

U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC)
National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Executive Summary

Federal Agency Name

Organization Name

Funding Opportunity Title

Title Heading 1

Funding Opportunity Number

FON Heading 1

Funding Opportunity Description

Text in [brackets] will need to be updated for this specific announcement.

Remove [brackets] before saving

* Text Field: Funding Opportunity Description

The [insert program/competition name] is seeking applications from eligible applicants for activities to [Insert summary, generally not to exceed four sentences]. This is a [Research-related/Non-Research-related] NOFO

Announcement Type

Select the appropriate announcement type.

* Radio Button: Initial

Radio Button: Amendment

Competition Type

Non-Competitive

Funding Instrument

Select Funding Instrument: Grant and/or Cooperative Agreement and/or Other Transaction Agreement (OTA)

* Radio Button: Grant

Radio Button: Cooperative Agreement

Radio Button: Grant and Cooperative Agreement

Radio Button: Other Transaction Agreement (OTA)

Assistance Listing Number(s)

The main ALN will be automatically populated when entering the information on the Key Attributes. Any additional ALNs can be selected.

Refer to SAM.gov for the list of active NIST Assistance Listings

Example, 11.XXX, 11.YYY.

* ALN

Award Project Period

Text in [brackets] will need to be updated for this specific announcement.

Example: Three (3) years or up to three (3) years

Remove [brackets] before saving

*** Text Field: Award Project Period**

Project performance period of [spell out number and insert numeric value] years.

Funding Amount and Estimated Number of Awards

Text in [brackets] will need to be updated for this specific announcement.

Remove [brackets] before saving

Example: two (2) awards

Text Field: Funding Amount and Estimated Number of Awards

In [FYXX], NIST anticipates funding [spell out number and insert numeric value for up to \$ insert maximum award amount available] per award.

Goals & Objectives

Summary of program's principal goal(s) and objectives

Text Field: Goals & Objectives

Eligible Projects

Summary of eligible projects areas under the program. [if applicable]

Text Field: Eligible Projects

Eligible Applicants

*** Text Field: Eligible Applicants**

Eligibility for the program listed in this NOFO is open to all non-Federal entities.

Cost Share/Matching Requirements

Select the appropriate cost share/matching requirement option.

Radio Button: Non-Federal cost share is required

Radio Button: Non-Federal cost share is not required

Submission Dates and Times

Application deadline(s) and key milestones – i.e., Earliest Submission Date, Letter of Intent Due Date (if applicable), Application Due Date, Earliest Start Date (for the award)

Text in [brackets] will need to be updated for this specific announcement.

Remove [brackets] before saving

*** Text Field: Submission Dates and Times**

Submission deadline of 11:59 PM (Eastern), [Month/Day/Year]

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted electronically using Grants.gov. Paper applications will not be accepted. Please refer to this website for specific instructions for applying: [NIST NOFO Information | NIST](#).

Agency Contacts

Update the Agency Contact as appropriate

* Text Field: Agency Contacts

Programmatic and Technical Questions:

Contact Name:

Program Office Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Include "Funding Opportunity Number" in subject line

Grant Rules and Regulations:

Grants Officer Name:

Grants Officer Email Address:

Include "Funding Opportunity Number" in subject line

Technical Assistance with Grants.gov Submissions

Grants.gov

Phone Number: 800-518-4726

Email Address: support@grants.gov

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This section contains the full programmatic description of the funding opportunity. It may be as long as needed to adequately communicate to potential applicants the areas in which funding may be provided. It describes the agency's funding priorities or the technical or focus areas in which the agency intends to provide assistance. As appropriate, it may include any program history (e.g., whether this is a new program or a new or changed area of program emphasis). This section may communicate indicators of successful projects (e.g., if the program encourages collaborative efforts) and may include examples of projects that have been funded previously. This section also may include other information the agency deems necessary, such as citations for authorizing statutes and regulations for the funding opportunity

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Program Authority

Text in [brackets] will need to be updated for this specific announcement.

Remove [brackets] before saving

Note that unless a program has explicit, separate grant-making authority, this line must include 15 U.S.C. § 272(b)(4).

* Text Field: Program Authority

The statutory authority for the [enter the title of the grant program] here is [XX U.S.C. § XXX(X)(X) and (X)(XX)].

Background Information

Insert program description and applicable background information here, noting that the [DOC Federal Financial Assistance Manual](#) gives the following guidance on the content of the Program Description: This section may be as long as needed to adequately communicate to potential applicants the areas or projects for which funding may be provided. It describes the operating unit's funding priorities (on a broader level than those which are to be used as selection factors and described in paragraph e.g., below) or the technical or focus areas on which the operating unit intends to provide assistance. As appropriate, it may include any program history (e.g., whether this is a new program or a new or changed area of program emphasis). This section may communicate indicators of successful projects (e.g., if the program encourages collaborative efforts) and may include examples of projects that have been funded previously. This section may include other information the operating unit deems necessary and must at a minimum include citations for authorizing statutes and regulations for the funding.

