



EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH

March 12th, 2013

Dear Colleagues,

Last year was a very good year for NSF funding in Utah! As you might have heard, Utah has just exceeded the NSF funding level that made us EPSCoR eligible (0.75% of NSF's budget), so we are not NSF EPSCoR eligible for Fiscal Year 2013 (which began October 1st, 2012). The funding percentage is calculated on a 3-year rolling average, so can change each year as current awards expire. Iowa and Tennessee are in the same position, as seen on the attached eligibility table. NASA and DOE base their EPSCoR eligibility on NSF's, so this impacts our eligibility for those agencies, too.

I thought I would explain how this impacts Utah's EPSCoR funding at the agencies where we had EPSCoR eligibility: NSF, NASA, DOE, and USDA.

NSF:

- Utah will continue current NSF EPSCoR awards, including the EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Track 1 award, pending continued satisfactory performance.
- For the next 3 years, Utah PIs are eligible for **NSF EPSCoR co-funding and workshop** awards, so PIs are encouraged to submit NSF proposals while this funding opportunity still exists.
- Utah is NOT eligible to apply for any additional Research Infrastructure Improvement awards (Track 2, Track X, etc.) until our percentage of NSF funding falls below 0.75%.

NASA:

- Utah can participate in the 2013 EPSCoR Research solicitation, since the NSF announcement was made after the release of the NASA EPSCoR solicitation.
- Utah will continue the recently awarded Research Infrastructure Development (RID) awards through the end of the performance period, pending continued satisfactory performance.
- Utah will continue current NASA EPSCoR awards, pending continued satisfactory performance.



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DOE:

- DOE has not yet released their FY13 EPSCoR call for proposals yet. When they do, Utah will NOT be eligible to apply for DOE EPSCoR funds in FY13.
- Utah PIs are eligible for DOE EPSCoR co-funding for **Early Career** awards, so PIs are encouraged to submit Early Career proposals while this funding opportunity still exists.
- Utah PIs are also encouraged to attend PI meetings of their regular DOE program areas.

USDA:

- Utah PIs are eligible for USDA EPSCoR funds for FY13. USDA has its own way of calculating eligibility.
- USDA EPSCoR status only counts for application to **AFRI programs**. In the application package there is a form called AFRI Project Type where you check the box for the type of grant application. Utah would be eligible for any of those listed under FASE Strengthening. Utah PIs can also apply for sabbatical, equipment, or seed grant EPSCoR funds
- The USDA EPSCoR deadlines, LOI requirements, review, etc. are all the same as a non-EPSCoR proposal, but Utah can be funded from an EPSCoR set-aside of funds.
- Utah PIs are encouraged to send in USDA/NIFA/AFRI proposals while **FY13 EPSCoR eligibility** still exists.

Sincerely,

Rita

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