is immediately useful to the research community. As our understanding of the brain improves, we plan to create linkages between these various sub-domain specific informatics programs. While current efforts are limited in scope, investigators of the informatics programs should factor in plans for the eventual linkage of the various sub-domain specific informatics programs.

The data archives supported under this FOA are expected to use relevant standards that describe BRAIN Initiative experiments, and to be integrated with relevant software tools for visualization and analysis of archived data. Such standards and tools may be developed under BRAIN Initiative informatics awards or may already exist. Awardees under all the informatics programs are expected to work together. The awardees should budget for hackathons and other collaborative efforts that will be necessary to integrate the products produced by all awardees. Collaborations with neuro-informatics efforts outside of the BRAIN Initiative are both welcome and encouraged.

**Awards:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due dates

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** July 14, 2021, July 14, 2022, and July 14, 2023 by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on these dates. No late applications will be accepted for this Funding Opportunity Announcement.

All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on the listed date(s).

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**Contact:** Ming Zhan, Ph.D., National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), Telephone: 301-827-3678

Email: [ming.zhan@nih.gov](mailto:ming.zhan@nih.gov)

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**Grant Program: Emergency Awards: RADx-rad Data Coordination Center (DCC) (U24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

**Agency: National Institutes of Health RFA-OD-20-019**

**Companion Opportunities:**

[NOT-OD-20-159](#) - Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Availability of Emergency Competitive Revisions for Wastewater Surveillance Research for Public Health Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

[RFA-OD-20-015](#) - Emergency Awards: RADx-rad Wastewater Detection of SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) (U01 - Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

[RFA-OD-20-014](#) - Emergency Awards: Automatic Detection and Tracing of SARS-CoV-2 (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[RFA-OD-20-020](#) - Emergency Awards RADx-rad: Novel Biosensing for Screening, Diagnosis and Monitoring of COVID-19 From Skin and The Oral Cavity (R44 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[RFA-OD-20-021](#) - Emergency Awards RADx-rad: Novel Biosensing for Screening, Diagnosis and Monitoring of COVID-19 From Skin and The Oral Cavity (Fast-Track STTR Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[NOT-OD-20-152](#) - Availability of Emergency Competitive Revisions for Chemosensory Testing as a COVID-19 Screening Tool

[RFA-OD-20-022](#) - Chemosensory Testing as a COVID-19 Screening Tool (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)

[RFA-OD-20-016](#) - Emergency Awards: RADx-rad Multimodal COVID-19 surveillance methods for high risk clustered populations (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

[RFA-OD-20-017](#) - Emergency Awards RADx-rad: Screening for COVID-19 by Electronic-Nose Technology (SCENT) (U18 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[RFA-OD-20-018](#) - Emergency Awards: Exosome-based Non-traditional Technologies Towards Multi-Parametric and Integrated Approaches for SARS-CoV-2 (U18 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**RFP Website:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-20-019.html>

**Brief Description:** Expanding the capacity, throughput, and regional placement of existing technologies and accelerating the development of new technologies will contribute significantly to the current national efforts to curb the COVID-19 pandemic. To help meet this need, NIH launched the Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics (RADx) program to speed innovation in the development, commercialization, and implementation of technologies for COVID-19 testing. The RADx program is a national call for scientists and organizations to bring their innovative ideas for new COVID-19 testing approaches and strategies.

As a part of this program, the NIH developed the RADx Radical (RADx-rad) initiative. RADx-rad will support new, or non-traditional applications of existing approaches, to enhance their usability, accessibility, and/or accuracy. RADx-rad will be centrally aligned and coordinated to harmonize the data collection, storage, and management, providing an opportunity to further explore and identify additional approaches to understand this novel virus. Beyond the current crisis, it is anticipated that the technologies advanced through RADx-rad may also be applicable to other, yet unknown, infectious agents.

The RADx-rad Data Coordination Center (DCC) will provide overarching support and guidance to RADx-rad awardees in the following three areas: (1) Administrative Operations and Logistics, (2) Data Collection, Integration and Sharing, and (3) Data Management and Use.

**Awards:** Application budgets are limited to \$4 Million in annual direct costs.

**Letter of Intent:** August 31, 2020

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** September 30, 2020

No late applications will be accepted for this Funding Opportunity Announcement.

All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on the listed date(s).

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**Contact:** Valerie Florance, PhD, National Library of Medicine (NLM), Telephone: 301-496-4621

Email: [florancev@mail.nih.gov](mailto:florancev@mail.nih.gov)

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**Grant Program: Emergency Awards: RADx-rad Wastewater Detection of SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) (U01 - Clinical Trials Not Allowed)**

**Agency: National Institutes of Health RFA-OD-20-015**

**Companion Opportunities:**

[RFA-OD-20-014](#) - Emergency Awards: Automatic Detection and Tracing of SARS-CoV-2 (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[RFA-OD-20-020](#) - Emergency Awards RADx-rad: Novel Biosensing for Screening, Diagnosis and Monitoring of COVID-19 From Skin and The Oral Cavity (R44 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[RFA-OD-20-021](#) - Emergency Awards RADx-rad: Novel Biosensing for Screening, Diagnosis and Monitoring of COVID-19 From Skin and The Oral Cavity (Fast-Track STTR Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[NOT-OD-20-152](#) - Availability of Emergency Competitive Revisions for Chemosensory Testing as a COVID-19 Screening Tool

[RFA-OD-20-022](#) - Chemosensory Testing as a COVID-19 Screening Tool (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)

[RFA-OD-20-016](#) - Emergency Awards: RADx-rad Multimodal COVID-19 surveillance methods for high risk clustered populations (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

[RFA-OD-20-017](#) - Emergency Awards RADx-rad: Screening for COVID-19 by Electronic-Nose Technology (SCENT) (U18 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[RFA-OD-20-018](#) - Emergency Awards: Exosome-based Non-traditional Technologies Towards Multi-Parametric and Integrated Approaches for SARS-CoV-2 (U18 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**RFP Website:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-20-015.html>

**Brief Description:** Because traces of COVID-19 can be detected in human effluent, wastewater (i.e. sewage) sample testing can be an efficient and effective way to test defined population areas for the presence of COVID-19. Wastewater-based testing can be used alongside national and local data sources to provide cost-effective and objective measures of the presence of a specific compound (e.g., drug, virus). For over 20 years, wastewater-based testing (WBT), initially proposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, has been used in Europe, Australia, and the U.S. to test for the presence and extent of substance use in communities. Wastewater-based epidemiology (WBE) has also been successfully used as a surveillance tool for SARS, hepatitis A, and polio. Recent ongoing studies based on WBT with COVID-19 have provided an earlier prediction of an outbreak of COVID-19 cases, compared to data provided by individual-level testing, suggesting the possibility of using these data to inform early containment and mitigation measurements.

