



Vermont NASA EPSCoR Program

NASA EPSCoR 2017 Faculty Research Team Competition

Call for Pre-Proposals

NOI Deadline: Monday, October 3 at 11:59 PM
Preproposal Deadline: Tuesday, November 1 at 11:59 PM

Overview. Vermont's NASA EPSCoR Project anticipates that a solicitation from the National Program at NASA Headquarters for a new 2017 NASA EPSCoR Faculty Research Team Competition will be announced sometime late in the Fall of 2016 or early 2017. In past years, through this competition NASA EPSCoR has made awards of \$750,000 for a three-year period of performance to the selected research teams, including a 50% match (1-to-2) consisting of local non-Federal funds. In-kind matches are allowable and common.

A NASA EPSCoR Research Team project funded in the competition will be expected to establish research activities that will make significant contributions to the strategic research and technology development priorities of one or more of NASA's Mission Directorates as well as contribute to the overall research infrastructure, science and technology capabilities, higher education, and economic development of the EPSCoR state. It is important to understand that research proposals that are not clearly aligned with NASA's needs and interests, however meritorious, will not be considered.

It is expected that Vermont will be allowed to submit one proposal to the 2017 competition and that the deadline for submission to NASA of the proposal will be sometime in the first quarter of 2016 (or roughly 60-90 days after the solicitation formally appears on NASA's NSPIRES website). Therefore, it will be necessary to identify, in advance, the project that Vermont will propose to this 2017 competition. The selection will be made in December based on peer-reviewed pre-proposals.

Eligibility. This competition is open to all full-time faculty at Vermont's institutions of higher learning. As one of the goals of the NASA EPSCoR Program is promote a diversity of participants, both early career faculty and senior faculty exploring new research avenues in NASA-related areas are especially encouraged to apply. Meritorious submissions *by first-time principal investigators will receive priority* in order to increase the diversity within the program.

Notice of Intent. New to this competition this year will be the submission of a “notice of intent” for the project. This component will allow the Vermont NASA EPSCoR Office lead time in arranging appropriate peer reviewers for the evaluation process. The notice of intent will consist of the following information:

- Project title
- Science PI and Research Team
- Target NASA Mission Directorate(s) for the project
- A 200-word maximum abstract summarizing the intended research

The NOI information will be submitted online using Google Forms; the link for the NOI submission is <https://goo.gl/forms/9JfrANRg3DYEKWwJ3>

The NOI is to be submitted no later than 11:59 PM on Monday, October 3, 2016.

Pre-proposal Submission Process. Vermont faculty researchers wishing to be considered as Science PI for inclusion in this competition are required to electronically submit a project pre-proposal. The pre-proposal packet will consist of the following:

- A cover page giving the title of the proposed project and listing the names, affiliations, and email addresses of the project’s team leader (Science PI) and all team members. For your convenience, a template is provided and should be used.
- A narrative section of no more than four pages (12 point Times font, 1-inch margins) describing the proposed research project. References should be placed at the end of this section and are not included in the 5-page limit.
- A NASA Relevance section of no more than two pages explicitly detailing the connection between the proposed project and one or more new or continuing research priorities or technical needs of NASA’s Mission Directorates. This section should also list NASA contacts as well as any planned use of NASA resources (data, facilities, collaborations with personnel, etc.)
- (Optional, but strongly encouraged) Include any letters of support from NASA collaborators
- A Summary Budget section that contains an approximate description of the project’s budget and indicates the anticipated composition of the non-federal match. *Neither full budget details nor letters of commitment for the matching are required for this pre-proposal.*¹ However, for each of the three years in the performance period, the budget outline should give an informed estimate of how the total project budget (NASA EPSCoR funding plus match) is likely to be divided into categories such as faculty summer research salaries, percentages of

¹ Please do not request a formal worksheet generation by Sponsored Programs nor should you make requests to the VP for Research at this stage.

academic year effort, graduate student support, equipment, travel, etc.

Pre-proposal packets for this funding opportunity should be submitted electronically as a single PDF file to VT-NASA EPSCoR State Project Director Prof. Darren Hitt (SG.Director@uvm.edu) with CC to the Vermont Space Grant Consortium Office (Debra Fraser, dfraser1@uvm.edu) **no later than 11:59 PM on Tuesday, November 1, 2016**. Please use the subject line “NASA EPSCoR Preproposal Submission” to assist in our archiving of all submissions.

For further information, please contact the VT NASA Program Office in 120 Farrell Hall (802-656-1429).