* Text Field: Background Information

Program Requirements

Insert aims and program goals and objectives here

* Text Field: Program Requirements

Provide sufficient information to help an applicant make an informed decision about whether to submit a proposal. Relevant information could include the total amount of funding that your agency expects to award through the announcement; the anticipated number of awards; the expected amounts of individual awards (which may be a range); the amount of funding per award, on average, experienced in previous years; and the anticipated start dates and periods of performance for new awards. This section also should address whether applications for renewal or supplementation of existing projects are eligible to compete with applications for new awards.

This section also must indicate the type(s) of assistance instrument (i.e., grant, cooperative agreement, and/or other instrument) that may be awarded if applications are successful. If cooperative agreements may be awarded, this section either should describe the “substantial involvement” that the agency expects to have or should reference where the potential applicant can find that information (e.g., in the funding opportunity description in Section I or award administration information in Section VI). Procurement contracts will not be awarded under this competition.

II. Award Information

1. Type of Funding Instrument

* Radio Button: The funding instrument that will be used is a Grant.

Radio Button: The funding instrument that will be used is a Cooperative Agreement. Where cooperative agreements are used, the nature of NIST’s “substantial involvement” will generally include collaboration with the recipient organization in developing and implementing the approved scope of work, consistent with the definition of cooperative agreement in [2 CFR § 200.1](#).

Radio Button: The funding instrument that will be used is Grant and Cooperative Agreement. Where cooperative agreements are used, the nature of NIST’s “substantial involvement” will generally include collaboration with the recipient organization in developing and implementing the approved scope of work, consistent with the definition of cooperative agreement in [2 CFR § 200.1](#).

Radio Button: The funding instrument that will be used is a Other Transaction (OTA).

2. Multi-Year Funding Policy

Option 1: Select if applicable

Text in [brackets] will need to be updated for this specific announcement.

Remove [brackets] before saving.

Option 2: Select this option if awards are less than one year or it is known upfront that all awards will be fully funded initially.

* Radio Button: When a proposal for a multi-year award is approved, funding will usually be provided for only the first year of the program. If a project is selected for funding, NIST has no obligation to provide any additional funding in connection with that award. Continuation of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the sole discretion of NIST. Continued funding will be contingent upon satisfactory performance, continued relevance to the mission and priorities of [insert your lab/OU name here], and the availability of funds.

Radio Button: N/A

3. Funding Availability & Project Performance Period

Text in [brackets] will need to be updated for this specific announcement.

Remove [brackets] before saving

Example: Three (3) years or up to Three (3) years.

Text Field: 3. Funding Availability & Project Performance Period

In [FYXX], NIST anticipates funding [spell out number and insert numeric value for up to \$ insert maximum award amount available] per award with a project performance period of [spell out number and insert numeric value] years.

4. Indirect (F&A) costs

NIST will reimburse applicants for proposed indirect (F&A) costs in accordance with [2 CFR § 200.414](#). Applicants proposing indirect (F&A) costs must follow the application requirements set forth in Section IV of this NOFO.

This section addresses considerations or factors that make an applicant or application eligible or ineligible for consideration. This includes the eligibility of particular types of applicant organizations, any factors affecting the eligibility of the principal investigator or project director, and any criteria that make particular projects ineligible. You should make clear whether an applicant's failure to meet an eligibility criterion by the time of an application deadline will result in your agency's returning the application without review or, even though an application may be reviewed, will preclude the agency from making an award. Key elements to be addressed are:

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants

Note that "all non-Federal entities" is the default eligibility, but Program Offices can restrict eligibility, including for non-competitive NOFOs, provided there is a rational basis for the change. Additionally, this section must be exactly the same (verbatim) as the eligibility Section in the Executive Summary.

* Text Field: 1. Eligible Applicants

Eligibility for the program listed in this NOFO is open to all non-Federal entities. Eligible applicants include accredited institutions of higher education; non-profit organizations; for-profit organizations incorporated in the United States; state, local, territorial, and Indian tribal governments; foreign public entities; and foreign organizations. Please note that individuals and unincorporated sole proprietors are not considered "non-Federal entities" and are not eligible to apply under this NOFO. Although Federal entities are not eligible to receive funding under this NOFO, they may participate as unfunded collaborators.

2. Cost Share or Matching Requirement

You must state whether there is required cost sharing, matching, or cost participation without which an application would be ineligible (if cost sharing is not required, you must explicitly say so).

Required cost sharing may be a certain percentage or amount or may be in the form of contributions of specified items or activities (e.g., provision of equipment). It is important that the announcement be clear about any restrictions on the types of cost (e.g., in-kind contributions) that are acceptable as cost sharing. Cost sharing as an eligibility criterion includes requirements based on statute or regulation, as well as those imposed by administrative decision of the agency. This section should refer to the appropriate portion(s) of NOFO stating any pre-award requirements for submission of letters or other documentation to verify commitments to meet cost-sharing requirements if an award is made.

If Cost Sharing or Matching funds ARE NOT required, keep this language and delete all other language.

If Cost Sharing or Matching funds ARE required, keep this language and UPDATE text between brackets to clearly state required amount, percentage, or form of contribution including any restrictions on allowable types of cost sharing or matching contributions.