Historically, wastewater analysis approaches have focused on downstream sample collection, namely at the water treatment plants, which provides broad, city-level sampling that cannot be directly used to guide more localized estimates and related interventions. More recent novel approaches have focused on upstream sample collection, which allows for more granular, community- and neighborhood-level resolution. Advantages of such an approach, compared to individual-level testing, include the ability to capture a broader population size, the ability to be deployed in communities where individual-level testing may be difficult to implement, and anonymity of testing, which may reduce barriers to testing related to stigma. Community-level sampling can also be deployed in settings with a high risk of disease transmission (e.g., criminal justice facilities, assisted living/nursing home facilities, dormitories), within communities that are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 due to underlying health conditions or other

factors, and in areas with marginalized populations where access to or utilization of healthcare services, including individualized testing, may be limited. WBT-based surveillance can provide detailed mapping of the extent and spread of COVID-19 and has been shown to be orders of magnitude less expensive and faster than clinical screening, albeit serving as a complementary approach rather than substituting for individual-level testing and screening. Early engagement of communities in the identification of testing sites and implementation of testing, as well as dissemination of the data produced and reporting back to the community, may also improve compliance with community guidance aimed at preventing the spread of SARS-CoV-2, and mitigation strategies. Longer-term, the approaches developed for SARS-CoV-2 detection in wastewater could be leveraged to enable creation of early warning systems for future outbreaks of known and emerging pathogens.

**Awards:** Application budgets are limited to \$2,000,000 per year in Direct Costs and need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

**Letter of Intent:** August 15, 2020

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** September 15, 2020

No late applications will be accepted for this Funding Opportunity Announcement

All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on the listed date(s).

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**Contact:** David Balshaw, Ph.D., National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences ([NIEHS](#))  
984-287-3234; [david.balshaw@nih.gov](mailto:david.balshaw@nih.gov)

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**Grant Program: Emergency Awards RADx-RAD: Novel Biosensing for Screening, Diagnosis and Monitoring of COVID-19 From Skin and The Oral Cavity (Fast-Track STTR Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

**Agency: National Institutes of Health RFA-OD-20-021**

**Companion Opportunities:**

[RFA-OD-20-019](#) - Emergency Awards: RADx-rad Data Coordination Center (DCC) (U24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[RFA-OD-20-020](#) - Emergency Awards RADx-RAD: Novel Biosensing for Screening, Diagnosis and Monitoring of COVID-19 From Skin and The Oral Cavity (Direct to Phase II SBIR Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[RFA-OD-20-017](#) - Emergency Awards RADx-RAD: Screening for COVID-19 by Electronic-Nose Technology (SCENT) (U18 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**RFP Website:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-20-021.html>

**Brief Description:** This RFA solicits **Fast-Track STTR** applications to advance development of novel, non-traditional, safe and effective biosensing and detection approaches to identify the current SARS-CoV-2 virus or biomarkers of the COVID-19 disease, and/or with potential to address other pandemics from unknown viruses. Biosensing and detection technologies submitted to this initiative should provide associations between biomarkers emanating from **skin** or the **oral cavity** to patients with symptomatic and asymptomatic COVID-19. Leveraging the accessibility of human skin and the oral cavity, this FOA seeks 1) to advance novel biosensing technologies that are innovative, safe, and effective, and 2) to implement such technologies into devices with integrated artificial intelligent (AI) systems for the detection, diagnosis, prediction, prognosis and monitoring of COVID-19 in clinical, community and everyday settings.

Biosensing devices are expected to **target skin or the oral cavity as sampling sites**. Skin biosensing designs must target detection of volatile organic compounds (VOCs, i.e. scents or odors) emanating from

skin in passive and noninvasive manner for use at point of care. In addition to VOCs, oral biosensing technologies may target a wealth of biological, chemical and physical biosignatures representative of SARS-CoV-2 virus and/or COVID-19 disease sampled from exhaled breath/droplets, saliva, and tissues in the oral cavity using a variety of detection schemes.

**Awards:** Total funding support (direct costs, indirect costs, fee) normally may not exceed \$256,580 for Phase I awards and \$1,710,531 for Phase II awards.

**Letter of Intent:** August 18, 2020

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** September 18, 2020

All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All types of non-AIDS applications allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on the listed date(s).

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**Contact:** Orlando Lopez, Ph.D., National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)

Telephone: 301-402-4243, Email: [orlando.lopez@nih.gov](mailto:orlando.lopez@nih.gov)

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**Grant Program: Emergency Awards: RADx-RAD Multimodal COVID-19 surveillance methods for high risk clustered populations (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)**

**Agency: National Institutes of Health RFA-OD-20-016**

**RFP Website:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-20-016.html>

**Brief Description:** This FOA seeks research applications expanding the capacity, throughput, and regional placement of existing technologies and accelerating the development of new technologies that will contribute significantly to the current national efforts to curb the COVID-19 pandemic. The proposed surveillance technologies could include digital and algorithmic features, biometric technologies, and internet-based participatory surveillance, but should be adapted to the specific conditions of the high-density circumstances of residential care institutions or medical facilities. The responsive projects would focus on development of robust, local, real-time, accurate and cost-effective surveillance projects that demonstrate innovative integration of technologies. In addition to functional surveillance, these projects may also explore novel methods of data collection and interpretation and use of machine intelligence to facilitate broad-based, real-time assessment, along with data modeling, prediction and visualization (which would require the use of standard vocabulary and common data elements (CDE)), all in the context of addressing the needs of high risk, vulnerable populations. The applicants are encouraged to incorporate partnership with at least one category of at-risk institutions or facilities (e.g., senior living systems, jails and prisons, residential treatment facilities, dialysis units) to demonstrate the effectiveness of the novel surveillance approaches in a real-world setting.

