Funding Opportunities as of January 20, 2021

Opportunities Listed by Deadlines

1. **DOE Announces $32 Million for Research for Advanced Computational Research in the Sciences**
   
   **Deadline - Pre-Applications:** January 27, 2021 at 5:00 PM Eastern  
   **Deadline - Full Applications:** April 14, 2021 at 11:59 PM Eastern  
   
   The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced plans to provide $75 million for fundamental research in chemical and materials sciences aimed at advancing the important emerging field of Quantum Information Science (QIS). A wide-ranging multidisciplinary area of research, QIS is expected to lay the foundation for the next generation of computing and information processing, as well as an array of other innovative technologies in sensing and related applications. The current initiative has a dual thrust—on the one hand, using quantum computers or emulators to solve complex problems in chemistry and materials sciences while on the other hand pursuing chemical and material science research on quantum phenomena, with the goal of aiding in the discovery and design of new quantum information systems.

   National laboratories, universities, industry, and nonprofit organizations will be eligible to lead applications for the three-year awards, which will be selected on the basis of peer review. The Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES) within DOE’s Office of Science, which is funding the effort, envisions awards both for single investigators and larger teams.


2. **National Science Foundation - Mid-Career Advancement**
   
   **Deadline - February 1, 2021**

   The MCA offers an opportunity for scientists and engineers at the Associate Professor rank (or equivalent) to substantively enhance and advance their research program through synergistic and mutually beneficial partnerships, typically at an institution other than their home institution. Projects that envision new insights on existing problems or identify new but related problems previously inaccessible without new methodology or expertise from other fields are encouraged.

   By (re)-investing in mid-career investigators, NSF aims to enable and grow a more diverse scientific workforce (more women, persons with disabilities, and underrepresented minorities) at high academic ranks, who remain engaged and active in cutting-edge research. The MCA is the only cross-directorate NSF program specifically aimed at providing protected time and resources to established scientists and engineers targeted at the mid-career stage. Participating programs in the Directorates for Biological Sciences (BIO), Geosciences (GEO), Engineering (ENG), Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE), and Education and Human Resources (EHR) will accept MCA proposals. PIs are encouraged to discuss the suitability of their MCA proposal with a program officer from the appropriate directorate (see [https://www.nsf.gov/bio/MCA_contacts.jsp](https://www.nsf.gov/bio/MCA_contacts.jsp)).
3. **DOE Announces $35 Million for Bioenergy Research and Development**
   
   **Deadlines - Concept Papers: February 1, 2021, Full Applications: April 5, 2021**
   
   The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced up to $35 million in funding for bioenergy feedstock technologies and algae research and development. This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) supports the White House priority for advancing the domestic bioeconomy, as well as the Bioenergy Technologies Office’s goals of improving the performance and lowering the cost and risk of technologies that can be used to produce biofuels, biopower, and bioproducts.

   Topic Areas include:
   
   - Characterization of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) to Enable Production of Conversion-Ready Feedstocks (up to $15M)
   - Algae Productivity Exceeding Expectations (APEX) (up to $20M)

   The Feedstock Technologies Topic Area will focus on the characterization of MSW streams. Projects will work on understanding MSW variability and informing the steps necessary to produce conversion-ready feedstock. The Advanced Algal Systems Topic Area looks to improve seasonal productivity of algae via a diverse portfolio of strains and improvement approaches. Projects will develop tools to accelerate current and future strain and cultivation improvements.

   Find the solicitation here: [https://epicweb.ee.doe.gov/EPICWeb/#/public/submission/opportunityDetail/2330](https://epicweb.ee.doe.gov/EPICWeb/#/public/submission/opportunityDetail/2330)

4. **DOE Announces $60 Million to Accelerate Advanced Vehicle Technologies Research**
   
   **Deadlines - Concept Papers: February 5, 2021, Full Applications: April 7, 2021**
   
   The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced up to $60 million in new and innovative advanced vehicle technologies research. This funding supports research that will lead to more affordable, efficient, and secure transportation energy. Funded through the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, this funding opportunity supports priorities in the following topic areas:
   
   - Batteries and Electrification (Up to $35 million)
   - Advanced Combustion Engines and Fuels (Up to $5 million)
   - Materials Technology (Up to $11.5 million)
   - New Mobility Systems (Up to $17.5 million)
   - Transportation and Energy Analysis (Up to $1.2 million)

   Some of these topics also support DOE’s Energy Storage Grand Challenge, which draws on the extensive research capabilities of the DOE National Laboratories as well as universities and industry to accelerate the development of energy-storage technologies and sustain American global leadership in the energy storage technologies of the future.

