Funding Opportunities as of November 11, 2020

Opportunities Listed by Deadlines

1. **Department of Energy Early Career Research Program for FY**
   Deadline: Pre-Application - November 22, 2020, 5 PM ET
   The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced it is accepting proposals for the Fiscal Year 2021 DOE Office of Science Early Career Research Program to support the research of outstanding scientists early in their careers. The Program will support over 50 early career researchers for five years at U.S. academic institutions and DOE national laboratories. To be eligible for the competition, a researcher must be an untenured, tenure-track assistant or associate professor at a U.S. academic institution or a full-time employee at a DOE national laboratory. The applicant must also have received a Ph.D. within the past ten years. University awards average around $750,000 for five years. Pre-applications are mandatory and are due on Monday, November 20, 2020, at 5:00 PM EDT. Full proposals will be due on Monday, February 16, 2021, at 5:00 PM EDT. Only those applicants that receive notification from DOE encouraging a formal proposal may submit full proposals. Further information can be found on the Office of Science [funding opportunities page](#).

2. **NSF Dear Colleague Letter – Strengthening American Infrastructure (SAI)**
   Deadline: Pre-Application - November 30, 2020, 5 PM ET
   The National Science Foundation (NSF) has issued a Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) announcing funding for transformative research that strengthens America’s infrastructure. Specifically, this DCL seeks to build research capacity that can address challenging infrastructure contexts that require a human and social centered approach. This program is expected to be an enduring priority for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) Directorate, which leads the competition with support from seven additional NSF directorates. The proposals should include a central focus on at least one SBE program area with the lead principle investigator being an expert in social, behavioral, or economic science and must demonstrate an interdisciplinary approach beyond that of any single program or NSF Directorate. The NSF seeks expertise from across the science and engineering disciplines and emphasizes that “knowledge of human reasoning and decision making, governance, and social and cultural processes are essential to efforts to envision, build, and maintain an effective infrastructure that improves lives and society and builds on advances in technology and engineering.”

   This DCL invites both Conference and Early Concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) proposals that incorporate scientific insights about human behavior and social dynamics to better develop, design, build, rehabilitate, and maintain strong and effective American infrastructure. Conference awards made under this DCL will be funded at up to $50,000 for one year. EAGER awards made under this DCL will be funded at up to $300,000 over two years. All institutions eligible to submit proposals to NSF are eligible to apply to this solicitation. Diverse research teams and proposals from Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) are encouraged to apply.

   [Find the full DCL here](#).
3. **Southwest Research Institute Gas Turbine Industrial Fellowship Program**
   **Deadline: December 4, 2020**
   The Gas Turbine Industrial Fellowship Program is worthwhile opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students for the summer of 2021. The application process will open September 21, 2020 and will close December 14, 2020. All official transcripts must be received by December 14, 2020. This fellowship will last 10 to 12 weeks with fellows working with leading companies in the gas turbine industry. Lump sum stipends are provided.

   See the flyer here.
   Please visit [https://www.swri.org/utsr](https://www.swri.org/utsr) for more details.
   You may also contact Dorothea Martinez for additional questions.

4. **NSF Sustainable Regional Systems Research Network (SRS RN) Solicitation**
   **Deadline: January 11, 2021**
   The National Science Foundation (NSF) has released a new cross-agency solicitation for Sustainable Regional Systems Research Networks (SRS RNs) to advance convergent science, engineering, and education research to create more sustainable regional systems. The Research Networks will seek understanding of the sustainable connections between rural and urban communities, natural and built environments as well as the social systems that work through them. Information generated by SRS RNs will help to inform decision making for sustainable improvements of regional systems including environmental and social equity issues. SRS RNs may study a single urban or metropolitan system and its connected rural regions, multiple urban-rural systems, or an aggregation of connected urban-rural systems. The solicitation has two tracks:

   - SRS RNs Full Scale Awards (Track 1) will fund up to $15 million over five years for fundamental convergent research, education, and outreach.
   - SRS RNs Planning Grants (Track 2) will fund up to $150,000 for one year for the preparation of a future SRS RN Full Scale project.

   Eligibility: Institutions of higher education, non-profits, and for-profit organizations are eligible to apply. There are no limits on the number of proposals that may be submitted per institution.

   Total Funding and Award Size: NSF anticipates a total of $31 million in funding for this round of the program, supporting three Full Scale Awards (Track 1) and 12-20 Planning Grants (Track 2).


5. **DOE Funding Opportunity Announcement - “Open Call”**
   **Deadline: Open until replaced by next fiscal year's call, Sept. 30, 2021**
   The DOE Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), informally known as the “Open Solicitation” or “Open Call,” is issued annually at the beginning of each Fiscal Year (FY). It provides a vehicle for the Office of Science to solicit applications for research support in areas not covered by more specific, topical FOAs that are issued by the office over the course of the Fiscal Year. DOE anticipates awarding approximately $250 million for new, renewal, and supplemental grants, cooperative agreements, and inter-agency agreements under this FOA in Fiscal Year 2021, subject to the availability of FY 2021 appropriated funds.

   Proposed research must fall within the programmatic priorities of DOE’s Office of Science and its major program offices, including Advanced Scientific Computing Research, Basic Energy Sciences, Biological and Environmental Research, Fusion Energy Sciences, High Energy Physics, Nuclear Physics, Isotope R&D and Production, and Accelerator R&D and Production.

   Funding will be competitively awarded on the basis of peer review. The FOA remains open throughout the Fiscal Year.

