Research Deans and Directors: Please circulate to faculty.

**NSF Major Research Instrumentation Program**: (MRI) Instrument Acquisition or Development

This competition applies to all GW investigators submitting an NSF MRI proposal whether as prime, consortium, or subawardee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NSF MRI (NSF 15-504) Limited Proposal Competition Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited Proposal Competition Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVPR Limited Proposal Competition Notification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to OVPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Proposal Submission Deadline</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OVPR Evaluation Criteria for NSF MRI Limited Proposal Competition:**

1. Limited Proposal Competition documents are complete and responsive;

2. Deans/research deans have agreed and signed off on the proposed formula for institutional cost sharing outlined below;

3. OVPR’s selection criteria will be based on the above together with its evaluation of the proposals most likely to be successfully funded by NSF based on the following synopsis provided by the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA).

The Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI) serves to increase access to shared scientific and engineering instruments for research and research training in our Nation’s institutions of higher education, not-for-profit museums, science centers and scientific/engineering research organizations. The program seeks to improve the quality and expand the scope of research and research training in science and engineering, by providing organizations with opportunities to acquire instrumentation that supports the research and research training goals of the organization. The program emphasizes shared-use instrumentation that will enhance the capabilities of researchers both within and outside the proposing organization.

Each MRI proposal may request support for the acquisition (Track 1) or development (Track 2) of a single research instrument for shared inter- and/or intra-organizational use. Development efforts that leverage the strengths of private sector partners to build instrument development capacity at MRI submission-eligible organizations are encouraged.
**Required Documents for Internal Competition:**

1. **Title page:**
   - Project title (as specified by NSF FOA instructions)
   - List of co-PIs, Senior Personnel (Name, position, institution)
   - Proposed physical location of equipment (building name, address, room number)
   - MRI Instrument Category Code and Description

2. **Project summary draft** (1 page maximum including intellectual merit and broader impacts)

3. **Project description draft** including impact on Research and Training Infrastructure (up to 5 pages). Proposals >$M should address the potential impact of the instrument on the research community of interest and at the regional or national level when appropriate.

4. **Management Plan** (up to 1 page): identify the GW cost center(s) that have agreed to support ongoing maintenance in terms of cost and care the equipment requires and method for allocating equipment use priorities.

5. **Budget** inclusive of equipment cost, maintenance, supplies and personnel necessary to place the equipment in service. Budget should specify total project cost, quantify amount and sources of the **30% cost sharing requirement**, and the amount NSF will be asked to fund.

6. **Cost sharing allocation agreement memo/email** proposing the formula for allocating institutional cost sharing, specifying amounts and reflecting acknowledgement and agreements among pertinent deans to cost share.

   Investigators selected for a full proposal with final budgets that exceed these approvals will be responsible for updating agreements and approvals in advance of 5-business day submission requirement.

General guidelines on cost sharing are:

- Schools/departments must agree to cover at least one-third of the proposed total cost.
- Open budget model schools may request one-third of the cost-sharing commitment to be covered by EVPAA and one-third by OVPR.

7. **NSF review comments** for NSF MRI proposal previously submitted if applicable.

Send questions to reshelp@gwu.edu and include "**NSF MRI**" in the subject line.

Link to recent NSF MRI awards:

For more information about OVPR’s Limited Proposal Submissions, refer to [http://research.gwu.edu/competitions-limited-proposal-submissions](http://research.gwu.edu/competitions-limited-proposal-submissions)