



ND NASA EPSCoR SFO CAN RFP

Issued: Jan. 25, 2022

Pre-Proposals due: **Noon**, Feb.. 22, 2022

Full Proposals due to ND NASA EPSCoR: April 8, 2022

Full Proposals due to NASA: April 15, 2022

ND NASA EPSCoR SUBORBITAL FLIGHT OPPORTUNITY (SFO) CAN RESEARCH ANNOUNCEMENT REQUEST FOR PRE-PROPOSALS (RFP)

Overview:

In response to the FY 2022 [NASA Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\) EPSCoR Suborbital Flight Opportunity \(SFO\) Announcement Number: NNH22ZHA002C](#), 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 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 Excerpt:

“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 solicitation.

Funding:

- “The maximum funding request per proposal is \$250,000 plus costs associated with flight services and facilities and administrative (F&A) costs. This amount is to be expended over a three-year period.”
- See NASA solicitation for specific definitions of eligibility requirements for items included in the budget.
- Cost share is **not** required.

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/2022/01/nd-nasa-epscor-sfo-can-sp22/>

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



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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 **≤ 6 pages** for a – h. Narratives must use a 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Page limit does not apply to budget, references, and any letters of collaboration.*

a. Introduction

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

b. Background

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

c. Research Objectives

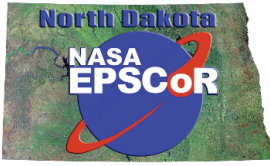
- o Clear identification of all science and technical objectives
- o “S.M.A.R.T.” Objectives strongly encouraged
 - SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, & Time-Bound.
 - [Sample Guide to Defining SMART Goals](#)

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**



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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

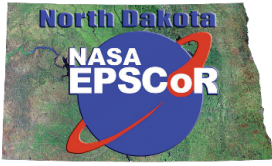
- o Clear alignment between budget justification and budget table with items such as: faculty salary and fringe benefits, student stipends, research supplies and materials, travel for field research, collaborations, presentations, etc.

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



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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.

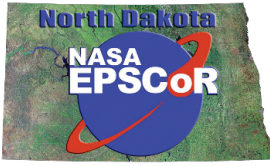
Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria: Research Objectives, NASA Relevance, Scientific Merit, Implementation Strategy, Management Plan, Anticipated Outcomes, Budget Reasonableness, Evidence of Collaboration, and Contributions to DEIA.

*Proposals **must** align with research priorities as 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 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.**



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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. The successful pre-proposal team will be notified approximately three weeks after submission of the pre-proposal. The successful pre-proposal team is 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_5cd6inLXqhF5sP4



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ND NASA EPSCoR Team

Caitlin Milera, Director
(701) 777-4856
milera@space.edu

Marissa Saad, Deputy Director
(701) 777-4161
msaad@space.edu

Tori McIntosh, Coordinator
(701) 777-4897
tori.mcintosh@und.edu

Laurie Baumgartner, Finance Manager
(701) 777-4043
laurie.baumgartner@und.edu

General questions regarding the RFP may be directed to the ND NASA EPSCoR Director, Caitlin Milera, milera@space.edu.

Finance questions regarding the RFP may be directed to UND Aerospace Finance Manager, Laurie Baumgartner, laurie.baumgartner@und.edu.