Edit language in brackets

Remove brackets before saving

Please ensure you only keep one option in the text box

* Text Field: 2. Cost Share or Matching Requirement

Cost Sharing or Matching funds **are not required** for awards issued pursuant to this NOFO. Non-federal cost sharing is that portion of the project costs not borne by the Federal Government. The applicant's share of expenses may include cash, services, and third-party in-kind contributions, as described at 2 CFR §200.306. The source and detailed rationale of the cost share, including cash, full- and part-time personnel, and in-kind donations, must be documented in SF-424A and Budget Narrative and Justification submitted with the application and may be considered as part of the review under the evaluation criterion. As with the Federal share, any proposed costs included as non-Federal cost sharing must be an allowable/eligible cost under this program and under the Federal cost principles set forth in 2 CFR part 200, Subpart E. Non-federal cost sharing incorporated into the budget of an approved financial assistance award is subject to audit in the same general manner as Federal award funds. See 2 CFR part 200, Subpart F.

Cost Sharing or Matching funds **are** required for awards issued pursuant to this NOFO Cost Share or matching funds of [Enter the required cost share amount or percentage for awards issued pursuant this NOFO and any other relevant information] Non-federal cost sharing is that portion of the project costs not borne by the Federal Government. The applicant's share of expenses may include cash, services, and third-party in-kind contributions, as described at 2 CFR §200.306. The source and detailed rationale of the cost share, including cash, full- and part-time personnel, and in-kind donations, must be documented in the Budget Narrative and Justification submitted with the application and will be considered as part of the review under the evaluation criterion found in Section V of this NOFO. As with the Federal Share, any proposed costs included as non-Federal cost sharing must be an allowable/eligible cost under this program and under the Federal cost principles set forth in 2 CFR part 200, Subpart E. Non-federal cost sharing incorporated into the budget of an approved financial assistance award is subject to audit in the same general manner as Federal award funds. See 2 CFR part 200, Subpart F.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. How to Apply

Applications must be submitted electronically using Grants.gov. Paper applications will not be accepted. Please refer to this website for specific instructions for applying: [NIST NOFO Information | NIST](#).

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Set forth below are the required content and form of applications submitted pursuant to this NOFO.

Note that if Pre-Applications are part of the competition, FAAMO will work with the Program to confirm the details and supply the appropriate language for NOFO Sections IV and V. Please see Section 7.A of the [DOC Federal Financial Assistance Manual](#) and discuss with your Grants Officer to determine whether pre-applications are appropriate for your program.

* Text Field: 2. Content and Form of Application Submission

A. Required Forms and Documents

Option 1: Required instructions for all awards

Option 2 and 7: Mandatory Selection. Must Select for All Awards

Option 3: Mandatory for non-research, non-construction

Option 4 and 5: Mandatory for construction

Option 5, 9 and 11: Mandatory for Research only

Option 8: If applicable

Option 10: If applicable for Research only

Option 12: Select if the program permits awards with a five-year period of performance

Checkbox: Please refer to this website for instructions on completing required forms: [NIST NOFO Information | NIST](#).

Checkbox: **SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance**. The SF-424 must be signed by an authorized representative of the applicant organization.

Checkbox: **SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs**. Expenses must be reflected in whole dollars (no cents).

Checkbox: **SF-424C, Budget Information for Construction Programs**. Expenses must be reflected in whole dollars (no cents).

Checkbox: **SF-424D, Assurances for Construction Programs**

Checkbox: **Research & Related Budget (Total Fed + Non-Fed)**. The budget should reflect anticipated expenses for the full term of the project, considering all potential cost increases, including cost of living adjustments. Expenses must be reflected in whole dollars (no cents).

The budget should be detailed in these categories:

- Senior/Key Person;
- Other Personnel;
- Equipment Description;
- Travel;
- Participant/Trainee Support Costs;
- Other Direct Costs;
- Direct Costs (automatically generated);
- Indirect Costs;
- Total Direct and Indirect Costs (automatically generated);
- Fee (*not relevant to this competition*);
- Total Costs and Fee (automatically generated);
- Budget Narrative and Justification document should be attached to field L.

A separate detailed R&R Budget must be completed for each budget period during the proposed award (e.g., annual basis). To add additional budget periods (e.g., year 2), click "Add Period" embedded at the end of the form. Information regarding the Research & Related Budget (Total Fed + Non-Fed) is available in the [R & R Forms Repository](#) on Grants.gov, as well as at the [NIST Financial Assistance Agreements Management Office R&R Application Package Guidance](#).

Checkbox: **CD-511, Certification Regarding Lobbying**

Checkbox: **SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities** (if applicable).

Checkbox: **Research and Related Other Project Information:** Instructions for completing the Research and Related Other Project Information form can be found in [R&R Forms Repository](#) on grants.gov by scrolling down to Research And Related Other Project Information and clicking the Instructions link, as well as at the [NIST Financial Assistance Agreements Management Office R&R Application Package Guidance](#)

Checkbox: **Subaward Budget Form:** The Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment Form is required if sub-recipients and contractors are included in the application budget.

