NSF/MPS Grant Opportunities



NSF headquarters in Alexandria, VA

Inst

http://www.nsf.gov/

Kathleen McCloud Division of Physics (PHY)

Hans Krimm Division of Astronomy (AST)

Guebre Tessema Division of Materials Research (DMR)

AAPT New Faculty Workshop October 28, 2018

NSF has moved!

... from Arlington, VA to Alexandria, VA

Before:

25 mins to/from DCA



4201 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA 22230





Now:

10 mins to/from DCA



2415 Eisenhower Ave. Alexandria, VA 22314

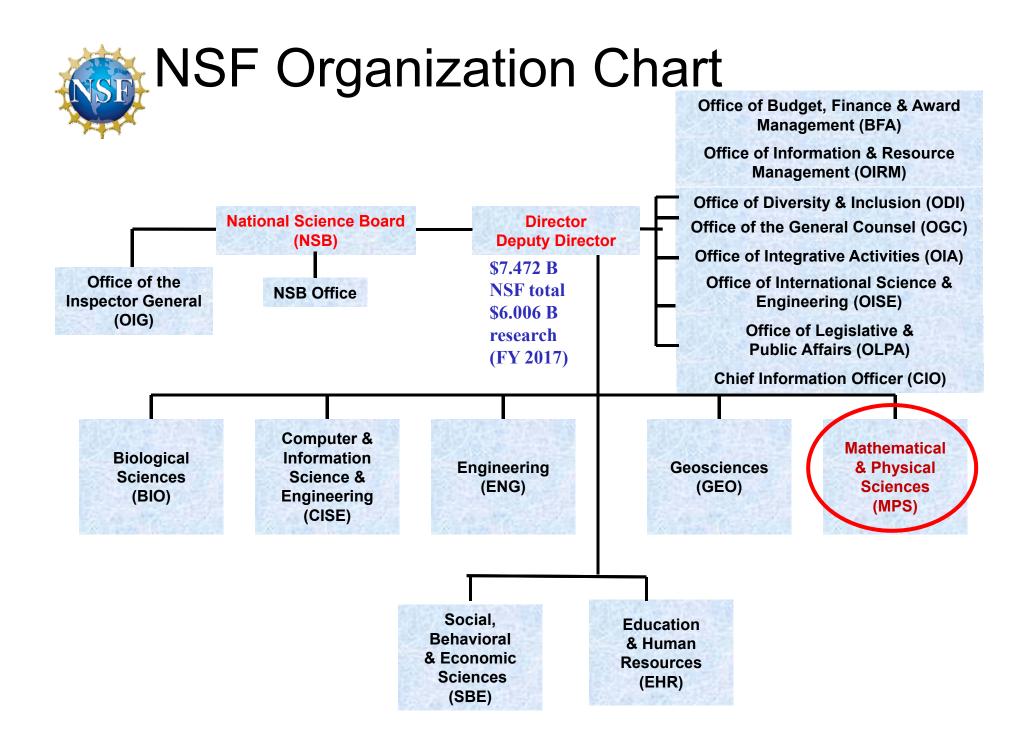


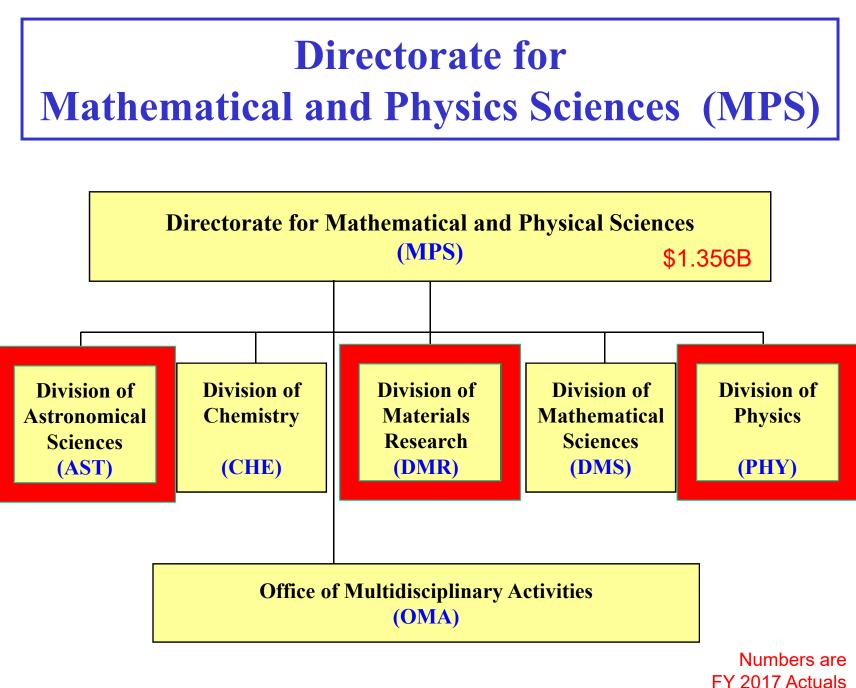
NSF Vision and Goals

- Vision: A nation that creates and exploits new concepts in science and engineering and provides global leadership in research and education
- Mission: To promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense ...
- Strategic Goals:
 - Transform the frontiers of science and engineering
 - Stimulate innovation and address societal needs through research & education
 - Excel as a Federal science agency



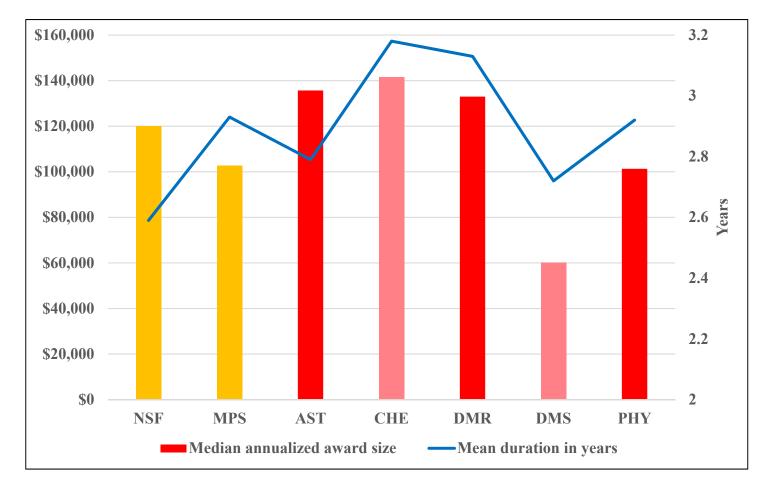






nsf

Median Annualized Award Size and Duration



Funding rate varies by division and program, but averages 20-25%

Award duration 1-5 years (longer allowed, but rare)



How to Apply for Funding

In general, you submit a proposal via fastlane.nsf.gov or research.gov to a particular <u>Solicitation</u> within a particular Division, specifying a particular Program.