**Awards:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

**Letter of Intent:** August 30, 2020

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** September 30, 2020

No late applications will be accepted for this Funding Opportunity Announcement.

All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on the listed date(s).

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**Contact:** Elena Koustova, PhD, MBA, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Phone: 301-496-8768, E-mail: [elena.koustova@nih.gov](mailto:elena.koustova@nih.gov)

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**Grant Program: Ethical, Legal and Social Implications (ELSI) Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)**

**Agency: National Institutes of Health PAR-20-255**

**Companion Opportunities:**

[PAR-20-254](#), [R01](#) Research Project Grant

[PAR-20-257](#), [R03](#) Small Grant Program

**RFP Website:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-255.html>

**Brief Description:** The NINDS is interested in research that addresses ethical, legal, and social issues for individuals and communities that emerge from human genome research in the domain of NINDS's core mission and the topics and disorders for which NINDS serves as a primary lead at the NIH. Please visit: <https://www.ninds.nih.gov/About-NINDS>. Areas of interest specific to NINDS include but are not limited to the ethical, legal, and social implications of: aspects of neurogenetic research with human participants, such as differing stakeholder views on return of research results to participants or patient consent-related issues; neurogenetic research with human brain tissue; collecting and sharing human neurogenetic data, such as de-identification, privacy, and re-use practices; predictive/diagnostic neurogenetic research related to brain disorders; management and understanding of uncertain individual neurogenetic research results and secondary findings; and issues pertaining to neurogenetic research with children, patients with rare diseases, and other vulnerable populations.

**Awards:** Application budgets are limited to a combined total of no more than \$275,000 in direct costs for the two year project, with no more than \$200,000 in direct costs in a single year

**Letter of Intent:** Not applicable

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** New Application Due Dates: October 19 2020, February 17 2021, June 17 2021, October 19 2021, February 17 2022, June 17 2022, October 19 2022, February 17 2023, June 19 2023. Resubmission and Revision Due Dates: November 17 2020, March 17 2021, July 19 2021, November 17 2021, March 17 2022, July 19 2022, November 17 2022, March 17 2023, July 19 2023

All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on the listed date(s)

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**Contact:** Joy Boyer, National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), Telephone: 301-402-4997

Email: [boyerj@mail.nih.gov](mailto:boyerj@mail.nih.gov)

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**Grant Program: Senator Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Specialized Research Centers (MDSRC) (P50 Clinical Trial Optional)**

**Agency: National Institutes of Health RFA-AR-21-008**

**RFP Website:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AR-21-008.html>

**Brief Description:** The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to solicit applications for Senator Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Specialized Research Centers (MDSRCs). These Centers promote collaborative basic, translational and clinical research and provide important resources that can be used by the national muscular dystrophy research community. A goal of this Centers program is to support important and innovative research in the muscular dystrophies that is best pursued through this interdisciplinary and collaborative Center environment, and projects that may not be as effective if supported by "stand-alone" research project grants. The Centers also provide outstanding environments for the training of new scientists electing to pursue careers conducting research in high priority areas of muscular dystrophy. Finally, Center investigators are expected to engage the patient and advocacy communities in conversations to increase awareness of research, encourage patient

participation in research and incorporate the perspectives of these communities in the conduct of patient-centered research.

**Awards:** Applicants may request up to \$1,000,000 direct costs/year (exclusive of facilities and administrative costs of subcontractors with collaborating organizations).

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** October 19, 2020

All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on the listed date(s). Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date..

**Contact:** Emily Carifi, Ph.D., National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS), Telephone: 301-496-0665, Email: [Emily.Carifi@nih.gov](mailto:Emily.Carifi@nih.gov)

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**Grant Program: Harnessing Data Science for Health Discovery and Innovation in Africa (DS-I Africa) Open Data Science Platform and Coordinating Center (U2C – Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

**Agency: National Institutes of Health RFA-RM-20-018**

**Companion Opportunities:**

[RFA-RM-20-015](#) **Specialized Center – Cooperative Agreements**

[RFA-RM-20-016](#) **International Research Training Cooperative Agreements**

[RFA-RM-20-017](#) **Research Project – Cooperative Agreements**

**RFP Website:** <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-20-018.html>

**Brief Description:** The DS-I Africa Open Data Science Platform and Coordinating Center FOA will consist of two components – the DS-I Africa Open Data Science Platform (ODSP) and Coordinating Center (CC) – funded via one U2C award.

The ODSP will be a scalable data-sharing gateway available to the research community with access to disparate types of open and controlled-access data, generated from the DS-I Africa Research Hubs (see Companion Funding Opportunities) as well as other existing sources. The ODSP will enable discovery and harness the collective data into actionable insights that individual researchers and health care professionals would not easily be able to develop with only the data generated from their own studies – democratizing access to and use of data through the use of FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) principles. The ODSP will also provide a core set of tools that enable cross-network projects and have the ability to deploy computational pipelines, workflows, and analyses developed by the Research Hub investigators and other users to analyze their own data in conjunction with other data accessible via the ODSP. The awardee will serve as a technical resource for the DS-I Africa Consortium to support relevant use cases including system capabilities to comply with international data protection and anonymization requirements. The awardee is also expected to foster collaborations with industry to leverage existing technologies and solutions that are cost-effective and sustainable.