Instructions for completing subaward budget forms are available by visiting the [R&R Forms Repository](#) of the Grants.gov Forms Repository and scrolling down to the R&R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form and selecting "Instructions." Expenses must be reflected in whole dollars (no cents).

Checkbox: **Data Management Plan:** Consistent with NIST Policy 5700.00, "*Managing Public Access to Results of Federally Funded Research*", and NIST Order 5701.00, "*Managing Public Access to Results of Federally Funded Research*", applicants must include a Data Management Plan (DMP).

All applications for activities that will generate scientific data using NIST funding are required to adhere to a DMP or explain why data sharing and/or preservation are not within the scope of the project. For the purposes of the DMP, NIST adopted the definition of "research data" at 2 C.F.R. § 200.315(e)(3).

The DMP must include, at a minimum, a summary of proposed activities that are expected to generate data; a summary of the types of data expected to be generated by the identified activities; a plan for storage and maintenance of the data expected to be generated by the identified activities, including after the end of the award's period of performance; and a plan describing whether and how data generated by the identified activities will be reviewed and made available to the public.

A template for the DMP, an example DMP, and the rubric against which the DMP will be evaluated for sufficiency is available at: [Information for Applicants and Awardees](#). An applicant is not required to use the template if the DMP contains the required information.

If an application stands a reasonable chance of being funded and the DMP is determined during the review process to be insufficient, the program office may contact the applicant to resolve deficiencies in the DMP. If an award is issued prior to the deficiencies being fully rectified, the award will include a Specific Award Condition (SAC) stating that no research activities shall be initiated, or costs incurred for those activities under the award until the NIST Grants Officer amends the award to indicate the SAC has been satisfied.

Reasonable costs for data preservation and access may be included in the application.

Checkbox: **SF-424A, Budget Information- Non-Construction Programs (for applications with five-year projects).** The SF-424A form that appears as part of the mandatory forms in the Grants.gov application package covers the first four (4) years of the project. For projects covering five years, a second SF-424A form should be submitted to cover year five (5) of the project. A fillable SF-424A form can be found in the SF-424 Family section of the grants.gov Forms Repository (see "[Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs \(SF-424A\)](#)"). Applicants should download the fillable SF-424A form, complete the information for year five (5) of the project and submit the completed form as an attachment. Expenses must be reflected in whole dollars (no cents).

B. Project Narrative

The content and structure of the Project Narrative, to include the number and titles of subsections, the information sought, and page limits (e.g., the number of pages, spacing, etc.), is at the discretion of the Program Office. The Project Narrative must be consistent with the Evaluation Criteria in Section V. Please consult with the GO if you have any questions or refer to NOFOs posted in FAAMO's [NOFO library](#) for additional examples of Project Narrative content. Also note that the page number and spacing guidelines referenced here must also match the information provided in the Application Format section below.

* Text Field: B. Project Narrative

The Project Narrative is no more than twenty (20) pages (double-space), which is responsive to the program description and the evaluation criteria.

The page limit includes Cover Page; Table of Contents (if included); Project Narrative with all required information, including figures, graphs, tables, images, and pictures).

C. Resume(s) of Key Personnel

Resumes or CVs are required for all key personnel, including the principal investigator. Resumes are limited to two (2) pages per individual, including a list of the most recent publications relevant to the proposed work

D. Budget Narrative and Justification

Option 1: Mandatory Selection. Must Select for All Awards

Option 2: Mandatory if Cost Share is included

Option 3: Mandatory for non-construction

* Checkbox: There is no set format for the Budget Narrative and Justification; however, further explanation must be provided for the specific cost categories and line items that you identified in the SF-424A form as well as any other information you deem necessary for NIST's consideration. The written justification should include the necessity and the basis for the cost, as described below. Proposed funding levels must be consistent with the project scope, and only allowable costs should be included in the budget, and all funds should be in whole dollars (no cents). Information on cost allowability is available in the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at [2 C.F.R. Part 200](#), which apply to awards in this program.

The Budget Narrative does not count against the page limit of the Project Narrative.

This section will be evaluated in accordance with the **Budget Narrative evaluation criteria**. It will also be reviewed to determine if all costs are reasonable, allocable, and allowable under 2 C.F.R. Part 200 Subpart E, Cost Principles.

Personnel: At a minimum, the budget justification for all personnel should include the following: job title, commitment of effort on the proposed project in terms of average number of hours per week or percentage of time, salary rate, total personnel charges for each identified position on the proposed project, description of the role of the individual on the proposed project and the work to be performed.

Fringe Benefits: Fringe benefits for each position should be identified separately from salaries and wages and based on rates determined by organizational policy. The items included in the fringe benefit rate (e.g., health insurance, parking, etc.) should not be charged under another cost category.

Travel: For all travel costs, the budget justification for travel should include the following: destination; names or number of people traveling; dates and/or duration; mode of transportation, lodging and subsistence rates; and description of how the travel is directly related to the proposed project. For travel that is yet to be determined, please provide best estimates based on prior experience. If a destination is not known, an approximate amount may be used with the assumptions given for the location of the meeting

Equipment: Equipment is defined as an item of property that has an acquisition cost of \$10,000 or more (unless the organization has established lower levels) and an expected service life of more than one year. The budget justification should list each piece of equipment, the cost, and a description of how it will be used and why it is necessary to the successful completion of the proposed project. Please note that any general use equipment (computers, etc.) charged directly to the award should be allocated to the award according to expected usage on the project.

