



## ND NASA EPSCoR R3 CAN RFP

Issued: Dec. 21, 2021

Pre-Proposals due: **Noon**, Jan. 24, 2022

Full Proposals due to ND NASA EPSCoR: March 7, 2022

Full Proposals due to NASA: March 15, 2022

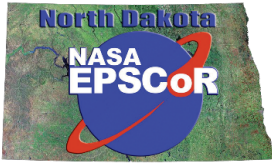
# ND NASA EPSCoR RAPID RESPONSE RESEARCH (R3) CAN RESEARCH ANNOUNCEMENT REQUEST FOR PRE-PROPOSALS (RFP)

## Overview:

In response to the FY 2022 [NASA Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\) EPSCoR Rapid Response Research \(R3\) Announcement Number: NNH22ZHA004C](#), the [North Dakota NASA EPSCoR](#) (Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) is soliciting pre-proposals from faculty at [affiliate institutions](#) specifically designed to promote and expand NASA research in North Dakota. Following preliminary proposal selection by ND NASA EPSCoR, the selected pre-proposal team(s) will work directly with the ND NASA EPSCoR office to submit a full proposal to NASA via NSPIRES.

The purpose of the ND NASA EPSCoR program is to promote, develop, and expand NASA research in North Dakota aligned with NASA priorities and Mission Directorates as outlined in the following sources:

- **NASA Priorities:**
  - NASA 2017 [Strategic Technology Investment Plan](#)
  - NASA 2018 [Strategic Plan](#)
  - NASA 2020 [Technology Taxonomy](#)
  
- **NASA Mission Directorates:**
  - [Science Mission Directorate \(SMD\)](#)
  - [Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate \(ARMD\)](#)
  - [Space Technology Mission Directorate \(STMD\)](#)
  - [Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate \(HEOMD\)](#)
    - *ND NASA EPSCoR recognizes that NASA split HEOMD in 2021 into the Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate (ESDMD) and Space Operations Mission Directorate (SOMD). Necessary updates will be made to future RFPs as resources become available.*



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### NASA Solicitation Excerpts:

“This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) solicits proposals of two (2) to three (3) pages for the FY 2022 NASA EPSCoR Rapid Response Research (R3) program. Each funded NASA EPSCoR proposer shall work closely with a NASA researcher to focus on developing competitive research and technology for the solution of scientific and technical issues of importance to the NASA Mission Directorates as listed in [the] Appendices. The Rapid Response Research (R3) program is an attempt to implement research within NASA and commercial partners to address technical issues. This opportunity will allow EPSCoR researchers to work alongside NASA and commercial partners for up to one year and is intended to strengthen the bonds among EPSCoR jurisdictions, NASA, commercial partners, and other entities.”

“Successful research proposals are likely to be those that provide sound contributions to both immediate and long-term scientific and technical needs of NASA as explicitly expressed in current NASA documents and communications, as well as those that contribute to the overall research infrastructure and economic development of the jurisdiction.”

### Eligibility:

- Faculty PI must be from an ND NASA EPSCoR [affiliate institution](#).
- Research must align with NASA priorities as defined in the appendices of the NASA EPSCoR R3 Solicitation.

### Funding:

- Proposal budget requests may include funding for faculty salary and benefits, undergraduate and graduate student research assistantships, project relevant supplies, minor research equipment (items that are less than \$5,000 per unit), and faculty and student travel to NASA field centers for direct collaborations with NASA researchers and F & A ( indirect cost). Equipment can be purchased as long as it is directly related to the project. Per the solicitation equipment that is used only for research, scientific, and technical activities directly related to the proposed research activities are allowed.
- Funds **cannot** be used for computers, furniture, filing cabinets, wall cabinets, office supplies, (including copy paper, pens, sticky notepads), telephone lines, lab renovations, building renovations, moving expenses, expenditures for teaching classes, honorarium fees, subscription fees, or membership fees.
- Cost share is **not** required.



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### Pre-proposal Checklist:\*

- Cover Sheet
  - Pre-proposal Title
  - PI Contact Information
  - Funding Requested
  - Department Chair Signature
- CV of PI and Co-PIs
- Pre-proposal Narrative, Budget Estimate, and Budget Justification
- All files must be uploaded as **fully searchable pdf** documents.

\*Proposers are **strongly** encouraged to combine all forms into one pdf document.

This solicitation and budget form can be found online here:

<http://blogs.und.edu/jdosas/2021/12/nd-nasa-epscor-r3-can-f21/>

### Pre-proposal Guidance:

The following items/headers **must** be included in the pre-proposal narrative, in the order indicated.