The CC will be responsible for managing cross-consortium administrative functions, including engagement and communications across the consortium and among participants in all DS-I Africa elements (Working Groups, Steering Committee, DS-I Africa staff and external advisory groups/stakeholders and the public). The CC will also disseminate information about the consortium and facilitate working groups and semi-annual consortium meetings. In addition, the CC will work in close partnership with the ODSP to coordinate data science or related short-courses (online and in-person) and other training activities and establish a web presence for the consortium.

**Awards:** \$2,250,000 total costs per year

**Letter of Intent:** November 3, 2020

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** December 3, 2020

All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on the listed date(s). Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**Contact:** Tiffani Bailey Lash, Ph.D., National Institute for Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), Telephone: 301-496-4778, Email: [DS-I\\_AfricaFOA-Inqry@mail.nih.gov](mailto:DS-I_AfricaFOA-Inqry@mail.nih.gov)

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## **Department of Defense/US Army/DARPA/ONR/AFOSR**

### **Grant Program: Verified Security and Performance Enhancement of Large Legacy Software (V-SPELLS)**

**Agency:** Department of Defense DARPA - Information Innovation Office HR001120S0058

**Website:** <https://beta.sam.gov/opp/7dc5798bf5e74d8aa3df767edd3e0815/view>

**Brief Description:** The goal of the V-SPELLS program is to create a developer-accessible capability for piece-by-piece enhancement of software components with new verified code that is both correct-by-construction and compatible-by-construction, i.e., safely composable with the rest of the system. V-SPELLS will create practical tools for developers to gain benefits of formal software verification in incremental software (re)engineering rather than only in clean-slate introduction. V-SPELLS tools will enable developers to deliver assured incremental modernization of legacy systems in a manner that leverages verification technologies and reduces rather than raises risk. V-SPELLS aims to radically broaden adoption of software verification by enabling incremental introduction of superior technologies into systems that cannot be re-designed from scratch and replaced as a whole.

**Awards:** There are multiple technical areas for this solicitation. Currently, DARPA anticipates multiple awards in Technical Area 1, Technical Area 2 and Technical Area 3; and a single award for Technical Area 4. DARPA anticipates making multiple awards under this BAA, which has a total anticipated funding amount of approximately \$40 million.

**Letter of Intent:** Not Required

**Proposal Deadline:** September 9, 2020, 12:00 noon (ET)

**Proposers Day:** July 29, 2020

**Contact Information:** Dr. Sergey Bratus, Program Manager, DARPA/I2O

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### **Grant Program: DoD Combat Readiness, Rapid Development and Translational Research Award**

**Agency:** Department of Defense Dept. of the Army – USAMRAA W81XWH-20-S-CRRP

**Website:** <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=328340>

**Brief Description:** The CRRP vision is to deliver high-impact medical solutions throughout the continuum of care to increase survivability and readiness of the Warfighter in diverse operational settings. The program seeks to develop innovative solutions to increase medical readiness, mitigate fatalities, optimally treat life-threatening injuries, and promote positive long-term outcomes. While the CRRP focuses on capability gaps in frontline care, the program also considers how chronic disorders typically associated with pre-deployment readiness (e.g., sleep, gastrointestinal conditions) may influence the delivery of care in deployed environments and contribute to injury susceptibility and recovery. Innovations developed by CRRP-supported research may be applied proactively as a way to establish medical readiness ahead of deployment, in-theater at the point of injury or during periods of prolonged care, or during transport/en route care within and from theater to hospital settings. These solutions will

not only help to minimize the morbidity and mortality of combat-related injuries sustained by the Warfighter, they will also often translate to civilian care.

**Awards:** The anticipated total costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY20 CRRP RDTRA will not exceed \$2M.

**Letter of Intent:** Pre-Proposal Required

**Proposal Deadline:** Pre-Proposal/Pre-Application Submission Deadline: 5:00 p.m. Eastern time (ET), September 10, 2020 • Invitation to Submit an Application: October 16, 2020 • Proposal/Application Submission Deadline: 11:59 p.m. ET, December 3, 2020

**Contact Information:** CDMRP Help Desk Phone: 301-682-5507 Email: [Help@eBRAP.org](mailto:Help@eBRAP.org)

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### **Grant Program: Defense Sciences Office Office-wide**

**Agency:** Department of Defense DARPA - Defense Sciences Office HR001120S0048

**Website:** <https://beta.sam.gov/opp/36d6bc789b364142a0f7a267017b06d9/view>

**Brief Description:** The mission of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Defense Sciences Office (DSO) is to identify and create the next generation of scientific discovery by pursuing high-risk, high-payoff research initiatives across a broad spectrum of science and engineering disciplines and transforming these initiatives into disruptive technologies for U.S. national security. In support of this mission, the DSO Office-wide BAA invites proposers to submit innovative basic or applied research concepts or studies and analysis proposals that address one or more of the following technical thrust areas: (1) Frontiers in Math, Computation and Design, (2) Limits of Sensing and Sensors, (3) Complex Social Systems, and (4) Anticipating Surprise. Each of these thrust areas is described below and includes a list of example research topics that highlight several (but not all) potential areas of interest. Proposals must investigate innovative approaches that enable revolutionary advances. DSO is explicitly not interested in approaches or technologies that primarily result in evolutionary improvements to the existing state of practice.

**Awards:** Multiple awards are anticipated; however, the level of funding for individual awards made under this solicitation has not been predetermined and will depend on the scope and quality of the proposals received, as well as the availability of funds.