- Designating secondary programs for co-review is OK if your work is inter-cross/disciplinary.
- If your selection is inappropriate, we will try to find the correct intellectual home for your proposal and transfer it internally.



How to find the right Solicitation and/or Program?

- Investigate Program websites
- Search the Award Database (at nsf.gov) using relevant keywords to see what has already been funded in various programs.
- Talk to your colleagues in similar disciplines (but beware that programs, requirements, etc. change).
- <u>**Read</u>** the relevant Solicitation.</u>
- Contact the relevant Program Director!
 - One or two paragraphs describing the project
 - Possible phone call to discuss project

Not to get a scientific evaluation, but to discuss appropriateness for that Program.



RESEARCH AREAS	FUNDING A	WARDS	DOCUMENT LIBRARY	NEWS	ABOUT NSF	
Awards	☆ Award Abstrac The Purest		r Halos and the Proc	esses of G	alaxy Evolution	
Search Awards		NSF 0	rg: ASI Division Of Astrone	omical Scien		
Recent Awards	Initial Ar	nendment Da	te: May 17, 2017			
Presidential and Honorary Awards	S Latest Amendment Date:		te: May 17, 2017	May 17, 2017		
About Awards			er: 1713841	1713841		
How to Manage Your Award Grant Policy Manual	Aw	ard Instrume	nt: Standard Grant			
Grant General Conditions Cooperative Agreement Conditions	Program Manager:		AST Division Of Astro	Peter Kurczynski AST Division Of Astronomical Sciences MPS Direct For Mathematical & Physical Scien		
Special Conditions		Start Da	te: August 15, 2017			
Federal Demonstration Partnership	End Date:		te: July 31, 2020 (Estima	July 31, 2020 (Estimated)		
Policy Office Website	Awarded	Amount to Da	te: \$567,637.00			
	;	Investigator(s): Dennis Zaritsky dzar Investigator) Alan Strauss (Co-Prir			
		Spons	or: University of Arizona 888 N Euclid Ave Tucson, AZ 85719-48		1000	
	P	NSF Program(s): EXTRAGALACTIC AS	TRON & COSM	OLO	
	Program Ref	erence Code(s): 1207			
	Program E	lement Code(s): 1217			

A galaxy contains a mixture of gas, stars and dark matter. The gas and stars emit light, making them easy to study. But the dark matter is, well, dark: It does not emit light; so, it is difficult to study. Theories of galaxy formation try to account for the mixtures of gas, stars and dark matter in galaxies of all types. Recently, a new type of galaxy was discovered, the so-called ultra-diffuse galaxies (UDGs). These galaxies contain dark

Division that made the award.

Program Director currently managing the award.

Funds allocated to date*. See expired' awards for standard evel of investment per award. * may not reflect total award]

Program(s) that funded this ward.

Abstract for this award – reviewing abstracts provides information on research scope of the program – does your research fit?

Now you want to begin writing.

- What are the rules?
- Is there guidance as to what is expected?

In general, your proposal must comply with two sets of rules/expectations:

- Those listed in the **PAPPG*** (NSF-wide expectations and requirements)
- Those listed in the **Solicitation** (specific to program):
 - Goal of Program
 - Eligibility
 - Deadlines/ Submission windows
 - Pre/Full proposal

In case of a conflict between the PAPPG and the Solicitation, the Solicitation overrides the PAPPG.

* NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide – updated annually – make sure you read the current version!

Parts of an NSF Proposal

- Project Summary and Project Description --- each must explicitly and separately address <u>Intellectual Merit</u> and <u>Broader Impact</u>
- Project Description -- also include Results from Prior NSF support
- References -- All Authors (except very large collaborations), Titles of Articles
- Biographical Sketch
- **Budget** -- your declaration about what you need to complete the proposed research (including overhead, etc.) --- consult with your SRO
- Current and Pending Support declaration
- Post Doc Mentoring Plan if needed, one page in Supplementary Docs
- Data Maintenance Plan two pages in Supplementary Docs
- Collaborator & Affiliations List Single-Copy Document; special format this is needed to identify conflicts of interest with potential reviewers
- Others as needed... see PAPPG and Solicitation



Non-conforming proposals may be returned without review!!!

Things to consider while writing

- Why *this* research project?
- Why you and not someone else?
 - Uniqueness of research, educational opportunities, available facilities...
- What are your strengths?
 - Capture the reviewers' attention in the Summary and Introduction. Make them want to read more.
- <u>YOU</u> must convince the reviewer you are worthy of funding
- Express yourself clearly
 - It's not the reviewer's job to figure out what you are trying to accomplish and why. Good expository writing is key!



"A poor idea well written is more likely to be accepted than a good idea poorly written" -- Isaac Asimov, scientist and writer (1920-1992)

Before Your Submit Your Proposal

- Start well in advance of the deadline
- Get someone else (with experience) to read the proposal, and leave your ego behind!
- Don't wait until the deadline to submit (and ask your SRO how much time they will need in advance). Deadlines are absolute: may be extended for natural or man-made disasters (such as a government shutdown), but not for issues at your end.
- Upload, then download and Print the PDF file after finishing and double-check the font size, diagrams, etc.



Merit Review Criteria

NSF-funded Projects are expected to be of the highest intellectual quality with the potential to advance, if not transform, the frontiers of knowledge.

Projects are also expected to contribute more broadly to achieving societal goals, either through the research itself or through activities related or complementary to the research.

Two Merit Review criteria are considered when evaluating ALL NSF proposals:

- Intellectual Merit: the potential to advance knowledge
- <u>Broader Impacts</u>: the potential to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes



Broader Impacts

NSF Broader Impacts are (intentionally) broadly defined.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Education: improved STEM education and educator development at any level
- Outreach: increased public scientific literacy and public engagement with science and technology
- Broadening participation: development of a diverse, globally competitive STEM workforce
- Partnerships: increased cooperation between academia, industry, and others
- ALL NSF proposals must include Broader Impacts!
- Impact must be outside your field of study.



