

National Science Foundation
Office of Integrative Activities

Jackson, Mississippi Regional Grants Conference

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<http://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/>



OFFICE OF INTEGRATIVE ACTIVITIES

OIA

"The Office of Integrative Activities has a key role in working across organizational boundaries as well as providing policy support to the Director's Office. Developing effective ways to transcend traditional boundaries, and bring very different scientific cultures together for the benefit of science and society, without compromising excellence, is a critically important challenge for the Foundation."

- NSF Director Arden Bement (December, 2007)



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Programs

Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR)

- Strengthening research and education in science and engineering throughout the United States and avoiding undue concentration of such research and education;
- Catalyzing key research themes and related activities within and among EPSCoR jurisdictions;
- Facilitating effective jurisdictional and regional collaborations among academic, government and private sector stakeholders;
- Broadening participation in science and engineering by institutions, organizations and people within and among EPSCoR jurisdictions.



<http://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/programs/epscor/about.jsp>

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Programs

Science and Technology Centers (STC)

- Supporting research and education of the highest quality;
- Exploiting opportunities in science, engineering and technology where the complexity of the research requires the advantages of scope, scale, change, duration, equipment and facilities that a Center can provide;
- Supporting innovative frontier investigations at the interfaces of disciplines, and/or fresh approaches within disciplines;
- Engaging the Nation's intellectual talent, robustly drawn from its full human diversity, in the conduct of research and education activities;
- Promoting organizational connections and linkages within and between campuses, schools and/or the world beyond (state, local, federal agencies, national labs, industry, international collaborations);
- Focusing on integrative learning and discovery and the preparation of U.S. students for a broad set of career paths; and
- Fostering science and engineering in service to society especially with respect to new research areas, promising new instrumentation and potential new technologies.

The 2008 Science and Technology Centers: Integrative Partnerships deadline was October 14, 2008.

For more information, contact: [Joan M. Frye \(jfrye@nsf.gov\)](mailto:jfrye@nsf.gov)

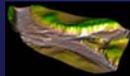
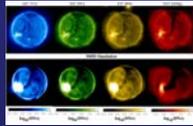
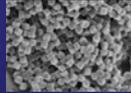


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Programs

Science and Technology Centers (STC)

- Currently there are 17 Science and Technology Centers receiving NSF STC funding
- Profiles in Team Science: <http://depts.washington.edu/teamsci/welcome.html>



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Programs

Major Research Instrumentation (MRI)

Program Overview

- Proposals can be for Instrument Acquisition (3 years) or Instrument Development (5 years)
- Award size—some variations depending on the year:
 - \$100,000 to \$2 million for development proposals
 - \$100,000 to \$4 million for acquisition proposals¹

(no minimum for non-Ph.D. granting institutions and for mathematical and social, behavioral and economic sciences)

Two MRI Competitions in FY 2009, second competition: MRI-R2 - Recovery and Re-investment Funds

¹ Requests over \$2 million must be for the acquisition of a single instrument only. Acquisition proposals requesting \$2 million or less may be for a single instrument, a large system of instruments, or multiple instruments that share a common or specific research focus.



<http://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/programs/mri/>

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Programs

Major Research Instrumentation (MRI)

Goals

- Supporting the acquisition of major state-of-the-art instrumentation, improving access to, and increased use of, modern instrumentation by scientists, engineers, and students;
- Fostering the development of the next generation of instrumentation, resulting in new instruments that are more widely used, and/or open up new areas of research and research training;
- Enabling academic departments, disciplinary and cross-disciplinary units, and multi-organization collaborations to create well-equipped research environments that integrate research with education;
- Supporting the acquisition and development of instrumentation that takes advantage of new opportunities enabled by investments in cyberinfrastructure;
- Promoting substantive and meaningful partnerships for instrument development between the academic and private sectors.