**Proposal Deadline:** Executive Summary Due Date and Time: Executive Summaries may be submitted on a rolling basis until Executive Summary Due Date: June 11, 2021, 4:00 p.m. o Proposal Abstract Due Date and Time: Abstracts may be submitted on a rolling basis until June 11, 2021, 4:00 p.m. o FAQ Submission Deadline: June 2, 2021, 4:00 p.m. See Section VIII.A. o Full Proposal Due Date and Time: Proposals may be submitted on a rolling basis until June 11, 2021, 4:00 p.m

**Contact Information:** Phil Root, Deputy Director, DARPA/DSO o BAA Email: [HR001120S0048@darpa.mil](mailto:HR001120S0048@darpa.mil)

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### **Grant Program: C4ISR, Information Operations, Cyberspace Operations and Information Technology System Research**

**Agency:** Department of Defense Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific N66001-20-S-4702

**Website:** <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

**Brief Description:** Naval Information Warfare Center, Pacific (NIWC Pacific), is soliciting proposals in accordance with FAR 35.016, DoDGARS 22.315(a), and DoD Other Transactions (OT) Guide for Prototype Projects for research in areas relating to the advancement of C4ISR capabilities, enabling technologies for Information Operations and Cyberspace Operations, and Information Technology systems. Submissions in response to this announcement shall be for areas relating to the advancement of Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance



(C4ISR) capabilities, enabling technologies for Information Operations and Cyberspace Operations, and Information Technology systems.

Proposed research should investigate unique and innovative approaches for defining and developing next generation integratable C4ISR capabilities and command suites. The area topics reflect the interest of the NIWC Pacific, but interest from other Team NAVWAR components could be generated and selections could be made for funding by other than NIWC Pacific. Only offers that are in the areas of basic research, applied research, advanced technology development, and advanced component development and prototypes will be considered (see Appendix A). Testing and optimizing of concepts or prototypes may be necessary. This may involve virtual simulation and/or laboratory as well as at sea measurements.

**Awards:** Multiple awards are anticipated

**Proposal Deadline:** This announcement is open for 365 days from the original posting date. Any white papers received during that time shall only be considered for award of a contract, other transaction, grant, or cooperative agreement. Closing date; June 03, 2021

**Contact Information:** David Roden (Primary) Contract Specialist Telephone: (619) 553-2087 Email: [David.Roden@navy.mil](mailto:David.Roden@navy.mil) NIWC Pacific Code 22710 53560 Hull Street San Diego, CA 92152-5001

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## **Department of Transportation**

### **Grant Program: Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment Initiative**

**Agency:** Department of Transportation 693JJ320NF00010

**Website:** <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/advtranscongmgmtfs.cfm>

**Brief Description:** The DOT hereby requests applications to result in awards to eligible entities to develop model deployment sites for large scale installation and operation of advanced transportation technologies to improve safety, efficiency, system performance, and infrastructure return on investment. These model deployments are expected to provide benefits in the form of: • reduced traffic-related fatalities and injuries; • reduced traffic congestion and improved travel time reliability; • reduced transportation-related emissions; • optimized multimodal system performance; • improved access to transportation alternatives, including for underserved populations; • public access to real time integrated traffic, transit, and multimodal transportation information to make informed travel decisions; • cost savings to transportation agencies, businesses, and the traveling public; or • other benefits to transportation users and the general public. This competitive ATCMTD Grant Program will promote the use of innovative transportation solutions. The deployment of these technologies will provide Congress and DOT with valuable real-life data and feedback to inform future decision-making.

**Letter of Intent:** Not Required

**Proposal Deadline:** August 31, 2020

**Contact Information:** Submit Questions to: [ATCMTD@dot.gov](mailto:ATCMTD@dot.gov)

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## **Department of Agriculture:**

### **Grant Program: NRCS's Regional Conservation Partnership Program**

**Agency:** Department of Agriculture USDA-NRCS-NHQ-RCPPC-21-NOFO0001033

**Website:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/rcpp/>

**Brief Description:** The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) promotes coordination of NRCS conservation activities with partners that offer value-added contributions to expand our collective ability to address on-farm, watershed, and regional natural resource concerns. Through RCPP, NRCS seeks to co-invest with partners to implement projects that demonstrate innovative solutions to conservation challenges and provide measurable improvements and outcomes tied to the resource concerns they seek to address. Successful RCPP projects embody the following core principles:

- **Impact**—RCPP applications must propose effective and compelling solutions that address one or more natural resource priorities to help solve natural resource challenges. Partners are responsible for evaluating a project's impact and results.
- **Partner Contributions**—Partners are responsible for identifying any combination of cash and in-kind value-added contributions to leverage NRCS's RCPP investments. It is NRCS's goal that partner contributions at least equal the NRCS investment in an RCPP project. Substantive partner contributions are given priority consideration as part of the RCPP application evaluation criteria.
- **Innovation**—NRCS seeks projects that integrate multiple conservation approaches, implement innovative conservation approaches or technologies, build new partnerships, and effectively take advantage of program flexibilities to deliver conservation solutions.
- **Partnerships and Management**—Partners must have experience, expertise, and capacity to manage the partnership and project, provide outreach to producers, and quantify the environmental outcomes of an RCPP project. RCPP ranking criteria give preference to applicants that meaningfully engage historically underserved farmers and ranchers.

**Awards:** Up to \$10,000,000; Anticipated available funding: \$360,000,000

**Proposal Deadline:** RCPP Classic Application Period Open through November 4, 2020

**Contact Information:** [NRCS RCPP Staff](#)

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**Grant Program: Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Foundational and Applied Science**

**Agency: Department of Agriculture USDA-NIFA-AFRI-007692**

**Website:** <https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/agriculture-and-food-research-initiative-foundational-applied-science-program>

**Brief Description:** The AFRI Foundational and Applied Science Program supports grants in six AFRI priority areas to advance knowledge in both fundamental and applied sciences important to agriculture. The six priority areas are: Plant Health and Production and Plant Products; Animal Health and Production and Animal Products; Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health; Bioenergy, Natural Resources, and Environment; Agriculture Systems and Technology; and Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities. Research-only, extension-only, and integrated research, education and/or extension projects are solicited in this Request for Applications (RFA). See Foundational and Applied Science RFA for specific details.