Supplies: Supplies are defined as all tangible personal property other than that described as equipment. Provide a list of each supply, and the breakdown of the total costs by quantity or unit of cost. Include the necessity of the cost for the completion of the proposed project.

Contractual (i.e., Contracts or Subawards): Each contract or subaward should be treated as a separate item. Identify the cost and describe the services to be provided and the necessity of the subaward or contract to the successful performance of the proposed project. Contracts are for obtaining goods and services for the Non-Federal Entity's own use and create a procurement relationship with the contractor. A subaward is for the purpose of carrying out a portion of a Federal award and creating a Federal assistance relationship with the subrecipient.

Other Direct Costs: For costs that do not easily fit into the other cost categories, please list the cost, and the breakdown of the total costs by quantity or unit of cost. Include the necessity of the cost for the completion of the proposed project. Only allowable costs can be charged to the award.

Indirect Costs: Commonly referred to as Facilities & Administrative Costs, Indirect Costs are defined as costs incurred by the applicant organization that cannot otherwise be directly assigned or attributed to a specific project. The justification should include a cost calculation that reflects the applicable indirect cost rate.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement. If indirect costs are included in the proposed budget, provide a copy of the approved negotiated agreement if this rate was negotiated with a cognizant Federal audit agency. If the rate was not established by a cognizant Federal audit agency, provide a statement to this effect. If the successful applicant includes indirect costs in the budget and has not established an indirect cost rate with a cognizant Federal audit agency, the applicant will be required to obtain such a rate in accordance with Section B.06 of the [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#).

Alternatively, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.414(f), applicants that do not have a current negotiated (including provisional) indirect cost rate except for those non-Federal entities described in [appendix VII](#), paragraph D.1.b. of 2 CFR 200 may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 15 percent of modified total direct costs (MTDC). Applicants proposing a 15 percent de minimis rate pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.414(f) should note this election as part of the budget portion of the application. Please be aware that Foreign applicants will be limited to use of the de minimis rate and will not have the opportunity to negotiate an indirect cost rate with NIST.

Current and Pending Support Form: Any application that includes investigators, researchers, and key personnel must identify all sources of current and potential funding, including this proposal. Any current project support (e.g., Federal, state, local, public, or private foundations, etc.) must be listed on this form. The proposed project and all other projects or activities requiring a portion of time of the Principal Investigator (PI), co-PI, and key personnel must be included, even if no salary support is received. The total award amount for the entire award period covered, including indirect costs, must be shown as well as the number of person-months per year to be devoted to the project, regardless of the source of support. Similar information must be provided for all proposals already submitted or that are being submitted concurrently to other potential funders.

Applicants must complete the Current and Pending (Other) Support Common Form, using multiple forms as necessary to account for all activity for each individual identified in the PI, co-PI, and key personnel roles. A separate form should be used for each identified individual.

Applicants must download the [NIST Current and Pending Support](#) and reference the guidance provided as it contains information to assist with accurately completing the form.

Checkbox: **Cost Share:** When cost share is included in the budget, the written justification must also identify the Federal and non-Federal portion of each cost, to include indirect costs, as applicable.

Checkbox: **Construction-** Not an allowable cost under this NOFO.

E. Fee

The program office should describe if fees are applicable to the program. Only applicable to Research.

Text Field: E. Fee

3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM).

Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. part 25, applicants and recipients are required to: (i) be registered in SAM before submitting its application; (ii) provide a valid unique entity identifier in its application; and (iii) continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency, unless otherwise excepted from these requirements pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 25.110. NIST will not make a Federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time that NIST is ready to make a Federal award pursuant to this NOFO, NIST may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant.

V. Application Review Information

Application Review and Award Processing

* Text Field: Application Review and Award Processing

NIST reviewers will review the non-competitive applications submitted pursuant to this Non-Competitive NOFO and provide advice to the Selecting Official as to the (i) technical soundness and (ii) merits of the application in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 8 of the [DOC Federal Financial Assistance Manual](#).

VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices

The Notice of Award (NoA), signed by a NIST Grants Officer, is the official award notice. This notification will be issued electronically to the Authorized Representative of the Applicant.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

A. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements. Through [2 C.F.R. § 1327.101](#), the DOC adopted Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at [2 C.F.R. Part 200](#), which apply to awards in this program.

