



EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track-1

(RII Track-1)

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- State-wide, research infrastructure and capacity-building effort
- Research-driven; Broader Impacts support EPSCoR strategic goals
- Multi-institutional partnership: research universities, PUIs, community colleges, HBCUs, tribal colleges, industry, NGO, and government partners
- Research and education should align with jurisdiction's S&T plan
- Each EPSCoR jurisdiction can have only one RII Track-1 award
- Proposals go through several layers of merit review based on:
Intellectual Merit, Broader Impacts, and
Solicitation specific criteria: Research Capacity, Jurisdictional Impacts, Workforce Development, Integration of Project Elements
- Proposal submission to award notification process takes approximately one year

RII Track-1 awards



- Awards are Cooperative Agreements
 - Close interaction with and oversight by NSF EPSCoR

Strategic Planning

- **Year 1, Ongoing**
- Focal point for detailing goals, strategies, metrics, milestones, and timelines for all aspects of the project. Also addresses merit review comments.

Project Reporting

- **Annual**
- Comprehensive report submitted via research.gov, data templates and highlights required.

Reverse / Site Visits

- **Years 2 & 4**
- Panels of external experts evaluate projects based on progress relative to the proposed activities and strategic plan, and provide recommendations.

Internal and External Evaluation

- **Ongoing**
- Independent, external evaluator develops and tracks quantitative and qualitative metrics. Evaluation reports are provided to NSF with annual reports.

FY 2020 RII Track-1 Competition Update



- FY20 solicitation released (NSF 19-580)
<https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2019/nsf19580/nsf19580.htm>
- *Letter of Intent (LOI) required!!!!*
Due July 2, 2019
NSF internal planning only; not considered in merit review
– ***Use FastLane!***
- Full proposals due **July 30, 2019**
- Eligible if:
 - No current RII Track-1, or
 - Current RII Track-1 expires by October 1, 2020
 - Additional requirements if recently regained EPSCoR eligibility

FY 2020 RII Track-1 Competition Update (cont.)



- No major changes to solicitation requirements
 - Minor adjustments to language and section titles throughout document to improve clarity
 - More significant revision to RII Track-1 Program Description to better reflect NSF EPSCoR expectations
- **WEBINAR** for jurisdictions planning to submit to the FY20 competition
 - Wednesday May 29, 2019 at 3 pm Eastern
 - Focus on details of solicitation requirements and expectations, with time for questions and discussion



EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track-2: Focused EPSCoR Collaborations

(RII Track-2 FEC)

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RII Track-2 Competition



- Builds research capacity through interjurisdictional collaborative teams in focus area(s) aligned with NSF-wide priorities
- Current Focus Area is “Harnessing Big Data to solve problems of national importance”
- One proposal per EPSCoR eligible institution

RII Track-2 Competition Update



- Results from FY18 Competition
 - “Genome to Phenome” Topic Area
 - 9 projects (\$45M) were funded, success rate in-line with NSF’s average
 - 17 jurisdictions
- FY19 Competition
 - Focus Area is “Harnessing Big Data to solve problems of national importance”
 - Currently under Merit Review

Looking ahead



- No major programmatic changes expected for FY 2020
- Important to focus on the theme of the solicitation with strong research, workforce development (early career faculty development) and interjurisdictional collaborations and impacts
- Looking for greater diversity in submissions (people, disciplines, institutions)



EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track-4: EPSCoR Research Fellows (RII Track-4)

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RII Track-4: EPSCoR Research Fellows

- Opportunities for non-tenured faculty investigators (or close equivalent) to further develop individual research potential
- Supports extended collaborative visits to the nation's premier private, governmental, or academic research centers
- Intended to provide long-term benefits to the recipient's career trajectory. Additional benefits are expected for the PIs' institutions and jurisdictions
- Any research topic that fits within NSF's overall portfolio will be considered for support
- Three proposals per EPSCoR eligible institution



Results from FY 2018 Competition

Proposals

- Received in late March 2018
 - Submissions from 26 out of 27 eligible jurisdictions;
 - 62 different institutions
- Awarded 40 projects
 - success rate, above NSF-wide average
 - \$7.2 million total awarded (mean award size: \$181k)
 - Awards to 20 different jurisdictions and 31 different institutions



FY 2019 and beyond

- Current Solicitation: NSF 18-526
- New solicitation expected with no major programmatic changes
- Looking for greater diversity in submissions (people, disciplines, institutions)
- Working toward improved differentiation between the Fellowship and a “regular” NSF proposal



Co-funding

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EPSCoR Co-funding (\$M)



FY	EPS	Dir/Off	NSF Total	Leverage
2014	25.0	38.8	63.8	2.6
2015	26.6	47.2	73.8	2.8
2016	27.7	40.4	68.1	2.5
2017	24.6	37.6	62.2	2.5
2018	27.2	47.7	74.9	2.8
FY 14 -18	131.1	211.7	342.8	2.6

Includes all types of proposals from EPSCoR-eligible institutions



FY18 Co-funding by Jurisdiction (\$M)

Jur	Num	EPSCoR	NSF Tot		Jur	Num	EPSCoR	NSF Tot
AK	3	0.68	1.35		LA	5	0.75	1.61
AL	17	3.27	11.45		ME	3	0.59	1.38
AR	7	1.42	3.10		MO	0	0	0
DE	6	1.30	3.36		MS	2	0.38	1.01
HI	2	0.42	0.85		MT	8	1.27	3.08
ID	6	1.21	3.20		ND	6	1.16	2.79
KS	6	0.84	1.84		NE	6	1.08	2.88
KY	5	0.56	1.12		NH	7	1.18	2.97

FY18 Co-funding by Jurisdiction (\$M) – Cont'd



Jur	Num	EPSCoR	NSF Tot		Jur	Num	EPSCoR	NSF Tot
NM	4	0.92	2.62		SD	6	1.33	3.74
NV	7	1.01	2.17		VI	0	0	0
OK	7	1.12	2.40		VT	2	0.28	0.67
PR	4	0.85	5.01		WV	9	2.46	8.67
RI	1	0.19	0.49		WY	3	0.56	1.44
SC	11	2.37	5.66		Total	143	27.18	74.85