**Letter of Intent: Required.**

**Awards:** Up to \$15,000,000; Anticipated available funding: \$290,000,000

**Proposal Deadline:** Thursday, July 29, 2021

**Contact Information:** [AFRI Coordination Team](#)

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**Grant Program: REAP-Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements**

**Agency: Department of Agriculture RDBCP-11-REAP-RES-EEI-2020**

**Website:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-08-30/pdf/2019-18825.pdf>

**Brief Description:** Eligible applicants are agricultural producers and rural small businesses. All agricultural producers, including farmers and ranchers, who gain 50% or more of their gross income from

the agricultural operations are eligible. Small businesses that are located in a rural area can also apply. Rural electric cooperatives may also be eligible to apply. Additional Information on Eligibility: Citizenship - To be eligible, applicants must be individuals or entities at least 51 percent owned by persons who are either: 1) citizens of the United States (U.S.), the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or American Samoa; or 2) legally admitted permanent residents residing in the U.S. Project - The project must be to conduct a feasibility study for a renewable energy system. Eligible technologies include: projects that produce energy from wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, hydro power and hydrogen-based sources.

**Awards:** Up to \$500,000; Anticipated Funding: \$70 million

**Submission Deadline:** September 30, 2020

**Contact: Technical Contact:** Maureen Hessel, Energy Specialist, Phone 202-401-0142

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## **Department of Labor**

### **Grant Program: Supply Chains Tracing Project**

**Agency: Department of Labor FOA-ILAB-20-04**

**Website:** <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=328321>

**Brief Description:** The Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB), U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL, or the Department), announces the availability of approximately \$8,000,000 total costs (subject to the availability of federal funds) for up to two cooperative agreements of up to \$4,000,000 total costs each to fund technical assistance projects to increase the downstream tracing of goods made by child labor or forced labor. 1 Project outputs include (1) increasing the number of tested supply chain tracing methodologies; (2) increasing the number of piloted tools for supply chain tracing; and (3) increasing the dissemination of supply chain tracing tools and methodologies to a broad range of stakeholders.

**Awards:** The duration of the project will be a maximum of 4.5 years (54 months) from the effective date of the award. If applying for both cooperative agreements, applicants may not combine applications into one—they must submit separate applications. Each application should request no more than \$4,000,000 total costs in funding and each application must separately meet all the requirements of this announcement. In the event that the same applicant is selected for award for both cooperative agreements, USDOL reserves the right to issue one cooperative agreement covering both proposals, and to adjust the budget accordingly for administrative costs.

**Proposal Deadline:** : The closing date for receipt of applications under this announcement is September 8, 2020. Applications must be received no later than 4:00:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

**Contact Information:** Sue Levenstein, Grants Management Specialist. [levenstein.susan.l@dol.gov](mailto:levenstein.susan.l@dol.gov)

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## **EPA**

### **Grant Program: FY2021 Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) Grants**

**Agency: Environmental Protection Agency EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-03**

**Website:** <https://www.epa.gov/grants/fy2021-environmental-workforce-development-and-job-training-ewdjt-grants>

**Brief Description:** This notice announces the availability of funds and solicits applications from eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to deliver Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training programs that recruit, train, and place local, unemployed and under-employed residents with the skills needed to secure full-time employment in the environmental field. While Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grants require training in brownfield assessment and/or cleanup activities, these grants also require that Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) training be provided to all individuals being trained. EPA encourages applicants to develop their curricula based on local labor market assessments and employers' hiring needs, while also delivering comprehensive training that results in graduates securing multiple certifications.

**Award:** The total funding available under this competitive opportunity for FY 21 is approximately \$3,000,000,

**Submission Deadline:** September 22, 2020, 11:59 p.m. ET.

**Contact:** Channing Shepherd, (202) 566-1238. [Channing Shepherd](#)

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## **Department of Energy**

### **Grant Program: American-Made Solar Prize**

**Agency:** Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL)

**Website:** <https://www.herox.com/solarprizeround4>

**Brief Description:** The American-Made Solar Prize is a \$3M competition organized by NREL to revitalize the US ecosystem of innovators and entrepreneurs in solar. Our goal is to rapidly develop new solar solutions and bring them to market.

The Solar Prize is an opportunity for anyone interested in accelerating ideas and solutions. The American-Made Network is designed to strengthen and scale the very best ideas and teams through three progressive prize competitions, the Ready! Set! Go! Contests. This network provides the tools and expertise to help projects succeed and is comprised of an unparalleled innovation system. These resources will provide technical insight, product validation, and strategic support to teams throughout the competition. **Competing in the prize is easy!**

1. Identify an important problem you want to solve
2. Submit a 90-second video describing your challenge and proposed solution, team, and plan
3. Answer a short, four-question narrative and make a slide about this problem or challenge
4. Submit a two-page technical assistance request
5. Update your videos and statements as you advance through the contests.

Read more about preferred innovation approaches for the Prize at our [ProblemSpace](#) platform or attend the [Solar Prize information webinar](#) hosted by NREL on 8/19. When you're ready to go, share your idea at the [American-Made Solar Prize](#) application site.

**Awards:** Winning teams receive *up to \$500K in non-dilutive funding* in addition to in-kind support from the National Labs. To date, 60 winners from 23 different states have been selected over 3 rounds for a total of \$9M in funding

**Letter of Intent:** Please visit the [How to Compete in the American-Made Solar Prize page](#) to view the full rules for the American-Made Challenges Solar Prize.

**Submission Deadline:** October 8, 2020

**Contact:** Chris Richardson [ADL Ventures](#) - [Email](#)

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## NASA

### **Grant Program: 2020 Human Exploration Research Opportunities (HERO)**

**Agency:** NASA 80JSC020N0001-OMNIBUS1

**Website:** <https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary.do?solId=%7B2B94302E-810F-1496-2800-F2632701BFC3%7D&path=&method=init>

**Brief Description:** This National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Research Announcement (NRA), entitled “Human Exploration Research Opportunities (HERO)–2020”, solicits applied research in support of NASA’s Human Research Program (HRP). The research will fall into one or more categories corresponding to HRP’s five Elements: Space Radiation, Human Health Countermeasures, Exploration Medical Capability, Human Factors and Behavioral Performance, and Research Operations and Integration. This NRA covers all aspects of research to provide human health and performance countermeasures, knowledge, technologies, and tools to enable safe, reliable, and productive human space exploration.