How Proposals become Grants

- Proposals are evaluated by combination of
 - Panel appraisal: Small group of scientists working in similar fields convened to evaluate and compare a slate of proposals. Panelists provide individual reviews and a panel summary.
 - External ("ad-hoc") reviews: Written review of an individual proposal by an expert in the proposer's field.
- Program Director recommends some proposals for funding based on panel evaluation, funding constraints and programmatic balance.
- Division Director concurs, providing final scientific approval.
- Division of Grants and Agreements makes the actual award to the PI's institution.
 Congratulations!



(Inst)

Each Division has its own programs to which you can submit a proposal.

However, there are several important Solicitations which cut *across* NSF....

CAREER

Faculty Early Career Development Program NSF 17-537

- NSF's most prestigious awards in support of junior faculty exemplifying the role of teacher-scholar
- Enhances and emphasizes the importance of balanced academic careers
- Career development plan to integrate research and education

Important points to bear in mind...

- Not a research excellence prize!
- Not intended as a default proposal mechanism for new Assistant Professors.
- Has a specialized purpose which may not be suitable for all PI's.



CAREER

- Additional Requirements
 - Must be in a tenure track position, as defined by your institution
 - Associate professors cannot apply
 - Requires letter from Department Chair or Equivalent
 - Read the solicitation for complete eligibility rules.
- SIZE
 - Lower Limit \$400K (total)
- DURATION
 - 5 Years
- PECASE
 - HONORARY ONLY (Unlike DOE)
- DEADLINES:
 - July 17, 2019 BIO, CISE, EHR
 - July 18, 2019 ENG
 - July 19, 2019 GEO, <u>MPS</u>, SBE



SOME OTHER RELEVANT PROGRAMS

Major Instrumentation Program (MRI) NSF – 18-513

- Up to \$4M for development or acquisition proposals
- Submission limits per institution
- Cost sharing required for most institutions
- Submission window Jan. 1 22, 2019

Facilitating Research at Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (RUI) NSF – 14-579

- Available to PIs at eligible institutions
- Submit as RUI to regular NSF program; meet program deadline
- Additional RUI Impact Statement required as part of proposal

Broadening participation in graduate study (AGEP) NSF – 16-552



- Available to PIs at specified institutions
- Support for graduate student tuition, benefits, stipend



Division of Physics (PHY)



The Physics Division – A Broad, Rich and Diverse Research Portfolio

Hot – Active Galactic Nuclei Produce High Energy Cosmic Rays in Pierre Auger Observatory

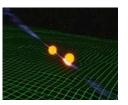
Cold – Ultracold Molecules at JILA





Large – Nucleosynthesis in Accreting White Dwarfs at JINA

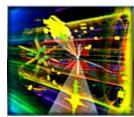
Small – Inspirals Produce Space-Time Distortion Less than Diameter of Proton in LIGO

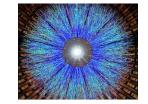




Living – Brain Wave Images with Diffusion MRI

Non-Living – Proton-Proton Collisions at CERN



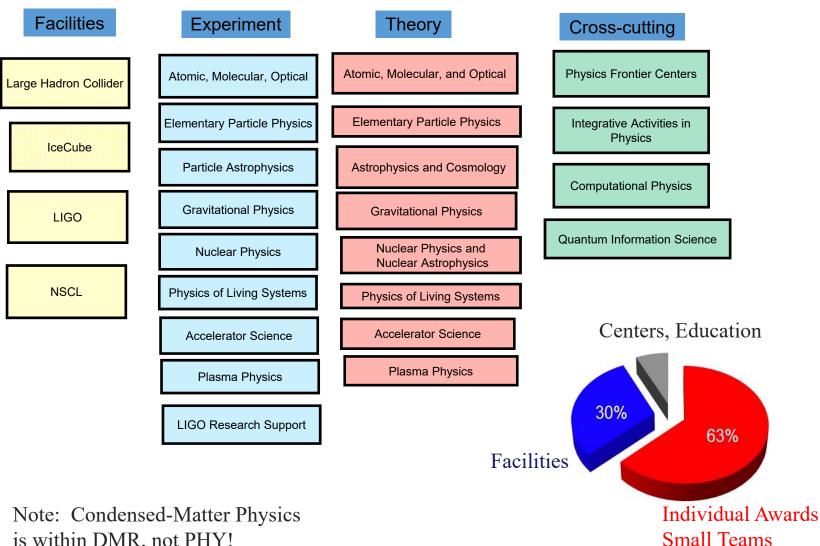


Old – Big-Bang Soup Recreated in Quark-Gluon Plasma at RHIC

New – Quantum Network at CalTech



Division of Physics



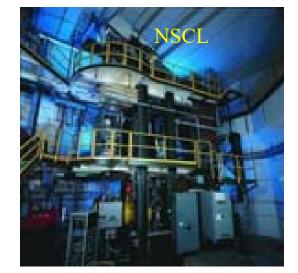
is within DMR, not PHY!



World Class Major Facilities Keeping Researchers at the Frontier











Division of Physics

Program Solicitation: Investigator-Initiated Research Projects (17-561)

https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2017/nsf17561/nsf17561.pdf

Be aware:

- New requirements for some PI's!
- Does not override existing solicitations such as RUI, CAREER, REU sites, etc.
- Deadlines instead of target dates!
- Separate deadlines for different Physics programs



Division of Physics

Full Proposal Deadlines

(due by 5 p.m. submitter's local time):

November 28, 2018:

- Atomic, Molecular & Optical Physics Experiment & Theory;
- Elementary Particle Physics Experiment;
- Gravitational Physics Experiment & Theory;
- Integrative Activities in Physics;
- LIGO Research Support;
- Particle Astrophysics Experiment;
- Physics of Living Systems

December 04, 2018:

- Nuclear Physics Experiment and Theory
- ElementaryParticle Physics Experiment

December 11, 2018:

- Elementary Particle Physics Theory;
- Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology Theory;
- Quantum Information Science
- Physics of Living Systems



Changes to note:

- (for all Divisions:) Collaborators and Other Affiliations is now a Single-Copy Document (not sent to reviewers, seen by NSF only)
- There are restrictions on the allowed content in *Letters of Collaboration* or *Membership in large collaborations*

PI's with concurrent sources of support:

- Explain how the proposed work is distinct from other funded activities.
- Discuss commitments (such as deliverables, specific projects, percentage of total research effort, etc.) associated with other support
- Put in the Current/Pending Support section... item for peer review.