B. Terms and Conditions

- **DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions**
The [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#) will apply to each award in this program.
- **Executive Order 14173: Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity**
 - This award term implements Executive Order 14173, 90 FR 8633 (Jan. 21, 2025). By accepting a U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) financial assistance Award or Award Amendment (as the case may be) and expending federal funding thereunder, the recipient:
 - Agrees that compliance in all respects with all applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws is material to the government's payment decisions for purposes of section 3729(b)(4) of Title 31 United States Code;
 - Certifies to the Department that it does not operate any programs promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws; and

- Further certifies to the Department that it does not participate in any illegal preferences, mandates, policies, programs, activities, guidance, regulations, enforcement actions, consent orders, and requirements, that violate any applicable federal anti-discrimination laws.
- **Affirmative Duty to Monitor for and to Report Potential Inconsistencies:** The recipient must actively monitor its administration of an award to ensure that its activities do not violate the requirements of this award, including this SAC. At any time during the period of performance of this award, if the recipient believes that any of the activities in its approved scope of work may be inconsistent with the policies as outlined above, the recipient has an affirmative duty to immediately stop work on those potentially inconsistent activities and immediately contact the Grants Officer named in the Notice of Award (NoA) to determine whether the potentially inconsistent activities may proceed under this award. The performance of activities that violate or are otherwise inconsistent with requirements as outlined above will result in appropriate enforcement action pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.339, including the disallowance of costs and possible termination of a portion or all of this award.

C. Pre-Award Notification Requirements. The DOC will apply the Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements dated December 30, 2014 ([79 FR 78390](#)). Refer to Section VII. of this NOFO, Federal Awarding Agency Contacts, Grant Rules, and Regulations, for more information.

D. Funding Availability and Limitation of Liability. Funding for the program listed in this NOFO is contingent upon the availability of appropriations. NIST or the DOC will not be responsible for application preparation costs, including but not limited to if this program fails to receive funding or is cancelled because of agency priorities. Publication of this NOFO does not oblige NIST or the DOC to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds. Additionally, NIST may terminate this award in accordance with 2 C.F.R. 200.340(a)(4) if this award no longer affects the program goals or NIST or Department of Commerce priorities.

E. Collaborations with NIST Employees. All applications should include a description of any work proposed to be performed by an entity other than the applicant, and the cost of such work should ordinarily be included in the budget. If an applicant proposes collaboration with NIST, the statement of work should include a statement of this intention, a description of the collaboration, and prominently identify the NIST employee(s) involved, if known. Any collaboration by a NIST employee must be approved by appropriate NIST management and is at the sole discretion of NIST. Prior to beginning the merit review process, NIST will verify the approval of the proposed collaboration. Any unapproved collaboration will be stricken from the application prior to the merit review. Any collaboration with an identified NIST employee that is approved by appropriate NIST management will not make an application more or less favorable in the competitive process. NIST's costs should not be included in the application.

F. Use of Federal Government-Owned Intellectual Property. If the applicant anticipates using any Federal Government-owned intellectual property, in the custody of NIST or another Federal agency, to carry out the work proposed, the applicant should clearly identify such intellectual property in the proposal. This information will be used to ensure that no Federal employee involved in the development of intellectual property will participate in the review process for that competition. In addition, if the applicant intends to use the Federal Government-owned intellectual property, the applicant must comply with all statutes and regulations governing the licensing of Federal government patents and inventions, described in 35 U.S.C. §§ 200-212, 37 C.F.R. Part 401, 2 C.F.R. §200.315, and in Section C.03 of the [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#). Questions about these requirements may be directed to the Chief Counsel for NIST, (301) 975-2803, nistcounsel@nist.gov.

Any use of Federal Government-owned intellectual property by a recipient of an award under this announcement is at the sole discretion of the Federal Government and will need to be negotiated on a case-by-case basis by the recipient and the Federal agency having custody of the intellectual property if a project is deemed meritorious. The applicant should indicate within the statement of work whether it already has a license to use such intellectual property or whether it intends to seek a license from the applicable Federal agency.

If any inventions made in whole or in part by a NIST employee arise in the course of an award made pursuant to this NOFO, the United States Government may retain its ownership rights in any such invention. Licensing or other disposition of the Federal Government's rights in such inventions will be determined solely by the Federal Government, through NIST as custodian of such inventions, and include the possibility of the Federal Government putting the intellectual property into the public domain.

3. Activities Involving Human Subjects or Vertebrate Animals.

Option 1: Select for research

Option 2: Select for non-research awards

Radio Button: **Activities Involving Human Subjects or Vertebrate Animals.**

Research potentially involving human subjects may include human subjects, human tissue, data, or recordings, including software testing. Research potentially involving vertebrate animals may include live vertebrate animals or pre-existing cell lines or tissues from vertebrate animals.

Summary

- **Research involving human subjects**

Any application that includes research activities involving human subjects must satisfy comply with the requirements of the Common Rule for the Protection of Human Subjects ("Common Rule"), codified for the Department of Commerce at [15 C.F.R. Part 27.11](#) Research activities involving human subjects that fall within one or more of the classes of vulnerable subjects found in [45 C.F.R. Part 46](#), Subparts [B](#), [C](#) and [D](#) must satisfy the requirements of the applicable subpart(s). In addition, any such application that includes research activities on these subjects must comply with all applicable statutory requirements imposed upon the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and other Federal agencies, all regulations, policies and guidance adopted by DHHS, the [Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#), and other Federal agencies on these topics, and all Executive Orders and Presidential statements of policy on applicable topics. The [website of the Office of Human Research Protection](#) (OHRP) in the DHHS contains the applicable regulatory, policy and guidance and (includes links to [FDA](#), but may not include all applicable FDA regulations and policies.

