

Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research: A Brief Overview

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Major Timelines

- 1978: NSB approves resolution establishing EPSCoR and guidelines for its management
 - House Appropriations Comte urges the NSF to dedicate \$1 million of its research and related activities funds for implementation
 - States receiving less than \$1 million per year in 2 of the last 3 fiscal years (7 states qualified)



Timelines (Cont'd)

- 1980: 7 eligible states compete for 5 awards, each worth \$3 million over 5 years (AR, ME, MT, SC, and WVA)
- 1984: 2nd round competition-eligibility increases from \$1 to \$3 million (11 additional states and Puerto Rico)
- 1986: AL, KY, NV, ND, OK, VT, WY, & Puerto Rico
- 1988: 3 years @ \$600K (LA, MS, & SD)



Timelines (Cont'd)

- 1989: Congressional language in the NSF Statutory Authority Act to extend funding beyond the original limit of 5 years
- (Original 5 states, 2-year awards @ \$600K)
- Partnerships with state S&T Offices and private business
- 1991: From fixed dollar amount to % (0.5 or less) of NSF research obligations to state over 3 years



Timelines (Cont'd)

- 1992: eligibility to 19 jurisdictions
- 2002 and 2003: Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) from 0.7% or less to 0.75%
- 2006: New Program vision (**EPSCoR 2020 Workshop**)
- FY2007: From Education Human Resources to Office of the Director/Office of Integrated Activities (OIA)
- 2008: 25 participating states, plus Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands



Timelines (Cont'd)

Invest Strategies for Capacity Building:

RII Track-1 awards

RII Track 2 awards

**Co-Funding of disciplinary and
multidisciplinary research**

Outreach and workshops



Timelines (Cont'd)

- **Internal engagement** with NSF Directorates and Offices (EPSCoR Science and Engineering Group)
- **External engagement** with other Federal R&D agencies: Agriculture, Defense, Energy, EPA, NASA, HHS (EPSCoR Interagency Coordinating Committee)
- **Evaluations and Assessments**



Timelines (Cont'd)

Current 29 jurisdictions:

- 21% total population
- 22% African American
- 36% American Indian and Alaskan Native
- 31% Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders
- 16% Hispanic
- 24% Research institutions; 50% of 103 HBCUs; 29% of 257 institutions with high Hispanic enrollment, 69% of 32 TCUs
- 16% employed scientists and engineers

