EPSCoR Co-funding

Objectives:

To accelerate the movement of EPSCoR researchers and institutions into the mainstream of NSF support, EPSCoR Co-funding is available to provide joint support for certain meritorious proposals submitted to NSF's research, education and cross-cutting competitions. The objectives of the EPSCoR Co-funding mechanism are to:

- Increase the number and competitiveness of EPSCoR jurisdiction investigators and institutions who participate in NSF research, technology, and education programs;
- Increase the participation of EPSCoR jurisdiction researchers and institutions in regional alliances and national collaborations;
- Broaden participation in science and engineering by institutions, organizations and people within and among EPSCoR jurisdictions.

Mechanism:

Co-funding is not a program to which proposals can be submitted. Instead, it is a funding mechanism that operates internally within NSF and does not involve any action on the part of the proposer. The EPSCoR Co-funding mechanism addresses "fund-if-possible" proposals that the NSF merit-review process places at or near the cutoff for funding through the programs to which they were submitted. EPSCoR co-funding may be requested by the managing program for these meritorious proposals which could not be supported due to funding limitations within the managing program or other overriding program priorities.

For such proposals, the managing Program Officer first decides whether to make an award recommendation and the amount and duration to be recommended for the award. The decision to recommend an award or not rests with the managing program. Once these decisions are made, a request from the managing Program Officer for partial support *via* EPSCoR Co-funding can be forwarded to EPSCoR for consideration. NSF EPSCoR Co-funding is dependent on the quality and number of proposals submitted, their match with EPSCoR programmatic priorities, and the availability of EPSCoR funds for Co-funding.

EPSCoR programmatic priorities include*:* (a) researchers who have not previously received NSF awards or those with no active NSF awards during the last three years; (b) collaborative efforts within and across participating jurisdictions and at regional, national and/or international levels; (c) cross- discipline, cross-directorate or NSF-wide funding opportunities; (d) NSF investments and   funding priorities in the current fiscal year; (e) enhancing participation of underrepresented   individuals, organizations and/or institutions; (f) equipment that builds research capacity at the   institutional or jurisdiction level; (g) enhancing institutional research capability and   competitiveness; (h) training opportunities for K-12 students and/or professional development   for K-12 teachers; and (i) activities that exemplify NSF's commitment to the integration of research and education. Proposals that do not match one or more of these priorities directly may   also be considered for their suitability for Co-funding.

Note on Award Transfer: EPSCoR funds must be expended at institutions in EPSCoR jurisdictions. If a Principal Investigator (PI) with an EPSCoR co-funded award transfers to a non-EPSCoR institution, the EPSCoR co-funding amount (or a part of it that remains unobligated at the time of PI transfer) cannot be transferred to the non-EPSCoR institution.