Additional Information for Midscale Instrumentation:

For proposals to support instrumentation acquisition or development at the level of \$4 million and above. This language may also apply to requests for lesser amounts if the cognizant Program Director concludes that the complexity of the instrumentation merits this approach. Investigators should first contact the Program Director for their physics subdiscipline. Proposals should be submitted to the appropriate PHY Program (not a separate solicitation.)





Division of Astronomy (AST)

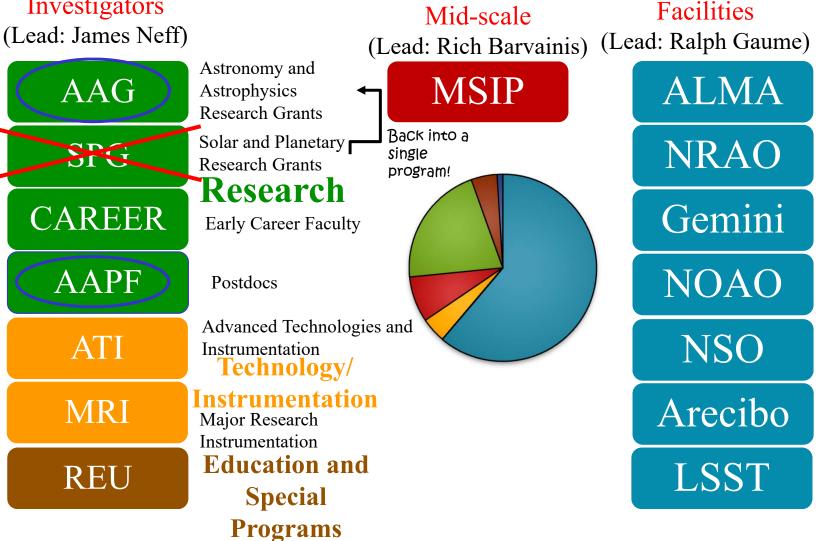
Hans Krimm hkrimm@nsf.gov



AST Division Programs

nsf.gov/ast

Individual Investigators



Astronomy and Astrophysics Research Grants (AAG)

Annual AAG deadline: November 15

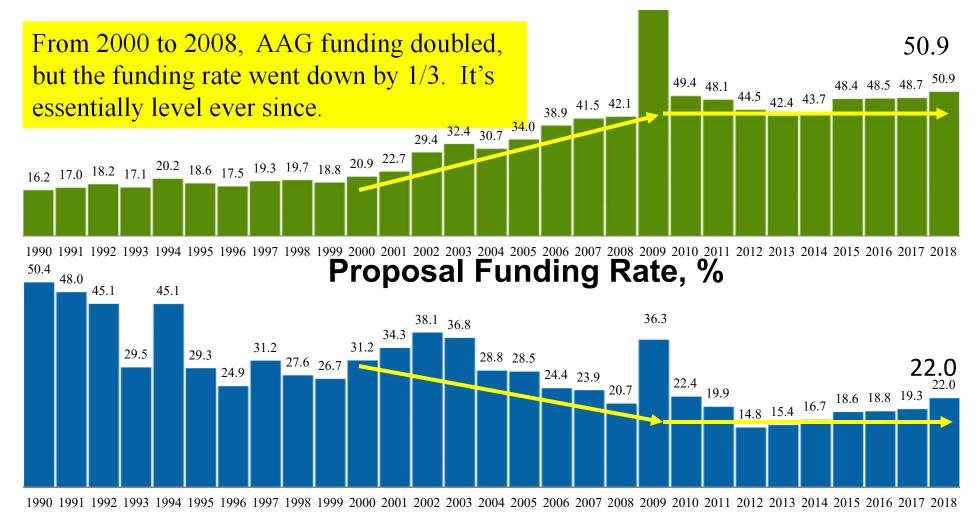
- Research grants for observational, theoretical, laboratory, and archival data studies in all areas of astrophysics
- Proposals may span multiple disciplines and/or areas of study and may utilize multiple techniques.
- Solar and planetary research proposals should be submitted to AAG this year with the same Nov. 15 deadline.
- New AAG solicitation 18-575





AAG Funding History, 1990-2018

AAG Budget, \$M_{79.6}





IIP Update

- No Proposal Deadline pilot <u>has concluded</u> for the Planetary/Exoplanetary and Solar portions of AAG (now included in AAG)
- New ATI solicitation released for FY2019 with proposals due Nov. 15, 2018
- MSIP is on every-other-year schedule no solicitation for FY2019.
- PAARE discontinued.
- MRI solicitation annually deadline Jan 2019



AAG Overview

- AAG = Astronomy & Astrophysics Res. Grants (due Nov. 15, 2019)
- An award is made to an institution: university, observatory, center (like CfA), <u>NOT</u> directly to another federal agency (like NASA).
- Typical awards are 3 years, ~\$400K including institutional indirect
- Usual budget is for salary (grad student, postdoc, faculty summer (<= 2 mos), "soft money" academic year), travel, publication costs.

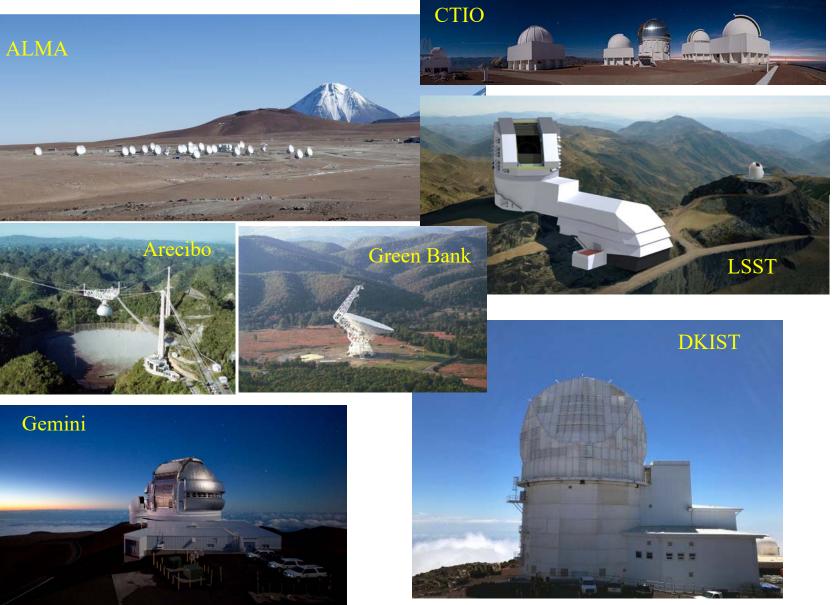
AAG program overview:

Observational, theoretical or laboratory

Solar, stellar, planetary, exoplanets, galactic, extragalactic or cosmology

Proposals that are solely or predominantly for the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of space-based data from NASA-supported missions will be returned without review.