<http://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/programs/mri/>

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A screenshot of a web browser displaying the NSF Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) program website. The browser's address bar shows the URL "http://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/programs/mri/index.jsp". The website header includes the NSF logo and the tagline "WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN". A navigation menu contains links for HOME, FUNDING, AWARDS, DISCOVERIES, NEWS, PUBLICATIONS, STATISTICS, ABOUT, and FastLane. The main content area is titled "Major Research Instrumentation Program" and includes a "CONTACT INFORMATION" section with details for Major Research Instrumentation Questions, Specific Program Contacts (Staff Associate: Randy Phelps), and contact information (Email: mri@nsf.gov, Phone: 703-292-8040, Office of Integrative Activities, Room 1270). It also features a "FY 2009 COMPETITION INFORMATION" section with a link to "FY 2009 Solicitation" and a deadline for full proposal submissions of January 22, 2009. A "COMMITTEE OF VISITORS" section lists reports and responses for 2000 and 2005. A left sidebar provides navigation for the Office of Integrative Activities, including links to Home, Programs (MRI, STC, EPSCoR), Activities, Presentations, and OIA Staff. The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Local intranet".

Programs

Major Research Instrumentation (MRI)

Caveats

The MRI program will NOT support proposal requests for:

- General purpose equipment, including general purpose computers or assorted instruments that do not share a common or specific research or research training focus;
- Instrumentation used primarily for standard science and engineering courses.
- Renovation or modernization of research facilities, supporting equipment, and general purpose research platforms.
- Instrumentation related to animal models of disease-related conditions or the development or testing of drugs or other procedures for their treatment
- *However*, bioengineering instrumentation that advances engineering research and knowledge, applies engineering principles to problems in biology and medicine, aids persons with disabilities, and may also have clinical uses or diagnosis- or treatment-related goals *is* eligible for support.



<http://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/programs/mri/>

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Programs

Major Research Instrumentation (MRI)

Eligible Organizations

- Ph.D. granting institutions of higher education are academic institutions that have produced more than 20 Ph.D.s or D.Sci.'s in all NSF-supported fields of science, mathematics or engineering during the combined previous two academic years
- Non-Ph.D. granting institutions of higher education (i.e., primarily bachelor and/or master degree granting academic institutions) are two- and four- year colleges and universities that have produced 20 or fewer Ph.D.s or D.Sci.'s in all NSF-supported fields of science, mathematics, and engineering during the combined previous two academic years.
- Non-degree granting organizations are independent nonprofit organizations, museums and science centers, and consortia of organizations working in NSF-supported fields of science, mathematics, and engineering.



<http://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/programs/mri/>

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Programs

Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) 2008 Award Snapshot - Overall

| |
|---|
| Number Reviewed: 810 |
| Dollars Requested : \$515.8 million |
| Number of Awards: 224 (39 DEV, 185 ACQ) |
| MRI Amount Awarded: \$93.2 million |
| NSF Amount Awarded: \$101.0 million |
| Overall Success Rate: 27.7% |
| Mean Award: \$451,000 |
| Median Award: \$330,000 |
| Number of Institutions that Participated: 449 |
| Number of Institutions Awarded: 184 |

Data currently omit 1 MRI late award that was made but not using MRI funds



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Programs

Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) 2008 Award Snapshot by Institution Type

| | Ph.D. | non-Ph.D. | Non-degree | MSI |
|----------------|----------|-----------|------------|---------|
| # reviewed | 472 | 304 | 34 | 74 |
| Mean request | \$765 K | \$430 K | \$704 K | \$555 K |
| Median request | \$568 K | \$323 K | \$559 K | \$397 K |
| # awards | 129 | 84 | 11 | 24 |
| NSF \$ awarded | \$73.7 M | \$22.4 M | \$4.8 M | \$9.8 M |
| MRI \$ awarded | \$67.8 M | \$21.2 M | \$3.9 M | \$9.3 M |
| Success rate | 27.3% | 27.6% | 32.4% | 32.0% |
| Mean award | \$571 K | \$267 K | \$440 K | \$407 K |
| Median award | \$465 K | \$211 K | \$474 K | \$309 K |



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Programs

- **CDI--The Cyber-Enabled Discovery and Innovation** program seeks ambitious, transformative, multidisciplinary research proposals within or across three thematic areas:
 - From Data to Knowledge: enhancing human cognition and generating new knowledge from a wealth of heterogeneous digital data;
 - Understanding Complexity in Natural, Built, and Social Systems: deriving fundamental insights on systems comprising multiple interacting elements; and
 - Building Virtual Organizations: enhancing discovery and innovation by bringing people and resources together across institutional, geographical and cultural boundaries.

- **ARI--Academic Research Infrastructure**

- One time only competition, \$200M in ARRA Act
- Revision of 1996 Academic Research Infrastructure Program: Facilities Modernization Solicitation.



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