**Awards:** Grants issued in response to this Omnibus opportunity are expected to last one year and cost no more than \$150,000 total per award.

**Notice of Intent:** Step-1 Proposal is required

**Proposal Deadline:**

OMNIBUS1 Step-1 Proposals Due Sep 01, 2020

OMNIBUS1 Step-2 Proposals Due Dec 01, 2020

**Contact:** Jennifer Fogarty, Ph.D. Chief Scientist, Human Research Program, NASA Johnson Space Center (Mail Code SA2), Houston, TX 77058 Telephone: 281-483-9753

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### **Grant Program: ROSES 2020: Science Team for the OCO Missions**

**Agency:** NASA NNH20ZDA001N-OCOST

**Website:** <https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary.do?solId=%7B7B9745C4-04AD-74F8-59B7-3CF0C8EF15E3%7D&path=&method=init>

**Brief Description:** Proposals are solicited for participation in the Science Team for the Orbiting Carbon Observatory-2 (OCO-2) and Orbiting Carbon Observatory-3 (OCO-3) missions. NASA launched the OCO-2 mission in July 2014. OCO-2 has been operating on orbit, producing precise column average CO<sub>2</sub> concentration data globally with validated precision and accuracy of better than 0.25% , since September 2014. The OCO-3 mission, with a near-replica instrument to OCO-2, has been operating on the International Space Station (ISS) since June of 2019 and is now returning data with similar precisions as OCO-2. The primary differences in the data sets are the spatial and temporal sampling as a result of the different orbits of the observations (especially inclination) and the available observational modes of the instruments.

**Awards:** Funding anticipated: \$3,500,000

**Notice of Intent:** November 13, 2020

**Proposal Deadline:** January 13, 2021

**Contact:** Kenneth W. Jucks, Earth Science Division, Science Mission Directorate, NASA Headquarters Washington, DC 20546-0001 Telephone: 202-358-0476 Email: [kenneth.w.jucks@nasa.gov](mailto:kenneth.w.jucks@nasa.gov)

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### **Grant Program: ROSES 2020: SAGE III/ ISS Science Team**

**Agency:** NASA NNH20ZDA001N-SAGEIII

**Website:** <https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary.do?solId=%7BABC8F050-A310-7184-B919-6220765BAF10%7D&path=&method=init>

**Brief Description:** NASA's research for furthering our understanding of atmospheric composition is geared toward providing an improved prognostic capability for key processes and issues, including the recovery of stratospheric ozone and its impacts on surface ultraviolet radiation, evolution of greenhouse gases and their impacts on climate, and evolution of tropospheric ozone and aerosols and their impacts on climate and air quality. Research within the Atmospheric Composition Focus Area addresses the following science questions: • How is atmospheric composition changing? • What trends in atmospheric composition and solar radiation are driving global climate? • How does atmospheric composition respond to and affect global environmental change? • What are the effects of global atmospheric composition and climate changes on regional air quality? • How will future changes in atmospheric composition affect ozone, climate, and global air quality?

**Awards:** Funding anticipated: \$1,500,000

**Notice of Intent:** September 18, 2020

**Proposal Deadline:** November 6, 2020

**Contact:** Richard S. Eckman, Earth Science Division, Science Mission Directorate, NASA Headquarters Washington, DC 20546-0001, Telephone: 202-358-2567 Email: [Richard.S.Eckman@nasa.gov](mailto:Richard.S.Eckman@nasa.gov)

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**Grant Program: ROSES 2020: The New (Early Career) Investigator Program in Earth Science**

**Agency:** NASA NNH20ZDA001N-NIP

**Website:** <https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary.do?solId=%7BB05DE781-3B1F-E548-F61A-BB14F66A2FAE%7D&path=&method=init>

**Brief Description:** The New (Early Career) Investigator Program (NIP) in Earth science is designed to support outstanding scientific research and career development of scientists and engineers at the early stage of their professional careers. The program welcomes innovative research initiatives and seeks to cultivate diverse scientific leadership in Earth system science. The Earth Science Division (ESD) places particular emphasis on the investigators' ability to promote and increase the use of space-based remote sensing through the proposed research. Proposals with objectives connected to needs identified in most recent Decadal Survey Thriving on our Changing Planet: A Decadal Strategy for Earth Observation from Space are welcomed.

The NIP supports all aspects of scientific and technological research aimed to advance NASA's mission in Earth system science (See the NASA Science Plan <http://science.nasa.gov/about-us/science-strategy/>).

**Awards:** Various; Available funding: \$3,000,000

**Proposal Deadline:** September 20, 2021

**Contact:** Allison Leidner Earth Science Division Science Mission Directorate NASA Headquarters Washington, DC 20546-0001 Telephone: 202.358.0855 Email: [Allison.K.Leidner@nasa.gov](mailto:Allison.K.Leidner@nasa.gov)

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**Grant Program: ROSES 2020: Space Weather Science Application Operations-to-Research**

**Agency:** NASA NNH20ZDA001N-SWO2R

**Website:** <https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary.do?solId=%7B2FF5915D-4700-7B3B-43F1-0094ED1BE130%7D&path=&method=init>

**Brief Description:** The primary goal of the Space Weather Science Application Operations-to-Research (SWO2R) program is to support research to improve numerical models and/or data utilization techniques that could advance specification and/or forecasting capabilities and which could also lead to improved scientific understanding.

The primary goal of this solicitation is to support research to improve numerical models and/or data utilization techniques that could advance forecasting and/or specification capabilities and which could also lead to improved scientific understanding. Effective utilization of available data is encouraged.