Our Facilities





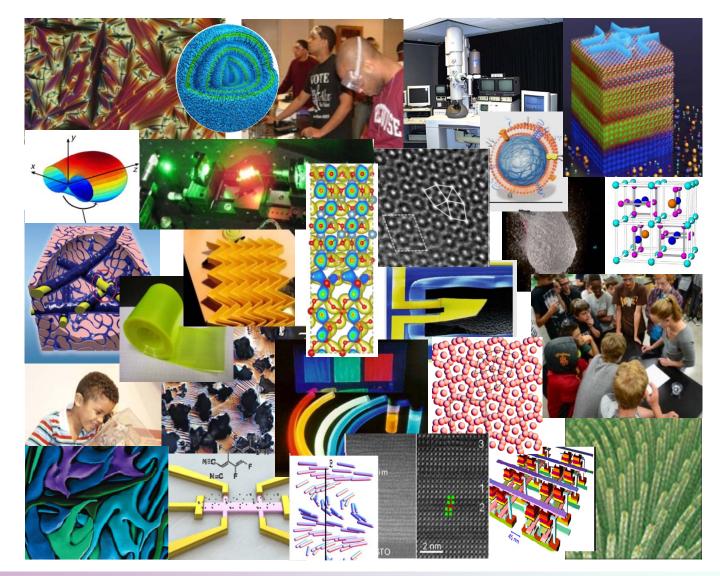
Anyone may propose for observing time on NSF AST-funded facilities



G.X. Tessema gtessema@nsf.gov



NSF Division of Materials Research (DMR)



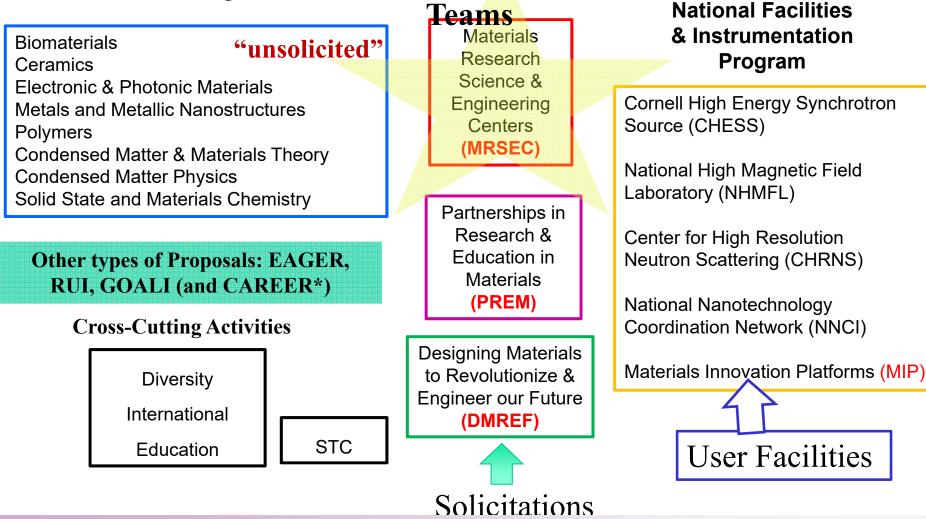


Where Materials Begin & Society Benefits

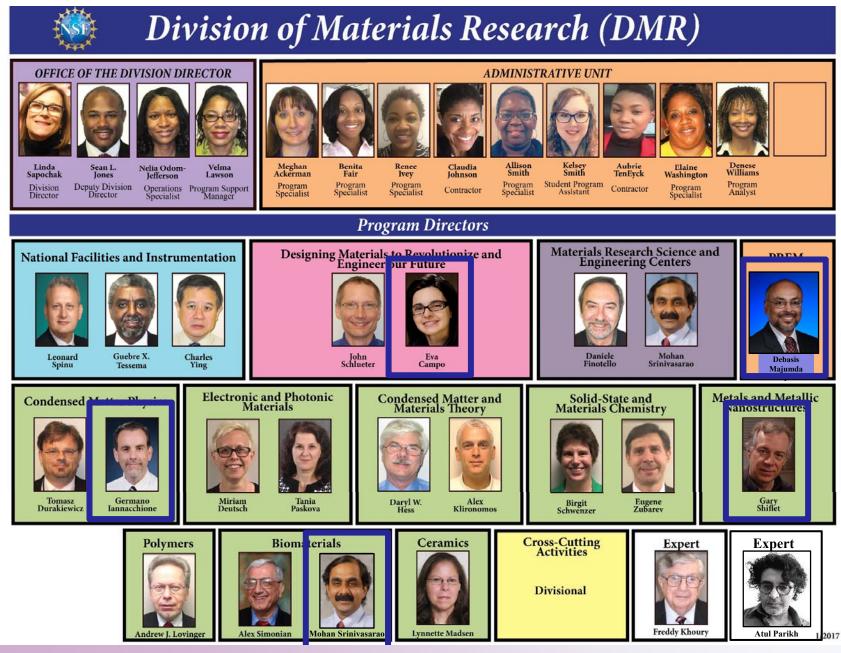
DIVISION OF MATERIALS RESEARCH (DMR)