If the application is accepted for [or awarded] funding, organizations that have an Institutional Review Board (IRB) are required to follow the procedures of their organization for research and research not involving human subjects' determinations and approval of exempt and non-exempt research activities that involve human subjects. The IRB must be currently registered with OHRP that is linked to the engaged organization. Organizations that do not have an IRB must demonstrate the ability to expeditiously contract with a commercial IRB to conduct a review of the proposed activities. Also, all engaged organizations must possess a currently valid Federalwide Assurance (FWA) on file from OHRP. The NIST IRB is unable to serve as the IRB for financial assistance recipients.

- **Research with Vertebrate Animals**

- **Administrative Review**

Any application that proposes research activities involving live vertebrate animals that are to be cared for, euthanized, or used by award recipients to accomplish research goals, teaching, or testing must meet the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) ([7 U.S.C. § 2131](#) et seq.), and the AWA final rules (9 C.F.R. Parts [1](#), [2](#), and [3](#)), and if appropriate, the Good Laboratory Practice for Nonclinical Laboratory Studies ([21 C.F.R. Part 58](#)). In addition, such research activities should be in compliance with the "[U.S. Government Principles for Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training](#)" (Principles).

The NIST Research Protections Office (RPO) reserves the right to conduct an administrative review of all applications that potentially include research involving human subjects under 15 C.F.R. [§ 27.112](#) or vertebrate animals (Review by Institution). Conducting an "administrative review" means that the NIST RPO will review and verify the performing institution's determinations made under the Common Rule and all documentation that support such determinations.

- **Requirements for Application**

All applications involving human subjects or vertebrate animal research must clearly indicate, by separable task, all research activities believed to be human subjects or vertebrate animal research, the expected institution(s) where the research activities may be conducted, and the institution(s) expected to be engaged in the research activities. Some documents may be requested for a pre-review during the proposal review process; however, the Grants Officer may allow final versions of certain required documents to be produced at an appropriate designated time post-award. If an award is issued, no research activities involving human subjects or vertebrate animals shall be initiated or costs incurred for those activities under the award until the NIST Grants Officer issues written approval. In addition, all re-approvals, amendments, modifications, changes, annual reports, and closures will be reviewed by NIST.

The [NIST Notice of Funding Opportunity Requirements Human Subjects and Live Vertebrate Animal](#) provides information that describes the NIST review process for such applications, documentation required and reflects the existing NIST policy and requirements for Research Involving Human Subjects and vertebrate animals. These requirements will be incorporated into any award made under this NOFO. Should the applicable policy be revised prior to award, a clause reflecting the applicable policy current at time of award may be incorporated into the award. If the applicable policy is revised after award, a clause reflecting the updated applicable policy may be incorporated into the award.

For more information regarding research projects involving human subjects or live vertebrate animals, contact Anne Andrews, Director, NIST Research Protections Office at anne.andrews@nist.gov.

Radio Button: N/A

4. Reporting

Performance Technical Reports: Remove for Research

Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR): Remove for non-research

Financial Reports: [Consult with the Grant Officer if considering deviations from the semi-annual basis of reporting. The default reporting interval is semi-annual. Reporting should not be less frequent than annual or more frequent than quarterly. Adequate justification must be provided by the program office to deviate from the default reporting requirement].

Text in [brackets] will need to be updated for this specific announcement.

Remove [brackets] before saving

* Text Field: 4. Reporting

Reporting Requirements. The following reporting requirements described in Sections A.01, Reporting Requirements, of the [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#), apply to awards in this program:

- **Performance (Technical) Reports.** Each award recipient will be required to submit a technical progress report on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending [March 31 and September 30] of each year. Reports will be due within 30 days after the end of the reporting period. Technical progress reports shall contain information as prescribed in [2 C.F.R. § 200.329](#) and [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#), Section A.01. A final technical progress report is due within 120 days after the end of the project period.
- **Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR).** Each award recipient will be required to submit a RPPR on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending [March 31 and September 30] of each year. Reports will be due within 30 days after the end of the reporting period. The RPPR shall conform to the requirements in [2 C.F.R. § 200.329](#) and [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#), Section A.01. A final RPPR shall be submitted within 120 days after the expiration date of the award, and publication citation information as well as links to publicly available data shall be submitted as soon as they become available.
- **Financial Reports.** Each award recipient will be required to submit an SF-425, Federal Financial Report on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending [March 31 and September 30] of each year. Reports will be due within 30 days after the end of the reporting period. A final financial report is due within 120 days after the end of the project period.
- **Patent and Property Reports.** From time to time, and in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Requirements and other terms and conditions governing the award, the recipient may need to submit property and patent reports.
- **Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.** In accordance with section 872 of Public Law 110-417 (as amended; see 41 U.S.C. 2313), if the total value of a recipient's currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of an award made under this NOFO, then the recipient shall be subject to the requirements specified in [Appendix XII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200](#), for maintaining the currency of information reported to SAM that is made available in [SAM.gov](#) about certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings involving the recipient.