#### 1. CV of PI (and Co-PIs)

- a. Relevant Research, Teaching, and Service Experience

#### 2. Research Narrative

*Pre-Proposals: Use the following headings in  $\leq 3$  pages for a – h. Narratives must use 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Page limit does not apply to budget, references, and any letters of collaboration.*

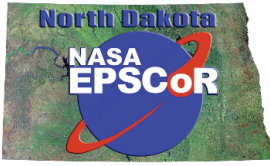
##### a. Introduction

- Overview of the scope of work, including description of the NASA-relevance, nature of collaborations

##### b. Background

- Description of how the proposed work fits into your overall research plans and the field of study at large
- Preliminary research results (if applicable)

<http://ndnasaepscor.und.edu/>



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### c. Research Objectives

- o Clear identification of all science and technical objectives
- o “S.M.A.R.T.” Objectives strongly encouraged
  - SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, & Time-Bound.
  - [Sample Guide to Defining SMART Goals](#)

### d. NASA Relevance

- o Identification of current and potential applications/relevance to NASA
- o NASA mission directorate and NASA priority alignment
- o **Proposals with collaborators at NASA centers are strongly encouraged.**

### e. Implementation Strategy

- o Expected deliverables: when, and by whom outlined in **timetable of milestone completion**

### f. Management Plan

- o Hierarchy of individuals/institutions working on the project, details on collaborations, recruitment plan for team members not yet identified, methods for tracking and reporting progress throughout the project
- o **Proposals involving collaboration across departments, universities, and research groups/scientists in industry, are strongly encouraged.**

### g. Anticipated Outcomes

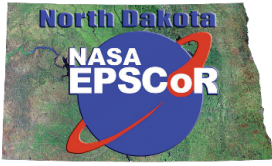
- o Expected research outcomes, plans for publications, conference attendance, funding opportunities, future studies and collaborations
- o Plan to secure future external funding

### h. DEIA

- o Contribution of project to NASA’s Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) Initiatives

### i. Budget

- o Clear alignment between budget justification and budget table with items such as: faculty salary and fringe benefits, student stipends, research supplies and materials, travel for field research, collaborations, presentations, etc.



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- j. References
  - o *Up to date* reference list indicative of innovative and active research
- k. Letters of Commitment
  - o Collaborator contact information
  - o Specifically outlined roles and responsibilities in partnership

### **Proposal Evaluation:**

Collaboration across institutions, industry, and NASA centers, and interdisciplinary teams are highly encouraged. Preference will be given to beginning, untenured faculty who have not yet received an ND NASA EPSCoR award. Proven track record of research capabilities in NASA relevant areas will be an advantage. Any and all proposals may be rejected.

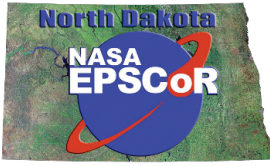
It is a national priority to prioritize diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. This DEIA consideration is included in each of the [ND NASA EPSCoR goals, objectives, and priorities](#). All proposers are strongly encouraged to center DEIA efforts in their proposals. DEIA efforts include actions which positively impact and/or directly engage underrepresented and underserved communities, such as women, people of color, LGBTQ+ persons, persons with disabilities, veterans, persons who live in rural areas, or persons adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria: Research Objectives, NASA Relevance, Scientific Merit, Implementation Strategy, Management Plan, Anticipated Outcomes, Budget Reasonableness, Evidence of Collaboration, and Contributions to DEIA.

*Proposals **must** align with one of the appendices outlined in the NASA solicitation.*

### **Pre-Proposal Submission:**

All pre-proposals must be routed through the proposer's Department Chair, Dean's office, and proposer's home institution's Grants and Contracts/Sponsored Programs Administration (or equivalent office) for appropriate approvals and signatures prior to submission to ND NASA EPSCoR. If the proposer's home institution does not have this



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office, procedures at their specific campus must be followed regarding grant proposal submissions.

*UND Applicants:* All pre-proposals must be routed through [Novelution](#) for approvals. Allow a minimum of 5 business days for approvals prior to pre-proposal submission to ND NASA EPSCoR.

All awards require: 1) an end-of-year award report to be filed with the ND NASA EPSCoR office within 30 days of the award end date, and 2) presentation of results at the ND NASA EPSCoR meeting.

All pre-proposals must be submitted via the online submission form no later than the date and time specified in this solicitation's header.

Please note, this online submission form does allow proposers to save progress, navigate between pages, and continue entering information at a later date. However, it is recommended that proposers do not complete the form until they are ready to submit. Information requested in the form includes: contact information for the PI, Co-PI, and respective departments (Chairs and Administrative Assistants included), information on any previous NASA EPSCoR awards received by the PI or Co-PI in last five years, contact information for any NASA or industry collaborators, and uploads of the requested documents as a single pdf. (Uploading as multiple pdfs is acceptable, yet documents combined into one pdf is strongly preferred.)

### **Down-select Process:**

Pre-proposals will be evaluated in a down-select. A maximum of one full proposal may move forward for consideration by NASA, per appendix. (i.e. One proposal may move forward for Appendix A, one proposal may move forward for Appendix B, etc.). The successful pre-proposal team(s) will be notified approximately three weeks after submission of the pre-proposal. The successful pre-proposal team(s) are required to adhere to the deadline of submission to ND NASA EPSCoR as outlined in this solicitation header. Full proposals of successful pre-proposal teams will be submitted to NASA via NSPIRES by the ND NASA EPSCoR Director.

### **Online Proposal Submission Form:**

[https://und.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2iBtuzQK6WtyqUu](https://und.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2iBtuzQK6WtyqUu)

<http://ndnasaepscor.und.edu/>



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### ND NASA EPSCoR Team

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**General** questions regarding the RFP may be directed to the ND NASA EPSCoR Director, Caitlin Milera, [milera@space.edu](mailto:milera@space.edu).

**Finance** questions regarding the RFP may be directed to UND Aerospace Finance Manager, Laurie Baumgartner, [laurie.baumgartner@und.edu](mailto:laurie.baumgartner@und.edu).