Centers &

Topical Materials Research Programs

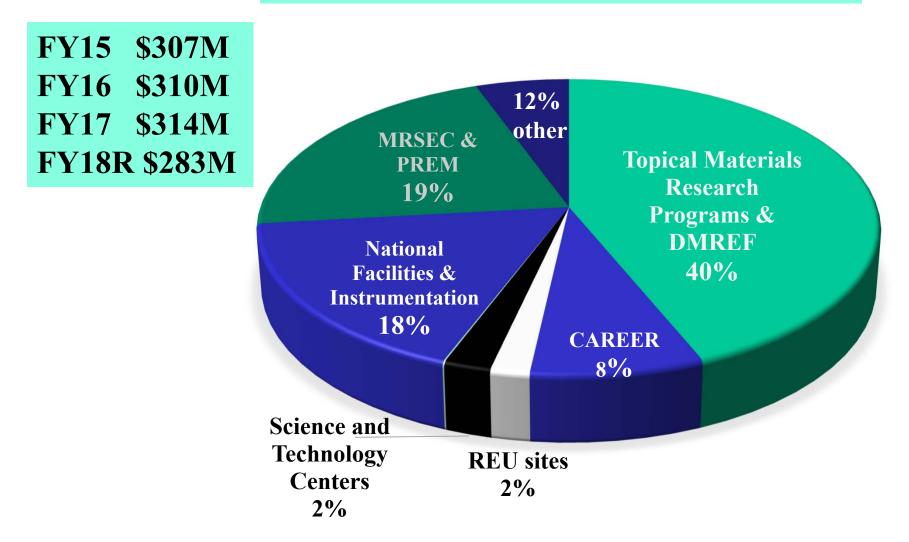








DMR Budget Distribution





DMR Solicitations for "Unsolicited" Proposals for TMRP

Biomaterials (BMAT) Electronic & Photonic Materials (EPM) Metals and Metallic Nanostructures (MMN) Polymers (POL) Condensed Matter Physics (CMP) Solid State and Materials Chemistry (SSMC)

Ceramics (CER)

PROGRAM SOLICITATION NSF 16-597

REPLACES DOCUMENT(S): PD 15-1774

Division of Materials Research: Topical Materials Research Programs (DMR-TMRP)

PROGRAM SOLICITATION NSF 17-580

REPLACES DOCUMENT(S): PD 03-1710, PD 03-1773, PD 03-1775, PD 06-7623, PD 09-1771, PD 10-1762

Submission Deadline: Nov 1

Condensed Matter and Materials Theory (CMMT)

PROGRAM SOLICITATION NSF 16-596

REPLACES DOCUMENT(S): PD 09-1765

Open Window – No Deadlines



DMR Mission Statement

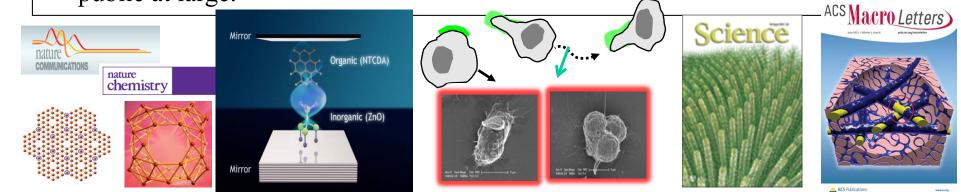
<u>Partner</u> with research community to:





- To make new discoveries about the behavior of matter and materials.
- To create new materials and new knowledge about materials phenomena.
- To address fundamental materials questions that often transcend traditional scientific and engineering disciplines and may lead to new technologies.
- To prepare the next generation of materials researchers.
- To develop and support the instruments and facilities that are crucial to advance the field.
- To share the excitement and significance of materials science with the public at large.





National Facilities & Instrumentation

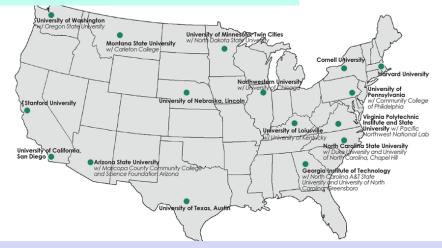


Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source (Cornell, Ithaca)



Center for High Resolution Neutron Scattering (NIST, MD)





National Nanotechnology Coordinated Infrastructure



National High Magnetic Field Facility (Florida)

Materials Innovation Platforms (MIP)

MIP Concept: Combine a focused research effort in an interactive feedback loop together with a mid-scale user facility open to the community in order to accelerate advancement of a materials research topic of national importance.



2D Crystal Consortium



NSF Materials Innovation Platform www.mip.psu.edu

Focus: 2-dimensional chalcogenide materials for future electronics e.g., Can theory model growth kinetics and guide materials synthesis?



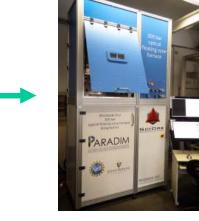


www.paradim.org

Focus: interfacial materials, combining oxides & 2D materials, for valleytronics & spintronics e.g., Can we design and create new interfacial materials by "breaking" Gibbs' & Pauling's rules?

Current Status:

- Accept user proposals; some samples delivered to users already
- World's first 300-atm floating-zone furnace at Paradim-JHU
- ➢ Integrated MBE, CVD, ARPES & STM/AFM later in 2017
- Access to computational, TEM & other capabilities
- Webinars and summer schools





Multidisciplinary User Facilities for Research

MRSECs: Materials Research Facilities

MRFN Statistics 20 centers 1141 instruments 255 experts

Mrfn.org >1140 Instruments on the network



(MRFN)

Yearly Users of MRSEC Facilities

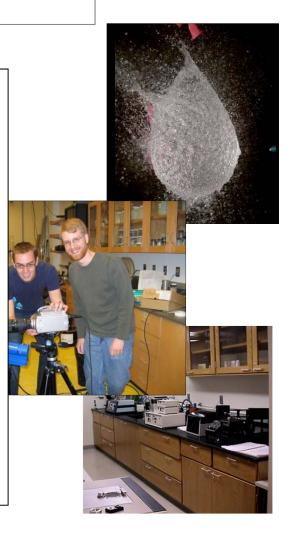
- > 1380 Academic
- > 530 Industry
- >50 National Labs

743 Publications acknowledged MRSEC SF

75 MRSEC Technical Staff in

SEFs

- 31 Other Technicians
- 51 Administrative Staff
- 37 Education Staff





Materials Research Facilities Network

< All user proposal drive

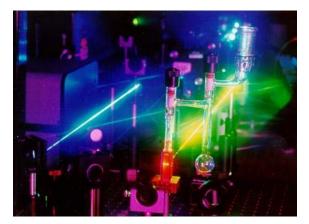
Instrumentation

- <u>Major Research Instrumentation</u> (<u>MRI</u>)
- Divisional instrumentation programs
- Research grants











Ask Early, Ask Often (starting now!)

