

## 2011 Alabama NASA EPSCoR Seed Grant RFP

November 8, 2010

### Alabama NASA EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Development (RID) Program Announcement of Opportunity

Four grants beginning 1 Jan 2011, ending 31 May 2012.

#### **FAST RESPONSE NEEDED**

The Alabama Space Grant Consortium has graduated several high-performing PI's from our NASA EPSCoR Seed Grant Program. There are funds for 4 \$15K grants ending May 31, 2012. NASA requires 1:1 matching for this program.

#### Deadline for Submission of Proposals:

Proposals (2 copies plus signed original) must be received by **COB December 1, 2010**. These must be formal submissions with institutional signatures. Also send an electronic copy. Keep these files less than 2MB, preferably much smaller. This is for reviewers' ease of receipt. Send to: Dr John Gregory, MSB 111, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, AL 35899. E-copy to: [gregoryj@uah.edu](mailto:gregoryj@uah.edu), [shurtzt@uah.edu](mailto:shurtzt@uah.edu).

#### Letters of Intent:

You are requested to send a letter of intent to propose, consisting only of: the proposal title, a <200 word abstract, area of technical specialty, and your name, contacts, and affiliation. This should be sent by **COB November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010** to [gregoryj@uah.edu](mailto:gregoryj@uah.edu), and to Teresa Shurtz at [shurtzt@uah.edu](mailto:shurtzt@uah.edu). These letters do not commit you to propose and do not require institutional approval, though you are advised to send copies to your administration.

#### Purpose of Seed Grant Program

The purpose is to provide an impetus to recently hired faculty at Alabama's research universities to develop a research program in an area that is of interest to NASA (see below). Faculty, preferably with student assistance, will use the funds to acquire new data or to develop new methods that will increase their competitiveness in obtaining awards from NASA and other technical agencies. We are particularly aware of the difficulties experienced by young faculty who have used up their "start-up" package, but have not yet obtained significant funding by winning competitive awards.

#### Who May Apply

Only tenure-earning, or recently tenured (within 5 years of initial appointment to a tenure-earning position) faculty at one of Alabama's 7 research universities (AAMU, AU, TU, UA, UAB, UAH, USA) may apply. (First appointment began after July 2005).

### Value

Up to \$15K NASA funds per project.

### Number of Awards

Up to 4 awards may be made.

### Matching

NASA funds must be matched 1:1 with non-Federal funds. Match may be cash or in-kind, student and faculty labor, tuition, supplies and materials, travel and waiver of indirect costs, etc. Matching funds may not include other Federal funds and must be expended during the period of the grant.

### Equipment

No more than \$5,000 may be used for equipment, either from NASA or matching funds.

### Travel

NASA funds may not be used for overseas travel.

### Eligible Scope (Relevance to NASA's Mission)

Projects proposed must be clearly aligned with NASA's Vision for Space Exploration: [http://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/exploration/main/index.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/exploration/main/index.html); its 2006 Strategic Plan: [http://www.nasa.gov/pdf/142302main\\_2006\\_NASA\\_Strategic\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.nasa.gov/pdf/142302main_2006_NASA_Strategic_Plan.pdf), and websites for the Mission Directorate Offices. Talk to your campus director or give me a call if you need assistance. Specific relationships with individuals and/or programs at a NASA field centers are encouraged, and should be detailed. It is not necessary to create a formal collaboration, but the interaction should be real.

### Students

Employment of students, graduate or undergraduates in the research is encouraged. Give details of how these students are recruited and how paid (hourly, scholarship, tuition-waiver, etc.).

### Diversity

A guiding tenet of NASA's education and employment policies is that the next generation technical aerospace workforce should more closely reflect the gender and minority makeup of the U.S. population. Applicants should describe their efforts to address this need.

## Proposal Format

1) Title page Title, Proposer, address and contacts for the proposer, address and contacts for the contracts officer at the proposer's institution.

2) Signatures page (may be same as 1) above). Proposer's signature and that of officer certifying institutional commitments.

3) Abstract: 500 words or less

4) Technical Approach: Limit 5 pages.

Briefly explain the technical background (state of the art), where you think advances need to be made, what you will do in this limited program, and why you are qualified to do it. Explain the relevance; how it relates to NASA's requirements, and the nature of any interactions with NASA personnel and other key players in the field you have made and will pursue. Briefly state how this grant will help you in developing your research plan.

Give a list of objectives with a schedule. This should all be simple and specific. Proposers should write their descriptions mindful that their proposal will be evaluated by broadly experienced technical reviewers, not to specialists in the proposer's field. The technical section of the proposal should be no more than 5 pages, 12-point type, single spaced.

5) Budget

Give brief explanation of your budget, if necessary for clarity, along with the figures.

Show the NASA and matching funds separately. Be clear and specific. No special format is required. NASA funds may be used for salaries, student stipends, supplies, equipment, travel, etc., with the exceptions noted above. Give pay rates, hours, specific products to be bought, etc.

The same specificity applies to the expenditures proposed for the matching funds. Your proposal will be assessed by the reviewers on the clarity and reasonableness of the budget. Reasonable does not mean cheap, rather that the expenditures should match the work proposed.

6) Current and Pending

List proposals submitted, awarded, denied or pending during the past 12 months. List: title, agency, amount, date submitted, and status.

7) Proposer's Curriculum Vitae

Limit 1 page

8) Biography/References

Limit 1 page

9) How have you approached the diversity issue given above? Note that there is no specific formula applied here. Give a brief statement, even if you do not have any minorities or women involved in the project.