

Nebraska EPSCoR
Request for Proposals
Trans-disciplinary Neuroscience
Research Seed Grant

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Dr. F. Fred Choobineh, P.E.

November 16, 2012

TO: Research Administrators, Deans and Department Chairs/Heads
(please notify appropriate faculty)

FROM: F. Fred Choobineh, Director, Nebraska EPSCoR

RE: Call for Proposals for support of Trans-disciplinary Neuroscience
Research

Deadlines

Proposal: 5:00 PM, Monday, February 11, 2013

Program Description

Nebraska EPSCoR is interested in enhancing neuroscience research in Nebraska through trans-disciplinary research that involves multiple Nebraska institutions. Neuroscience encompasses understanding complex neurobiological systems, from genetic determinants to cellular processes to the complex interplay of neurons, circuits, and systems orchestrating behavior and cognition. For the purpose of this request for proposals, we partition neuroscience research into three broad science areas: a) biological, physiological, and chemical; b) cognitive and behavioral; and c) engineering, computational and mathematical neuroscience. Nebraska EPSCoR is interested in funding projects that involve at least two of the three science areas. Based on the quality of proposals received, at most two proposals may be funded.

Amount of EPSCoR award: \$75,000 to \$150,000 per funded proposal

Grant duration: 12 to 18 months

Earliest start date: May 1, 2013

Budgetary Information

Cost sharing requirement: 20 percent cash cost share of the amount of EPSCoR award is required. Cash cost share must be proportional to the amount of grant expenditure at each campus.

Indirect Cost (F&A) Limitations: Indirect costs are not allowed and may not be used for satisfying the cost share requirement.

Other Budgetary Limitations: a) Faculty salary may not be requested; b) no more than 65 percent of the total budget may be allocated to one science area.

Eligibility Information

Institutions: Only Nebraska academic institutions are eligible to participate.

Principal investigators: The science areas' leaders are co-principal investigators of the grant. One of the co-principals should act as the principal investigator of the grant. All co-principal investigators should be tenured or tenured-leading faculty members.

Limit on the number of proposals per institution: None

Selection Process

Proposals will be merit reviewed and the State EPSCoR Committee, by considering the merit reviews, will select the proposal(s) to be funded.

Proposal Content

The proposal must be prepared using **font size 11 or greater with 1 inch margins**. A complete proposal must include Parts A, B, C, and D as described below.

A. Executive Summary

The Executive Summary must be at least half a page, but not more than one page, and is not included in the main body page limit.

B. The Main Body

The main body of the proposal, including references, cannot exceed **10 pages**. The main body should include the following four mandatory sections; additional sections may be added when necessary.

1. A section titled **Introduction** must provide a general description and scientific justification to conduct the proposed research. This section must establish the basis and importance of the proposed research.
2. A section titled **Current Status** must describe Nebraska's current status and strength in each science area and how their linkage through this grant complements and/or strengthens each area.
3. A section titled **Proposed Activities** must describe the planned activities for the duration of the grant and anticipated outcomes, and how the proposed investment enhances research competitiveness of the combined group.
4. A section titled **Future Activities** must clearly indicate which of the NSF program(s) will be targeted for submission of future proposals and a short description of the proposed future science.

C. Curriculum Vita

Provide a two-page CV for all co-principal investigators and significant collaborators. This CV should follow either NSF or NIH format and should include any special background information of which you wish the Nebraska EPSCoR Committee to be aware. Do not append full CVs.

D. Budget form and budget justification

Complete the Nebraska EPSCoR Proposal Budget and Approval Form available from our web site <https://epscor.nebraska.edu/forms.shtml> and provide a maximum of one page budget justification. The budget and justification are not included in the page limit for the main body of the proposal. The budget

form will be the proposal cover sheet. The appropriate campus-level approval signature(s) and account number(s) are required for the cost share commitment.

Proposals not conforming to the above specifications will be returned without review. If you have any questions, please call the Nebraska EPSCoR Office at 402-472-8946 or e-mail: epscor@nebraska.edu.

Proposal Submission Instructions and Due Dates

Proposals must be submitted in print and electronically.

Proposal: The *original proposal*, in print and with the appropriate campus-level signature(s) and account number(s), must be received no later than **5:00 PM, Monday, February 11, 2013**, in the Nebraska EPSCoR office at W192 Nebraska Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0557.

In addition, the proposal must also be *submitted electronically* via the Nebraska EPSCoR web site at <http://ucommxsrvt1.unl.edu/epscor/proposal.php> no later than **5:00 PM, Monday, February 11, 2013**.

Budget and Budget Justification note: The budget must be submitted as one PDF file under “Budget File.” The rest of your submission must be submitted as one PDF file under “CV & Proposal File.”