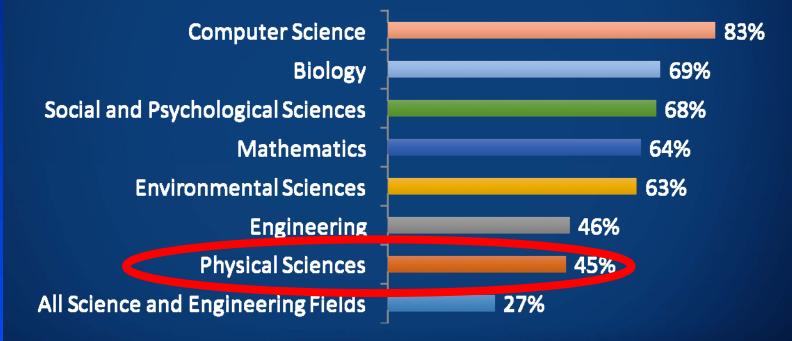
PHY: Kathy McCloud, kmccloud@nsf.govAST: Hans Krimm, hkrimm@nsf.govDMR: G. X. Tessema, gtessema@nsf.gov



Backup Slides



NSF Support of Academic Basic Research in Selected Fields (as a percentage of total federal support in 2015)



Note: Biology includes Biological Science and Environmental Science. Biology and Psychological Sciences exclude National Institutes of Health funding from the total amount of federal support.



Source: NSF/National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Federal Funds for Research and Development

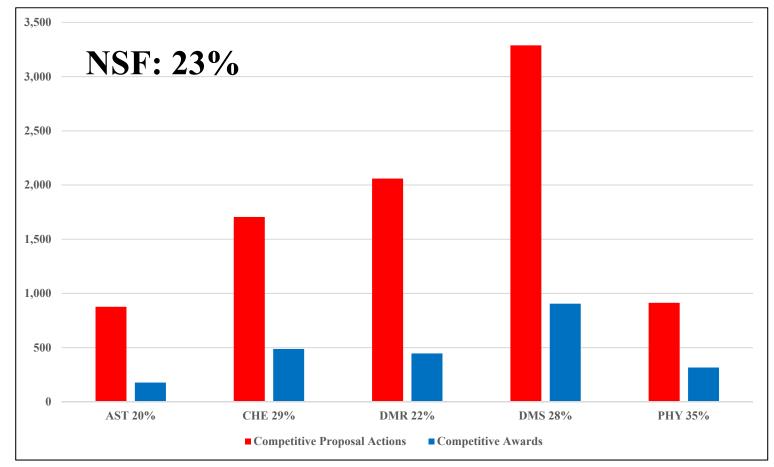
MPS Overall Funding—FY 2018 Request

MPS Funding (Dollars in Millions)					
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 (TBD)	FY 2018 Request	Change Over FY 2016 Actual Amount Percent	
Astronomical Sciences (AST)	\$246.63	-	\$221.15	-\$25.48	-10.3%
Chemistry (CHE)	246.52	-	221.05	-25.47	-10.3%
Materials Research (DMR)	309.88	-	282.87	-27.01	-8.7%
Mathematical Sciences (DMS)	233.95	-	209.78	-24.17	-10.3%
Physics (PHY)	276.91	-	253.30	-23.61	-8.5%
Office of Multidisciplinary Activities (OMA)	34.89	-	31.28	-3.61	-10.3%
Total	\$1,348.78	-	\$1,219.43	-\$129.35	- 9.6%



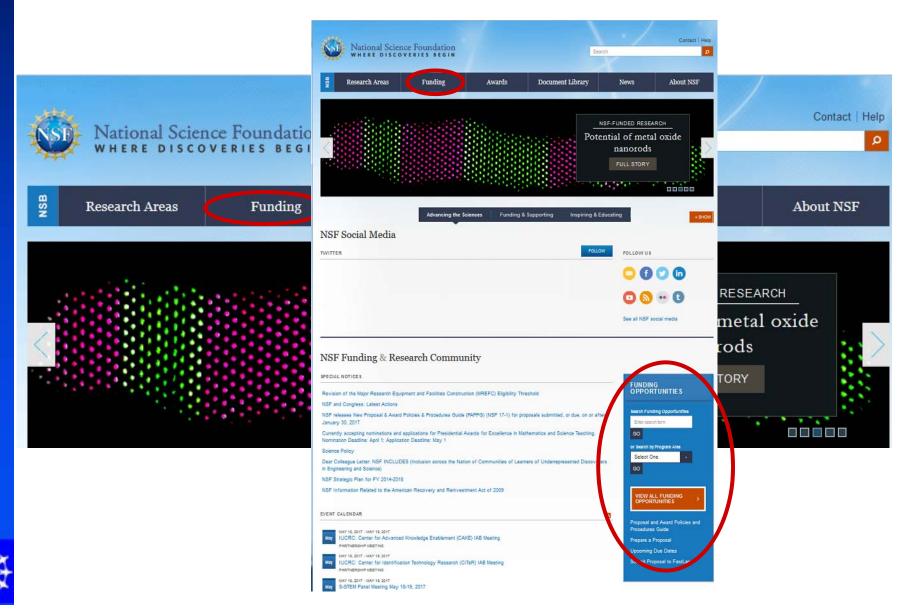
Funding Rates

FY 17





Funding Opportunities <u>www.nsf.gov</u>

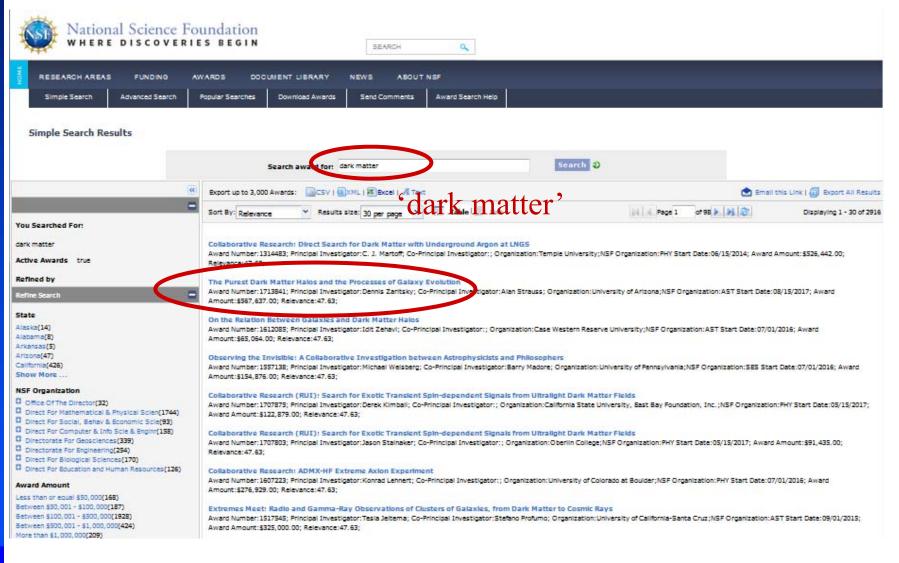


WWW.NSf.gov – Search Current Awards





www.nsf.gov/awardsearch





Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide

(see link within Fastlane under "Proposals, Awards, Status")

(PAPPG) NSF 18-1

- Contains guidelines for all proposals (except when program Solicitation stipulates otherwise)
- Also provides guidance for Award process, from issuance and administration through closeout
- Also describes NSF organizations and offices most relevant to grantees
- Also provides a list of Statutes and Executive Orders
- Is updated often: make sure you are looking at the most current edition!

