Redefined NSF EPSCoR Eligibility Methodology

EPSCoR has re-examined its eligibility methodology and is implementing changes to ensure that it is simple, transparent, fair, and stable. These changes incorporate stakeholder feedback and are supported by robust data analyses. The new eligibility table utilizing the improved methodology will be published in January 2020 and will apply to the FY 2021 EPSCoR competitions. The FY 2020 Eligibility Table will be the same as FY 2019.

All questions and concerns regarding the new eligibility methodology should be sent to nsfepscor@nsf.gov.

Comparison of Current and Proposed Eligibility

	Current	New Eligibility	Rationale
Methodology	Definitive eligibility cutoff line	Hysteresis: eligibility cutoff maintained, but adds time-limited buffer that maintains eligibility above the eligibility cutoff line	A hysteresis approach will help to eliminate year-to-year eligibility fluctuation and provide a buffer for those jurisdictions on an upward funding trajectory.
Eligibility	Equal to or less than 0.75% of NSF research support	Equal to or less than 0.75% of NSF research support *and* up to 5 years if within 0.76% - 0.79%* *All percentages rounded to the nearest hundredth of a percent.	Maintaining eligibility for jurisdictions that improve their research competitiveness by exceeding the 0.75% eligibility cutoff helps to ensure that they maintain their momentum. Requiring them to fall back below the 0.75% eligibility cutoff should they meet or exceed 0.80% of NSF total funding helps to maintain overall stability for the eligibility pool. Eligibility applies to all funding mechanisms.
Data Source	NSF Research Support Funding Only	NSF Total Award Funding (includes R&RA, EHR, and MREFC)	EPSCoR's mission is to increase jurisdictional competitiveness. By including all NSF award funding in the eligibility calculation, EPSCoR is better able to gauge NSF funding competitiveness for all jurisdictions across the nation.
Time Frame	Prior 3 Years	Prior 5 Years	Extending the calculation range helps to further stabilize eligibility.
Exclusions	Ship Operations, Arctic Support, and Antarctic Support	EPSCoR RII and Workshops/Conferences *and* NSF Funding to Other Federal Agencies	Removing EPSCoR funding from the eligibility calculation helps to stabilize eligibility by removing EPSCoR interventions so that all jurisdictions are judged by their current competitiveness. NSF funding to other federal agencies is also excluded since this funding is primarily logistics/operations related rather than R&D and is not solely of benefit to the jurisdictions themselves. These exclusions are in alignment with EPSCoR's fundamental goal to build capacity for eligible jurisdictions to be competitive for NSF funding outside of the EPSCoR program.
Effective Date	Upon annual publication on the EPSCoR website	October 1, each fiscal year	Shifting the effective date of the eligibility table eliminates confusion about who can apply for specific RII competitions and allows for jurisdictions to better plan for proposal submission.

An example of the new eligibility table can be seen on the back. Please note, the FY 2021 eligibility table will utilize FY 2015 – FY 2019 data.

