Limited Submission RFP - Call for Nominations

NSF – Materials Research Science and Engineering Centers

Sponsor's Name: NSF – National Science Foundation

Sponsor Contact Information:
- Name: Daniele Finotello
- E-mail: dfinotel@nsf.gov
- Phone: 703-292-4676
- Address: 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230

Funding Amount: $2,200,000 to 4,000,000 per year for 6 years

Preliminary Deadline: 7/1/2016

Sponsor's Deadline: 12/2/2016

Response to OSP: 4/22/2016


Synopsis

Materials Research Science and Engineering Centers (MRSEC) provide sustained support of interdisciplinary materials research and education of the highest quality while addressing fundamental problems in science and engineering. MRSECs address research of a scope and complexity requiring the scale, synergy, and interdisciplinarity provided by a campus-based research center. They support materials research infrastructure in the United States, promote active collaboration between universities and other sectors, including industry and international institutions, and contribute to the development of a national network of university-based centers in materials research, education, and facilities. A MRSEC may be located at a single institution, or may involve multiple institutions in partnership. Each MRSEC is expected to house 2-3 interdisciplinary research groups (IRGs) that need not share a scientific theme. CSU has initiated an effort to prepare a MRSEC proposal, which has been under development for more than 18 months. This group, supported by the OVPR through the CIP program, has already started to formulate groups of faculty that could serve as the basis for potential IRGs. With this call, we are interested in a) discovering if there are additional groups of materials researchers who are interested in formulating a potential IRG to be included in this current CSU MRSEC proposal under development, and b) if there are any other mature teams considering a MRSEC application at this time. The MRSEC solicitation states that IRGs typically contain 6-10 faculty members. The IRGs should be aligned with research supported by one or more of the core programs in the NSF Division of Materials Research (Biomaterials, Ceramics, Condensed Matter Physics, Condensed Matter and Materials Theory, Electronic and Photonic Materials, Metals and Metallic Nanostructures, Polymers, and Solid State and Materials Chemistry).

Eligibility

Proposals may be submitted by universities and two- and four-year colleges (including community colleges) accredited in, and having a campus located in, the US acting on behalf of their faculty members. Such organizations also are referred to as academic institutions. Only one MRSEC preliminary proposal may be submitted by any one organization as the lead institution in this competition. An individual may be the Principal Investigator (PI) or co-PI for only one preliminary proposal, i.e., no investigator can be listed on the cover page on more than one proposal.

Funding Guidelines

Individual MRSEC awards are expected to range in size from approximately $2.2 million/year to a maximum of $4 million/year, depending on the number of IRGs. Awards will be made for an initial duration of up to six years, but the level of funding is contingent on successful progress and upon the outcome of external review. Source: Grants.gov (02/26/16). (cas)

The on-campus nomination process

- Research Associate Deans advise faculty of restricted funding opportunity. Web sites are included to help distribute program information.
- Applicants provide their Research Associate Dean with a nomination that includes a 2-page description of proposed activity, including how that relevant research experience relates to the RFP and the agency and addresses the eligibility requirements.
- Colleges select only as many candidates as allowed (number specified above).
- Colleges fill out the Limited Submission RFP Nomination Form cover page found on the Limited Submission Program Announcements web page: https://rsweb.research.colostate.edu/restrictedprograms/restricted_programs.aspx
- Colleges forward nominations, including the Limited Submission RFP Nomination Form cover page, to Sponsored Programs via email (Restricted@research.colostate.edu). DUE: 4/22/2016
- The Vice President for Research and the VPR leadership team, in consultation with the Deans or other advisory groups as necessary, will determine which proposal(s)