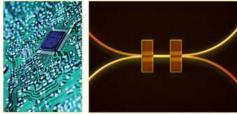


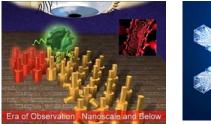
Intellectual Merit

For example...

- How important is the proposed activity to advancing knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields?
- How well qualified is the proposer (individual or team) to conduct the project?
- To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts?
- How well conceived and organized is the proposed activity?
- Is there sufficient access to resources?











Broader Impacts

For example...

- How well does the activity advance discovery and understanding while **promoting teaching, training, and learning**?
- How well does the proposed activity broaden the participation of **underrepresented groups**?
- To what extent will it enhance the **infrastructure** for research and education, such as facilities, instrumentation, networks, and partnerships?









- Will the **results be disseminated** broadly to enhance scientific and technological understanding?
- What may be the benefits of the proposed activity to **society**?





Funding Decisions

Along with the advice provided by reviewers/Panels, NSF staff give careful consideration to the following in making funding decisions:

Integration of Research and Education

One of the principal strategies in support of NSF's goals is to foster integration of research and education through the programs, projects, and activities it supports at academic and research institutions...

Integrating Diversity into NSF Programs, Projects, and Activities

Broadening opportunities and enabling the participation of all citizens, women and men, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities, are essential to the health and vitality of science and engineering. NSF is committed to this principle of diversity and deems it central to the programs, projects, and activities it considers and supports.



CAREER

ELIGIBILTY: As of Directorate Deadline

- Hold a doctoral degree by the deadline date in a field supported by NSF;
- Be untenured until October 1 following the deadline; and
- Have not previously received a CAREER award (prior or concurrent Federal support for other types of awards or for non-duplicative research does not preclude eligibility);

AND

• By October 1st following the deadline for submission of CAREER proposals: Be employed in a tenure-track (or tenure-track-equivalent) position as an **assistant professor (or equivalent title)** at an accredited institution located in the U.S., its territories, or possessions, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, that awards degrees in a field supported by NSF;

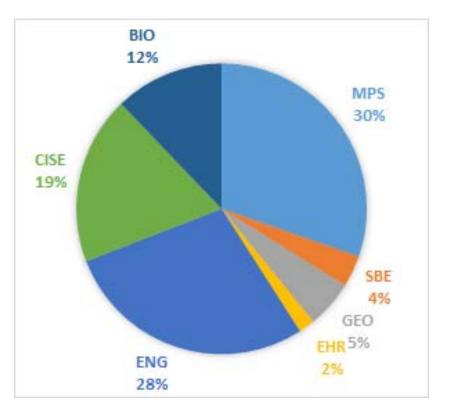
OR

• Be employed in a tenure-track position (or tenure-track-equivalent position) as an **assistant professor (or equivalent title**) at an organization located in the U.S., its territories or possessions, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, that is a non-profit, non-degree-granting organization such as a museum, observatory, or research lab.



CAREER Program

Awardees are selected based on their plan of *outstanding research, excellent education,* and the integration of research and education within the context of the mission of their organizations, *building a firm foundation for a lifetime of leadership.*



FY2016



Increased participation of those traditionally under-represented in science and engineering is encouraged.

Principles Applied to MPS

- Support early career
 - CAREER request relatively stable. Targeted REU reductions if undergraduate students could be supported through national facilities and normal research awards. 8,000 graduate students to be supported through research awards.
- Protect the core; cross disciplinary programs
 - Major research facilities are "core" to MPS.
 - Retained flexibility to fund the best science by rolling some crossdisciplinary programs into core programs.
- Strategic and prioritized reductions within directorates
 - Emphasized funding of highest priority facilities; reductions proposed for some facilities in transition.
 - Reduced mid-scale and instrumentation; support individual investigators.
 - Prioritized low-level investments leading to "Big Ideas".



Major Instrumentation Program (MRI) NSF – 18-513

Next Deadline: January 01, 2019 - January 22, 2019

Restrictions on organization submission eligibility

Submission limit - Three (3) per organization: *Two proposals for less than \$1M, one proposal for more than \$1M.*

Awards - up to \$4M for development or acquisition proposals

Cost-sharing at the level of 30% of the **total project cost** is required for Ph.D.-granting institutions and non-degree-granting organizations. **Cost-sharing is not required for non-Ph.D. granting institutions.**

Merit Review - At the time of submission, PI's are asked to identify an NSF division(s) to review proposal. NSF reserves the right to place proposals in the appropriate division(s) for review.

RUI: Facilitating Research at Primarily Undergraduate Institutions

- RUI proposals from eligible institutions must be submitted in response to existing NSF funding opportunities and must abide by guidelines and deadlines in those documents.
- Current RUI solicitation is <u>NSF 14-579</u>. You submit here and designate which Program should receive your proposal. *RUI solicitation has extra requirements* beyond the regular Program Solicitations and PAPPG.

There is no single Foundation-wide deadline for RUI proposals – see Division programs.



MPS AGEP GR Supplements

- Available to PIs to support qualifying graduate students at AGEP or AGEP Legacy Institutions only! https://www.nsf.gov/mps/broadening_participation/index.jsp
- Graduate Student Eligibility
 - Emphasis placed on under-represented groups
 - Not currently supported by federal government (NSF, DOE, NIH,...)
 - US Citizen, US National, or US Permanent Resident
- Stipend, tuition, benefits, and IDC (~\$60k). Renewable up to two times.

See DCL 16-125 for more information