State	FY14 Total	FY15 Total	FY16 Total	FY17 Total	FY18 Total	FY 2014-18 Total	EPSCoR Total	Federal Total	Adjusted $	% of Total $
(Drill to Inst)	Amt $k	Amt $k	Amt $k	Amt $k	Amt $k	Amt $k	Amt $k		Amt $k	
Grand Total	$6,766,552	$6,967,463	$7,110,054	$7,016,546	$7,457,851	$35,318,466	$668,224	$739,255	$33,910,987	100.00%
Other	$21,758	$25,489	$26,715	$18,894	$23,354	$116,210				
US Total	$6,744,793	$6,941,974	$7,083,339	$6,997,652	$7,434,497	$35,202,255				
Guam	$129	$2,055	$2,107	$2,516	-	$6,807	$6,129	-	$678	0.00%
Virgin Islands	$4,967	$4,570	$6,666	$5,109	$6,304	$27,616	$20,171	-	$7,445	0.02%
Vermont	$13,539	$11,871	$9,695	$15,665	$19,389	$70,159	$26,674	-	$43,485	0.13%
West Virginia	$15,122	$14,961	$14,924	$14,347	$15,959	$75,313	$20,161	$688	$54,464	0.16%
Wyoming	$14,437	$13,813	$15,879	$13,344	$17,068	$74,541	$18,926	-	$55,615	0.16%
South Dakota	$22,403	$18,696	$11,628	$14,822	$15,021	$82,570	$24,066	-	$58,504	0.17%
Puerto Rico	$18,203	$8,372	$15,481	$10,285	$19,488	$71,829	$12,000	-	$59,829	0.18%
North Dakota	$17,245	$14,217	$21,064	$13,434	$16,051	$82,011	$21,807	-	$60,204	0.18%
Arkansas	$19,048	$16,207	$24,647	$15,411	$28,979	$104,292	$30,597	-	$73,695	0.22%
Nevada	$22,458	$17,718	$15,612	$18,375	$22,091	$96,254	$16,350	-	$79,904	0.24%
Mississippi	$16,296	$22,973	$32,332	$20,946	$21,791	$114,338	$25,883	-	$88,455	0.26%
Idaho	$13,448	$26,162	$22,984	$24,701	$24,745	$112,040	$22,171	-	$89,869	0.27%
Maine	$21,176	$26,164	$17,104	$22,314	$33,440	$120,198	$23,253	-	$96,945	0.29%
Montana	$25,397	$21,626	$33,826	$31,780	$30,567	$143,196	$27,125	-	$116,071	0.34%
Kentucky	$26,395	$31,772	$31,214	$30,048	$32,887	$152,316	$27,267	-	$125,049	0.37%
Delaware	$39,208	$25,593	$46,120	$25,204	$36,652	$172,777	$30,271	-	$142,506	0.42%
Nebraska	$35,805	$33,386	$31,725	$37,926	$34,167	$173,009	$24,407	-	$148,602	0.44%
Oklahoma	$33,144	$46,000	$29,789	$40,468	$24,624	$174,025	$22,120	$2,463	$149,442	0.44%
Kansas	$27,717	$38,966	$34,560	$41,596	$41,173	$184,012	$28,662	-	$155,350	0.46%
New Hampshire	$37,503	$35,834	$42,246	$40,038	$38,751	$194,372	$29,167	$8,948	$156,257	0.46%
Louisiana	$38,893	$30,614	$45,598	$36,916	$42,513	$194,534	$35,132	-	$159,402	0.47%
Alaska	$39,193	$35,607	$35,701	$46,325	$45,032	$201,858	$20,379	-	$181,479	0.54%
Hawaii	$41,295	$41,636	$43,054	$45,167	$45,314	$216,466	$13,137	-	$203,329	0.60%
Rhode Island	$45,545	$50,039	$41,888	$49,387	$43,605	$230,464	$24,445	-	$206,019	0.61%
South Carolina	$53,813	$58,598	$60,161	$75,564	$64,019	$312,155	$28,851	$72,337	$210,967	0.62%
Alabama	$45,305	$34,281	$46,041	$51,155	$60,140	$236,922	$18,693	-	$218,229	0.64%
New Mexico	$43,102	$56,473	$51,843	$51,704	$46,030	$249,152	$26,190	$1,112	$221,850	0.65%
Iowa	$56,006	$59,338	$59,550	$47,675	$50,677	$273,246	$8,100		$265,146	0.78%
Missouri	$53,684	$68,210	$68,790	$68,068	$68,107	$326,859	$22,890	$2,100	$301,869	0.89%
Utah	$57,771	$68,835	$63,642	$55,014	$69,120	$314,382	$9,000		$305,382	0.90%
Tennessee	$66,625	$67,401	$80,782	$58,260	$70,213	$343,281	$4,200	$10,258	$328,823	0.97%
Connecticut	$71,439	$68,321	$79,651	$68,530	$70,064	$358,005	-	-	$358,005	1.06%
Minnesota	$95,670	$113,931	$87,864	$110,168	$88,204	$495,837	-	-	$495,837	1.46%
Wisconsin	$108,773	$115,752	$113,083	$123,189	$103,372	$564,169	-	-	$564,169	1.66%
Oregon	$89,444	$88,030	$90,684	$204,331	$155,364	$627,853	-	-	$627,853	1.85%
Georgia	$128,078	$149,630	$138,682	$137,661	$145,907	$699,958	-	-	$699,958	2.06%
Washington	$143,358	$149,968	$140,628	$153,244	$154,210	$741,408	-	$3	$741,405	2.19%
Indiana	$145,010	$144,346	$155,545	$155,271	$147,284	$747,456	-	-	$747,456	2.20%
New Jersey	$142,825	$147,251	$163,704	$139,613	$163,443	$756,836	-	$468	$756,368	2.23%
Ohio	$113,437	$135,174	$238,933	$187,240	$185,471	$860,255	-	$237	$860,018	2.54%
Florida	$154,816	$187,831	$187,822	$176,969	$207,645	$915,083	-	-	$915,083	2.70%
North Carolina	$176,960	$189,968	$203,030	$188,833	$206,368	$965,159	-	-	$965,159	2.85%
Virginia	$204,024	$222,594	$215,127	$230,063	$156,290	$1,028,098	-	$24,963	$1,003,135	2.96%
Arizona	$182,523	$239,468	$255,963	$224,643	$121,076	$1,023,673	-	-	$1,023,673	3.02%
Michigan	$210,971	$216,960	$212,889	$232,939	$220,479	$1,094,238	-	-	$1,094,238	3.23%
Pennsylvania	$275,824	$292,041	$275,033	$262,773	$261,353	$1,367,024	-	-	$1,367,024	4.03%
DC	$359,474	$278,161	$252,805	$245,736	$495,990	$1,632,166	-	$193,161	$1,439,005	4.24%
Illinois	$327,212	$312,290	$315,524	$311,919	$293,154	$1,560,099	-	-	$1,560,099	4.60%
Colorado	$379,203	$339,261	$320,006	$295,937	$334,888	$1,669,295	-	$6,215	$1,663,080	4.90%
Maryland	$336,253	$329,581	$343,283	$325,391	$392,026	$1,726,534	-	$60,638	$1,665,896	4.91%
Texas	$233,287	$328,506	$344,252	$352,952	$416,707	$1,675,704	-	$2,250	$1,673,454	4.93%
Massachusetts	$461,095	$456,769	$448,703	$458,674	$502,743	$2,327,984	-	$372	$2,327,612	6.86%
New York	$467,951	$493,167	$480,108	$484,692	$514,151	$2,440,069	-	$30	$2,440,039	7.20%
California	$972,109	$940,819	$963,225	$903,188	$1,014,237	$4,793,578	-	$352,234	$4,441,344	13.10%