B. Audit Requirements. The [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#), Section D.01, and 2 C.F.R. Part 200 Subpart F, adopted by the DOC through 2 C.F.R. § 1327.101, require any non-Federal entity (i.e., including non-profit institutions of higher education and non-profit organizations) that expends Federal awards of \$1,000,000 or more in the recipient's fiscal year to conduct a single or program specific audit in accordance with the requirements set out in the Subpart. Additionally, unless otherwise specified in the terms and conditions of the award, entities that are not subject to Subpart F of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (e.g., for-profit commercial entities) that expend \$1,000,000 or more in DOC funds during their fiscal year must submit to the Grants Officer either: (i) a financial related audit of each DOC award or subaward in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards; or (ii) a project specific audit for each award or subaward in accordance with the requirements contained in 2 C.F.R. § 200.507. Applicants are reminded that NIST, the DOC Office of Inspector General, or another authorized Federal agency may conduct an audit of an award at any time.

C. Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 170, all recipients of a Federal award made on or after October 1, 2010, are required to comply with reporting requirements under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law No. 109-282). In general, all recipients are responsible for reporting sub-awards of \$30,000 or more. In addition, recipients that meet certain criteria are responsible for reporting executive compensation. Applicants must ensure they have the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the reporting requirements should they receive funding. Also see the [Federal Register](#) notice published September 14, 2010, at 75 FR 55663.

VII. Agency Contacts

Federal Agency Contacts

Note these need to be the same POCs as stated in the Executive Summary.

* Text Field: Federal Agency Contacts

Questions should be directed at the following:

Programmatic and Technical Questions:

Contact Name:

Program Office Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Include "Funding Opportunity Number" in subject line

Grant Rules and Regulations:

Grants Officer Name:

Grants Officer Email Address:

Include "Funding Opportunity Number" in subject line

Technical Assistance with Grants.gov Submissions

Grants.gov

Phone Number: 800-518-4726

Email Address: support@grants.gov

VIII. Other Information

1. Personal and Business Information

The applicant acknowledges and understands that information and data contained in applications for financial assistance, as well as information and data contained in financial, performance and other reports submitted by applicants, may be used by the DOC in conducting reviews and evaluations of its financial assistance programs. For this purpose, applicant information and data may be accessed, reviewed, and evaluated by DOC employees, other Federal employees, and also by Federal agents and contractors, and/or by non-Federal personnel, all of whom enter into appropriate conflict of interest and confidentiality agreements covering the use of such information. As may be provided in the terms and conditions of a specific financial assistance award, applicants are expected to support program reviews and evaluations by submitting required financial and performance information and data in an accurate and timely manner, and by cooperating with DOC and external program evaluators. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.303(e), applicants are reminded that they must take reasonable measures to safeguard protected personally identifiable information and other confidential or sensitive personal or business information created or obtained in connection with a DOC financial assistance award.

In addition, DOC regulations implementing the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552, are found at 15 C.F.R. Part 4, Public Information. These regulations set forth rules for the Department regarding making requested materials, information, and records publicly available under the FOIA. Applications submitted in response to this Federal Funding Opportunity may be subject to requests for release under the Act. If an application contains information or data that the applicant deems to be confidential commercial information that should be exempt from disclosure under FOIA, that information should be identified, bracketed, and marked as Privileged, Confidential, Commercial or Financial Information. In accordance with 15 CFR § 4.9, the DOC will protect from disclosure confidential business information contained in financial assistance applications and other documentation provided by applicants to the extent permitted by law.

2. Public Website, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Text in [brackets] will need to be updated for this specific announcement.

Remove [brackets] before saving

Note that if the program has a public website, FAQs and webinar(s), they should be noted here. Any material presented (FAQs, information sheets, webinars, etc.) must be cleared by FAAMO and FALD prior to release.

*** Text Field: 2. Public Website, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

NIST [insert Program Office name] has a public website, [insert web address], that provides a “Frequently Asked Questions” page and other information pertaining to this Funding Opportunity. Any amendments to this NOFO will be announced through Grants.gov.

3. Webinar Information Session

Text in [brackets] will need to be updated for this specific announcement.

Remove [brackets] before saving

If not applicable: N/A

Text Field: 3. Webinar Information Session

NIST [insert Program Office name] will host a webinar information session for applicants that are interested in learning about this funding opportunity. This webinar will provide general information regarding [Funding Opportunity] and offer general guidance on preparing proposals. Please reference [website address] for the most up to date information, including scheduling details about the webinar. Proprietary technical questions about specific proposal ideas will not be permitted, and NIST will not critique or provide feedback on any proposal ideas during the webinar or at any time before the deadline for all applications. However, questions about the funding opportunity, eligibility requirements, evaluation and award criteria, selection process, and the general characteristics of a competitive application will be addressed at the webinar and by e-mail to [e-mail address]. There is no cost to attend the webinar, but participants must register in advance. Participation in the webinar is not required and will not be considered in the review and selection process.

4. Other

Option 1: Select if additional information is applicable. Remove brackets before saving.

Option 2: Select if no additional information is applicable

Checkbox: [add additional information]

Checkbox: N/A