

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

West Virginia EPSCoR

DoD EPSCoR Program

FY 2007

Preliminary Announcement

NOTICE: DOD has not issued the Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for DEPSCoR but has indicated that the BAA will be very similar to the FY2006 Announcement. Following a similar process as last year, WVEPSCoR is soliciting pre-proposals based on the current program. Notice will be given upon release of DOD's final guidance as it relates to formal application for those selected to submit full proposals.

The DEPSCoR BAA is usually released in late August or early September with a due date at the end of October. Faculty should be contacting program officers NOW to gain their support for research proposals. The pre-proposal submission deadline is 14 July 2006.

West Virginia EPSCoR invites pre-proposals from eligible faculty for the FY 2007 DoD/EPSCoR Program (DEPSCoR). West Virginia may submit a package containing up to five proposals. The aggregate state request will not have a maximum ceiling as it has in the past. The upper limit on individual proposal amounts also has been removed and a "floor" or minimum proposal must be at least \$350k in federal funds. However, very few proposals over \$700k have been funded historically. Proposals are for three-year projects. As in the past, DoD will fund projects individually from the state proposal packages.

The West Virginia EPSCoR State Advisory Council upon recommendation from the WVEPSCoR State Director will approve the DEPSCoR proposal package for submission to DoD. Dr. Curt Peterson, WVU Associate Vice President for Research and Economic Development will coordinate all applications from WVU. All other potential participants should apply to Dr. Paul Hill at the WVEPSCoR Office in Charleston (see addresses below).

The preliminary timeline for proposal submission is as follows:

- **First** – Carefully, read the FY 2006 DEPSCoR Announcement on the WVEPSCoR website at: <http://www.wvepscor.org/library/files/10055.pdf>

The FY 2007 announcement has not been issued, but is expected to be similar to the FY 2006 BAA. Prospective applicants who are unfamiliar with the DEPSCoR program or the DEPSCoR selection process are encouraged to contact WVEPSCoR.

- **Second – 15 June 2006** - Provide a "notice of intent" to submit a pre-proposal. Notices of intent to submit a proposal should include the name of PI, descriptive title for project, anticipated funding request, and targeted agency. These are due to Dr. Peterson and Dr. Hill on June 15 to aid in determining the extent of internal and external review that may be needed. A precise statement describing the research areas will assist in identifying appropriate external reviewers. Notification should be by email. Send to Hill@wvepscor.org and Curt.Peterson@mail.wvu.edu.

DEPSCoR Contact Information

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- **Friday, 14 July 2005** - All final pre-proposals delivered to WVEPSCoR State Director, for review by the WVEPSCoR State Advisory Council and external review. Send to Dr. Hill via email at the address above. Pre-proposals should be submitted electronically except for the signed cover page which should be faxed (304-558-2321) or mailed to the WVEPSCoR office.

Instructions for electronic submission:

Pre-proposals must be submitted in a single, native Word file. (If you do not have Word, contact the WVEPSCoR office). If you use Excel to develop the budget, you may submit it as a separate file. The combined size of the files should not exceed 1 MB and should be attached to the same email.

Font size should be no smaller than 10 pt.

- **Wednesday, 23 August 2006** - PIs will be notified as to which pre-proposals were selected, and given final instructions (assuming the BAA is available) and budget targets.

For the five selected pre-proposals:

- *****TBA***“Late” October, 2006** - Completed proposals (original and 11 copies), with all relevant signatures and certifications etc. are due to WVEPSCoR in Charleston. They will be collated into the formal state package and sent to DoD by the October deadline.
- **February 2007** (est.) - DoD expects to announce the awards.
- **1 June 2007** - Target start date of the awards.

The pre-proposal must follow the guidelines below:

Cover Page: Use one page as the title page. Provide a specific reference to the targeted DOD program. Include the signatures of the PI and a senior fiscal/academic official who can authorize matching funds.

Description: No more than three pages may be used to describe the proposed activity. The description should clearly show the nature and importance of the work to be conducted and the methods to be used in the project. In the case of multiple investigator tasks, the description will show who is responsible for specific tasks.

Relevance to DoD: A one-page statement that demonstrates the relevance of the proposed activity to a DoD sponsor. Provide information here on contacts with the research officers indicating their interest in the program. **An ongoing relationship with a program officer will be a much stronger indication of success than one that has been initiated in response to this announcement. It is necessary that such contact include the ARO, AFOSR, or ONR program officer in addition to any interactions with DoD laboratory or other field activity personnel.**

Relevance to WV: A one-page statement showing how the activity may build R&D capability in West Virginia. Note this is among criteria used by DoD in final selection.

Capacity Building: A one-page statement that explains how the proposed project will build graduate programs or other research activities in West Virginia.

Budget: A budget that summarizes major categories of expenditures (salaries, equipment, travel, etc.) for each year of the project. The budget should have two clearly identified columns showing the DoD request in one and the matching fund contribution in the other. A 1:2 match to federal dollars is required. This means \$1.00 of match for every \$2.00 of DoD funds. Applicant institutions will be responsible for providing matching funds, either in cash or in-kind according to specific rules under DEPSCoR. PIs should work with their campus research administration offices in preparing a preliminary budget and indicate how the match would be funded (i.e., from department, college, and/or central funds or other sources). Matching funds may support items such as salaries, indirect costs, operating expenses, or new equipment. (Note: in general, it is advantageous to charge indirect costs to DoD support and to provide cash match rather than to waive the overhead as a match). Major equipment items must be identified. This budget must be signed by the institution's research or sponsored programs officer and meet other applicable institutional requirements.

Vitae: Up to a two-page vitae for each investigator on the project. Collaboration is encouraged.

External Review: Names of two persons outside of the West Virginia research enterprise who may be qualified to provide review comments for the proposal. [Optional]

Note: Even though the new DOD BAA for this solicitation has not been issued, it is expected in the next few months. DOD's typical deadline is "Late" October for all completed state proposals. Necessarily, individual proposals will be due to the state EPSCoR Office at least one week in advance (TBA). By utilizing the current announcement and initiating this advance pre-proposal process, all potential applicants will have adequate time to respond. When the 2007 BAA is issued, it will be carefully reviewed for unanticipated changes (if any), sent to all those who have expressed interest, and posted to the WVEPSCoR website. Applicants should feel free to check back for possible updates.