

# THE POLAR CAP OBSERVATORY

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROJECT SOLICITATION

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DIVISION OF ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES  
DIRECTORATE FOR GEOSCIENCES

**Proposal Target Date: August 1, 1997**



**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is authorized by the National Science Act of 1950, as amended, to initiate and support basic and applied scientific research and to initiate and support programs to strengthen scientific research potential. In this regard, NSF supports a number of facilities whose purpose is to provide research platforms supporting various scientific disciplines. The Polar Cap Observatory (PCO), to be located at Resolute Bay, Northwest Territories, Canada, is a facility where atmospheric and magnetospheric science research will be conducted. On behalf of the scientific community, NSF plans to make an assistance award in the form of a cooperative agreement for this new facility.

NSF is soliciting proposals for the design, construction, and operation of the Polar Cap Observatory, which will consist of radiowave and optical instrumentation for measuring properties of the neutral and ionized upper atmosphere. The primary instrument of the facility will be a state-of-the-art incoherent scatter radar capable of providing ionospheric diagnostic information between 60 and 1000 km altitude, with a field of view down to an elevation angle of about 80.

Copies of the complete Project Solicitation are available electronically at

**<http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?nsf97102>**

**or by mail at:**

Upper Atmosphere Research Section -- PCO  
Division of Atmospheric Sciences  
Room 775  
National Science Foundation  
4201 Wilson Blvd.  
Arlington, VA 22230  
USA

The Foundation provides awards for research and education in the sciences and engineering. The awardee is wholly responsible for the conduct of such research and preparation of the results for publication. The Foundation, therefore, does not assume responsibility for the research findings or their interpretation.

The Foundation welcomes proposals from all qualified scientists and engineers and strongly encourages women, minorities, and persons with disabilities to compete fully in any of the research related programs described here. In accordance with federal statutes, regulations, and NSF policies, no person on grounds of race, color, age, sex, national origin, or disability shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving financial assistance from the National Science Foundation.

Facilitation Awards for Scientists and Engineers with Disabilities (FASSED) provide funding for special assistance or equipment to enable persons with disabilities (investigators and other staff, including student research assistants) to work on NSF projects. See the program announcement or contact the program coordinator at (703)306 1636.

Privacy Act. The information requested on proposal forms is solicited under the authority of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended. It will be used in connection with the selection of qualified proposals and may be disclosed to qualified reviewers and staff assistants as part of the review process; to applicant institutions/grantees; to provide or obtain data regarding the application review process, award decisions, or the administration of awards; to government contractors, experts, volunteers, and researchers as necessary to complete assigned work; and to other government agencies in order to coordinate programs. See Systems of Records, NSF 50, Principal Investigators/Proposal File and Associated Records, and NSF-51, 60 Federal Register 4449 (January 23, 1995). Reviewer/Proposal File and Associated Records, 59 Federal Register 8031 (February 17, 1994).

Public Burden. Submission of the information is voluntary. Failure to provide full and complete information, however, may reduce the possibility of your receiving an award.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 120 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Gail A. McHenry, Reports Clearance Officer, Information Dissemination Branch, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 245, Arlington, VA 22230.

The National Science Foundation has TDD (Telephonic Device for the Deaf) capability, which enables individuals with hearing impairment to communicate with the Foundation about NSF programs, employment, or general information. To access NSF TDD dial (703) 306-0090; for FIRS, 1-800-877-8339.

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance category 47.050, Geosciences.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
ARLINGTON, VA 22230

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