   The FOA, titled “FY 2021 Continuation of Solicitation for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program,” can be found on the Office of Science funding opportunities page: [https://science.osti.gov/Funding-Opportunities](https://science.osti.gov/Funding-Opportunities)

6. **DOE to Provide $14.6 Million for New Atmospheric Studies**
   **Deadline: Pending Congressional Appropriations**
   The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced a plan to provide $14.6 million for new studies of atmospheric
processes aimed at improving the accuracy of today’s Earth system models. Studies are expected to rely on data gathered by the Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) user facility, a DOE Office of Science user facility and the world’s leading facility for ground- and air-based observation of atmospheric processes. Research will focus on interactions between clouds and aerosols (tiny particles that contribute to cloud formation), atmospheric processes in the Arctic, and studies of the warm boundary layer, or the layer of atmosphere closest to ground-level, among other topics. The Department anticipates that $14.6 million will be available for this program in Fiscal Year 2021, pending congressional appropriations. Funding is to be awarded competitively, on the basis of peer review, and is expected to be in the form of three-year grants with total award amounts ranging from $200,000 to $850,000, beginning in the current fiscal year.

More information: https://www.energy.gov/science/articles/doe-provide-146-million-new-atmospheric-studies

7. **COVID-19 Research at the Spallation Neutron Source and High Flux Isotope Reactor**
   **Deadline:** Ongoing – Resource available for research until further notice.

With the continuing spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Energy Basic Energy Sciences neutron sources will provide remote rapid access to support research into the COVID-19 virus and the search for effective diagnostics and therapies. Researchers who would like to use neutron scattering resources for COVID-19 research may submit a rapid access proposal here.

8. **COVID-19 Research Questions**
   **Deadline:** Ongoing – Open until further notice.

The Department of Energy (DOE) is taking steps to address COVID-19 and is soliciting ideas about how the Department and the National Laboratories might contribute resources for science and technology efforts and collaborations. The Department is encouraging the scientific community and others to consider research questions that underpin COVID-19 response and is requesting input on strategic, priority research directions that may be undertaken using DOE user facilities, computational resources, and enabling infrastructure. More information is available here.

9. **Solar Energy Innovators Program Opportunity**
   **Deadline:** Rolling - Pending applications reviewed 1st of each month.

The purpose of the Solar Energy Innovators Program is to enable selected applicants to conduct practical research on innovative solutions to the challenges faced by electric utilities, energy service providers, and electric public utility commissions as the levels of solar energy, as well as other distributed energy resources (DERs), increase on the electrical grid.

Selected applicants will participate for up to two years at a Host Institution on one or more topics related to the integration of solar energy. The applicant must identify a Host Institution and potential mentor at a utility, energy service provider, or public utilities commission (PUC) currently conducting research in an area related to the integration of solar energy onto the electricity grid. Host Institutions may seek potential Innovators that are eligible to apply to the program, but it is the potential Innovator, not the Host Institution or mentor, who submits the application and supporting materials to this site.

For more information, and to apply, click here.

10. **Events Sponsorship Program: Grants up to $4,000 Available to ORAU Consortium Member Universities**
    **Deadline:** Ongoing

Applications for events occurring between October 1 and March 31 must be received by September 1. Applications for events occurring between April 1 and September 30 must be received by March 1. Event or conference sponsorship is often beneficial to our Council of Sponsoring Institution Members, whether as a means of fostering collaboration among Council members, gaining new and important information for a proposal or business plan, and more. To help make these event opportunities possible, ORAU’s University Partnerships Office offers an Events Sponsorship Program to member institutions. Each member university is limited to one award per fiscal year (October through September). Up to $4,000 may be requested to support an event that involves participants from more than one ORAU member institution, including students. Examples of such events include visits to an ORAU consortium member by a renowned speaker, conferences or workshops with a focused theme, or a technology transfer/business plan competition. For more information, please go here.

11. **Funding Opportunity: USMA Releases BAA on Research Topics Related to Army Technologies**
    **Deadline:** Continuously open through March 31, 2022

The U.S. Military Academy (USMA) released a broad agency announcement (BAA) seeking research proposals than can enable new and significant improvements to Army capabilities and technologies. White papers are
expected to focus on basic knowledge and understanding of research topics rather than specific devices or components. The BAA includes topics of interest to the USMA departments, directorate, and research centers and institutes. White papers are encouraged to address the following research topics identified by USMA as they relate to Army technologies and operational capabilities: Socio-Cultural; Information Technology; Ballistics, Weapons, and Protections; Energy and Sustainability; Materials, Measurements, and Facilities; Unmanned Systems and Space; Human Support Systems; and Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Quantum Technologies. For more information, please go here.

12. **Energy Department Announces Notice of Intent to Issue Funding to Enhance Manufacturing Competitiveness through Innovation**
   **Deadline: TBD**
   The U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) announced its intent to issue, on behalf of the Advanced Manufacturing Office (AMO), a funding opportunity to stimulate technology innovation, improve the energy productivity of American manufacturing, and enable the manufacturing of cutting-edge products in the United States. The potential Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), entitled “FY20 Advanced Manufacturing Multi-topic FOA,” is intended to fund high-impact, applied research and development projects that integrate specified research opportunities across AMO. For more information, please go here.

13. **ADL Ventures and National Renewable Energy Lab Competition**
   **Deadline: Ongoing**
   ADL Ventures is working with the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) as a Power Connector for the American-Made Solar Prize, a $3 million prize competition for researchers, innovators and entrepreneurs working on solar technologies. Winners of the competition can receive up to $500K in non-dilutive funding in addition to in-kind support from the National Labs. To date, 60 winners from 23 different states have been selected over 3 rounds for a total of $9M in funding. In addition to the publicity and resources associated with selection by DOE / NREL, the winners benefit from a much more streamlined funding process versus traditional collaborative awards and grants, allowing them to hit the ground running quickly, with minimal restrictions. More information about the price can be found on our ProblemSpace platform or from the NREL Solar Prize information webinar on August 19th. For more information, please go here.