Employing advanced techniques for data assimilation, ensemble, and/or machine-learning is also encouraged. Improved neutral density specification and forecast capabilities could include, for example, effects of forcing from below, effects of variations in solar EUV flux, effects of heating from particle precipitation and joule dissipation, assimilation of satellite drag data, and regional variations in density. Improved neutral density specification and forecasts can support numerous applications, including satellite drag and orbit propagation, meeting Orbital Debris Mitigation Standard Practices (ODMSP), and planning satellite megaconstellation operations. Improved forecasting and specification of the ionosphere could include the dynamics of total electron content, ionospheric scintillation, and electron density structure.

**Awards:** Various; Available funding: \$2,000.000

**Step 1 Proposal:** December 16, 2020

**Step 2 Proposal Deadline:** February 17, 2021

**Contact:** James Spann Heliophysics Division Science mission Directorate NASA Headquarters  
Washington, DC 20546-0001 Telephone: 202-358-0574 Email: [jim.spann@nasa.gov](mailto:jim.spann@nasa.gov)

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## **National Endowment of Humanities**

### **Grant Program: Public Humanities Projects**

**Agency:** National Endowment for the Humanities 20200907-BP-BR-GE-GG-GI

**Website:** <https://www.neh.gov/grants/public/public-humanities-projects>

**Brief Description:** The Public Humanities Projects program supports projects that bring the ideas and insights of the humanities to life for general audiences through in-person programming. Projects must engage humanities scholarship to analyze significant themes in disciplines such as history, literature, ethics, and art history. Public Humanities Projects supports projects in three program categories (Exhibitions, Historic Places, and Humanities Discussions), and at two funding levels (Planning and Implementation). Regardless of proposed activity, NEH encourages applicants to explore humanities ideas through multiple formats. Proposed projects may include complementary components: for example, a museum exhibition might be accompanied by a website or mobile app.

**Proposal Deadline:** Optional Draft due August 20, 2020; Application due September 8, 2020

**Contact:** Contact the Division of Public Programs Team; 202-606-8269; [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov)

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## **Private Foundations**

### **Activate.ORG**

#### **Grant Program: Activate Fellowships**

**Agency:** Activate.org

**Website:** <https://www.activate.org/>

**Brief Description:** We exist to discover, fund, champion, and propel individuals who have a technology vision that could benefit society and who are committed to bringing it to the world as a new product or business. Every year, we work with our partners to select a cohort of entrepreneurial scientists and engineers from around the world to be fellows. For two years these innovators embed in a world-class

research institution, where they are supported with funding, mentorship, education, and connections with our network of industry leaders, investors, and philanthropists.

Our goal is simple: empower fellows to mature their ideas from concept to first product, while positioning them to align with the most suitable commercial path to bring their technology to scale.

**Awards:** Fellows receive a yearly living stipend of \$80,000 to \$110,000 plus a health insurance stipend and travel allowance. This enables them to focus on their project full-time. Each project also receives \$100,000 of research support at the host laboratory.

**Proposal Deadline:** Applications open early October

**Contact:** If interested, please contact Dr. Michael Ehrlich, Associate Professor, Martin Tuchman School of Management, and Co-Director of NJ Innovation Acceleration Center at [michael.a.ehrlich@njit.edu](mailto:michael.a.ehrlich@njit.edu)

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## **Research Corporation for Science Advancement**

### **Grant Program: Cottrell Scholar Award**

**Agency:**

**Research Corporation for Science Advancement**

**Website:** <https://rescorp.org/cottrell-scholars/guidelines>

**Brief Description:** The Cottrell Scholar Award (CSA) is available to early career faculty at US and Canadian research universities and primarily undergraduate institutions. Eligible applicants are tenure-track faculty who hold primary or courtesy appointments in chemistry, physics, or astronomy departments that offer bachelor's and/or graduate degrees in the applicant's discipline. For the 2020 proposal cycle, eligibility is limited to faculty members who started their first tenure-track appointment anytime in calendar year 2017. Accommodations are made for faculty who have taken maternity or paternity leave, or who have experienced medical conditions that prompted a tenure clock extension. To request an eligibility extension, contact Senior Program Director Silvia Ronco ([sronco@rescorp.org](mailto:sronco@rescorp.org)).

**Awards:** Cottrell Scholar Awards are for three-year projects for \$100,000 for the entire project.

**Proposal Deadline:** Due to the COVID-19 emergency, the submission portal will remain open until **August 15, 2020** midnight PDT (hard deadline).

**Contact:** If interested, please send an email to Atam Dhawan ([dhawan@njit.edu](mailto:dhawan@njit.edu)) or Richard Rosenberg at [rmr@njit.edu](mailto:rmr@njit.edu)

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## **Streamlyne Question of the Week**

**Question:** Can I generate budgets for multiple years from the Year-1 budget in Streamlyne?

**Answer:** Yes! You only need to input the Year-1 budget and then click on the “generate all periods” button. Streamlyne will create budget sheets for the remaining periods. You can then go to “summary” under the budget tab to review budget sheets for all periods. You can also change specific budget items that you allocated in Year-1 but you do not want to continue them in the following periods.

More FAQs on Streamlyne: Please visit <https://research.njit.edu/streamlyne>

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## **Proposal Submission and Streamlyne Information**

### **Internal Timeline for Successful and Timely Proposal Submission**

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, PIs are strongly advised to prepare proposals well in advance of agency deadlines. Every effort will be made to meet agency deadlines following the NJIT Research Continuity Plan (<https://research.njit.edu/njit-research-continuity-plan>).

The NJIT Proposal Submission Guidelines and Policy posted on the website <https://research.njit.edu/proposal-submission-guidelines> provides the expected institutional timeline for proposal submission. Streamlyne User Manuals are posted on <https://research.njit.edu/streamlyne>. For contact information on proposal submission, pre-award services and post-award grant management, please visit research website <https://research.njit.edu/researchers> and <https://research.njit.edu/contact>.

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