Funding Proposals for Research Laboratory Equipment and Tools – 2022

The goal of this funding opportunity is to enhance research capabilities in the College of Engineering (CoE). The funding may be used to increase research productivity by improving laboratory infrastructure and operation, and developing upgrading, or purchasing new equipment. The funding opportunity may also be used to enhance the utilization of laboratory space, consolidate equipment from different laboratories in one location, and/or merge research laboratories to improve the utilization of equipment and enhance the experimental capabilities. If appropriate, the proposals may be identified for submission to COSPRRT partnership or other types of external programs (e.g., MRI, DURIP).

Eligibility

All tenure track and research faculty members in engineering are eligible. One faculty member can serve as the PI only for one proposal. An individual can serve as a Co-PI multiple times.

Deadline

March 1, 2022. The proposal review may begin soon after the submission.

Proposal

The narrative of the proposal must include the following four sections.

1. **Cover page**

   Proposal Title, Name of the Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigators, unit affiliation, the prime laboratory where the investment will be made, and the funding category (Small: up to $25K; Medium: $25 to $100K; Large: More than $100K).

2. **Project Description** (Limited to 2 pages, excluding references)

   This section of the proposal must include the intellectual merit and broader impacts sections, and a schedule.

   **Intellectual Merit**

   This section of the proposal must address the following:

   - Description of the equipment (or planned activity) and why this investment is needed
   - How would the new investment increase external funding, research collaboration and productivity, and/or scholarship?
   - What research areas will benefit from the investment and their alignments with strategic areas of the departments and/or the CoE?

   **Broader Impacts**

   This section of the proposal may address the following:

   - Shared nature of the equipment and how the equipment/planned activity would benefit researchers, increase research collaboration across the campus or with researchers outside of ISU, enable sharing resources, and/or improve space utilization where appropriate.
   - Include information on similar capabilities that may exist within the department, college, or ISU.
   - A management plan for investment of the funds, as well as operation, maintenance and sustainability of the equipment (Required for all proposals)
3. Budgetary Information

**Budget Details**

Include all eligible costs (equipment purchase, space renovation, etc.), along with a proposed timing of expenditure.

Requests not to include items such as:

- Academic or summary salary
- Funding for students and postdocs
- Planning or equipment design costs
- Travel costs
- Course buyouts
- General purpose equipment or computer, office supplies, etc.

**Budget Justification**

This section may include the following:

- The original source of funding for equipment that is being upgraded or replaced
- Information on the efforts to secure external funding and challenges
- Vendor quotes

**Cost share**

Not required but strongly encouraged. Show the requested and the cost share amounts separately.

4. Curriculum Vitae

Up to 2 pages of vitae for the PI.

**Review Parameters**

- Impact of investment and expected return on investment
- Gain in efficiency (execution of research task, utilization of space use, etc.)
- National competitiveness, especially for large grants
- Cost share

**Inquiries**

The submissions must be discussed with the department chair/center director prior to submission. Questions regarding this RFP may be directed to: Arun Somani or Sri Sritharan (arun or sri)@iastate.edu

**Submission**

The proposal should be sent as a single PDF document to Lori Jarmon <ljjarmon@iastate.edu> using the following naming convention: “<PI LAST NAME>_ENG-EQ_<FUNDING CATEGORY>_Proposal_2021.pdf”

**Final Report**

All awardees are required to submit a short final report at the conclusion of the project.