   Find the solicitation here: [https://epicweb.ee.doe.gov/EPICWeb/#/public/submission/opportunityDetail/2311](https://epicweb.ee.doe.gov/EPICWeb/#/public/submission/opportunityDetail/2311)

5. **New NSF ERC Planning Grant Proposal**
   
   **Deadline: February 16, 2021**
   
   A new solicitation for ERC planning grant proposals has recently been released. The planning grant program is designed to foster and facilitate the engineering community’s thinking about how to form convergent research collaborations. However, to participate in a forthcoming ERC competition, one is not required to submit a planning grant proposal nor to receive a planning grant.


6. **Department of Energy Announces $3 Million for Pilot Diversity Program**
   
   **Deadline: February 24, 2021 at 11:59 PM Eastern**
   
   The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced a plan for a pilot program to provide $3 million for research traineeships to broaden and diversify the nuclear physics research community. The planned funding will support training and research experiences for undergraduates, with the goal of increasing the likelihood that participants
from underrepresented populations will choose to pursue a graduate degree in nuclear physics or another science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) related field. The traineeships, designed for undergraduates, aim to provide students with a hands-on opportunity to participate in actual ongoing nuclear physics research in a team under the supervision of a principal investigator (PI). It is estimated that traineeships will be funded at the level of $100,000 to $200,000, in the form of awards from DOE to the PI’s home institution, which will then hire the student participants. The awards will cover compensation for work and possible travel by the student participant as well as partial compensation for the PI and possibly a postdoctoral fellow to supervise and mentor the student directly.

The funding opportunity is open to researchers working in areas within the current nuclear physics portfolio. PIs can submit proposals to participate in the program by agreeing to take on one or more traineeships and recruit minority student participants. It is expected that many PIs and their institutions will reach out and partner with Minority Serving Institutions, such as the Historically Black Colleges and Universities, for recruitment purposes.

In addition, the funding opportunity envisions the creation of a national center to coordinate the traineeship effort. The hope is that a successful pilot program will eventually lead to more such efforts. Continuation of the program past the initial two-year period will depend on an evaluation of the program’s potential to increase diversity within the nuclear physics community. Applications are open to DOE national laboratories, universities, and nonprofit organizations, applying singly or in multi-institutional collaborations.


7. Energy Department and Federal Partners Announce up to $14.5M for Offshore Wind Environmental Research
   Deadline: Concept papers - 3/1/2021 at 5:00pm ET
   Full Proposals - 5/5/2021 at 5:00pm ET
   In conjunction with the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP), and in coordination with partnering agencies, the Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO) is releasing a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to support regionally focused, coordinated research efforts to increase understanding of the environmental impacts of offshore wind development as well as to advance and validate technical readiness of tools for monitoring and minimizing impacts. This FOA will support work across three Topic Areas:

   1. Development of methodologies and evaluation of offshore wind impacts on wildlife in U.S. Atlantic waters;
   2. Development of methodologies and evaluation of offshore wind impacts on the ecology of commercially fished species in US Atlantic waters; and
   3. Environmental baseline studies and environmental monitoring technology development and validation focused on U.S. waters off of the U.S. West Coast, in preparation for future floating offshore wind development.

   DOE anticipates issuing a single award of up to $7.5 million for Topic Area 1, a single award of up to $3.5 million for Topic Area 2, and 3–4 awards ranging from $750,000 to $2 million for Topic Area 3. Additional cost share of 30% is required for Topic Areas 1 and 2 and 20% is required for Topic Area 3.

   Find the Opportunity Announcement here:
   https://epicweb.ee.doe.gov/EPICWeb/#/public/submission/opportunityDetail/2320

8. 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)

9. **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](https://www.energy.gov/science/articles/doe-provide-146-million-new-atmospheric-studies)

10. **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](https://www.energy.gov/science/articles/doe-provide-146-million-new-atmospheric-studies).

11. **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](https://www.energy.gov/science/articles/doe-provide-146-million-new-atmospheric-studies).

12. **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](https://www.energy.gov/science/articles/doe-provide-146-million-new-atmospheric-studies).

13. **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
14. **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](#).

15. **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](#).

16. **Dear Colleague Letter: Career-Life Balance (CLB) Supplemental Funding Requests**  
Requests considered anytime.  
The NSF recognizes that primary dependent care responsibilities and other family considerations pose unique challenges to the STEM workforce. The purpose of this DCL is to announce NSF’s continued interest in CLB supplemental funding requests. The supplemental request may include funding for up to six months of salary support or stipend for a maximum of $30,000 in direct costs of salary compensation or stipend, but the duration of the salary or stipend support may not exceed the duration of the family leave. Fringe benefits and associated indirect costs, but not tuition, may be included in addition to the salary costs, and therefore, the total supplemental funding request may exceed $30,000.


17. **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 prize can be found on our ProblemSpace platform or from the NREL Solar Prize information webinar on August 19th. For more information, please go [here](#).