

Energy Instrumentation Grants Cycle 12 - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Issue Date October 9, 2017
Proposal Due November 3, 2017 5:00 p.m. CDT

- A. DESCRIPTION.** The Nebraska Center for Energy Sciences Research (NCESR), a collaboration between the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), was established to enhance UNL research on renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and energy conservation; and to expand economic opportunities and improve quality of life for Nebraska and the nation.
- B. GOAL.** The overall goal of NCESR is to foster research and education in energy sciences by providing funding to support innovative research and collaboration among UNL faculty and with other public- and private-sector organizations and businesses. More information about the Energy Center and previously funded energy research grants can be found at ncesr.unl.edu.
- C. INSTRUMENTATION GRANTS.** NCESR seeks innovative laboratory instrumentation proposals that will facilitate energy science research. All areas of energy science research will be considered, including but not limited to: biofuels and bioproducts; carbon management; energy use efficiency; energy conversion; energy storage; materials; and water, energy and agriculture. Proposed instrumentation requests must show that the instrumentation obtained will be maintained and made available to all faculty, researchers and students at UNL.
- D. Instrumentation TEAM.**
1. The instrumentation team includes the Principal Investigator (PI), up to two Co-Investigator(s) and other internal and/or external members as appropriate to successfully perform the proposed work.
 2. The PI must be a current UNL faculty member holding a tenured, tenure-track (e.g. Assistant, Associate, or Professor).
 3. The Co-Investigator(s) must be current UNL faculty. One Co-Investigator is required, however, one additional Co-Investigator is allowed. The Co-Investigator(s) must be willing and able to take on the role of the PI in the unforeseen event the PI no longer can perform that function. The Co-Investigators must hold a tenured, tenure-track *or* non-tenure-track faculty appointment.
 4. UNL faculty may serve as the PI for only one (1) proposal; however, any individual may serve as a Co- Investigator on multiple pre-proposals.
 5. UNL faculty not designated as the PI and Co-Investigator(s) are to be identified as participants on the research team.
 6. Researchers from other universities and/or external partners from the private-sector may also be members of the research team.
- E. FUNDING.** Funding to support energy sciences instrumentation is provided by the NPPD (www.nppd.com) to UNL and administered by the NCESR (ncesr.unl.edu).

F. PROJECT PERIOD.

1. The intent is for the effective start date to be January 1, 2018.
2. The project period for one Year 1 is intended to be January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018.

G. BUDGET. The maximum instrumentation budget request is \$150,000.

1. When estimating the total instrumentation budget requested, salary and benefits are not allowed for any faculty, researchers or students. Funding for laboratory or facility improvement will not be considered. Funding will only be allowed for the purchase of instrumentation/equipment. This includes capital equipment and/or components that can be assembled to create appropriate instrumentation

H. EXPECTATION TO ENHANCE OBTAINING EXTERNAL FUNDING.

It is important and must be understood that those projects selected to receive instrumentation funding are expected to actively promote the submission of proposals by equipment users to secure external funding. Specifically, proposals that have been enabled by the new equipment.

I. NUgrant ROUTING IS NOT APPLICABLE.

This is an internal funding competition to UNL. Therefore, PIs do not enter this proposal in *NUgrant*, which is currently used only for proposals submitted for external funding.

J. SELECTION.

1. The final decision on the funding of instrumentation grants will be made by the External Advisory Committee (EAC) to NCESR.
2. The decisions of the EAC are final.

K. PROPOSAL.

1. Proposals are due by the date and time designated on page 1 of this RFP. Requests for extensions or exceptions will not be accepted.
2. The proposal document must:
 - a. Be submitted as a *Word 2003* or *Word 2010* file. Any other type of file, such as a PDF, will not be accepted.
 - b. c4
 - c. The order and requirements are as follows:
 - c1. Title/abstract – page 1.
 - The title/abstract page must not exceed one page.
 - The title/abstract page, must provide:
 - the instrumentation project title (15 word maximum)
 - the PI name, position title (e.g., Professor, Associate Professor, etc.), department name and contact information the Co-PI name, position title (e.g., Professor, Associate Professor, Research Assistant, Research Associate etc.), department name and contact information for a minimum of one Co- PI or a maximum of two Co-PIs
 - name, title, affiliation of other members of the research team
 - a brief abstract (300 word maximum)

c2. Narrative – pages 2 and 3.

- The narrative must not exceed two pages.
- The narrative must include:
 - a short, non-proprietary description of the instrumentation needs that can be understood by a non-scientific audience.
 - the energy research goals and energy science objectives that obtaining the instrumentation will enable.
 - the energy science merit and potential impact that will be enabled by the instrumentation. Identify the enabling innovation, benefits, outcomes that will result from the instrumentation.
 - how and where will the instrumentation be housed to ensure easy access by UNL users.
 - explain how the instrumentation will be managed and how users will be trained for safe operation of the equipment.
 - will any cost share be provided in establishing this instrumentation?
 - the total budget request.

c3. Instrumentation list, vendor and cost – pages 4 and 5.

c4. Two page Curriculum Vitae of the PI. Does not count towards the proposal page count.

3. To submit a proposal, go to: **<http://ncesr.unl.edu/event.php?eventID=2924>**
Enter the information requested, attach the proposal Word document and click on the “Submit” button.
4. A proposal that does not follow all of the requirements will not be reviewed.

L. NCESR CONTACT.

For questions or more information, contact the Nebraska Center for Energy Sciences Research:

- Michael Nastasi, Ph.D., Director
mnastasi2@unl.edu
402-472-3852



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