# 2022 Request for Proposals
## Idaho NASA EPSCoR Research Initiation Grant Program

The Idaho NASA EPSCoR program requests proposals for the NASA EPSCoR Research Initiation Grant Program. The goal of the Research Initiation Grant Program is to facilitate development and enhancement of NASA-aligned research and development capabilities in Idaho. Specifically, Idaho NASA EPSCoR seeks to provide opportunities for new researchers to gain experience and/or for established researchers to take a dramatic step in a new research direction.

To be eligible for submission, the proposed research must directly align with one or more of NASA's current research interests or activities as articulated in NASA and/or National Research Council documents (e.g., technology roadmaps, NASA solicitations, decadal surveys, etc.). Some possible resources include, but are not limited to:

- NASA's Technology Taxonomy at https://www.nasa.gov/offices/oct/taxonomy/index.html
- NASA's Human Research Roadmap at https://humanresearchroadmap.nasa.gov/
- NASA's Science Mission Directorate at https://science.nasa.gov/.

Any submission that does not clearly align with NASA's current activities will not be considered for funding. Research funded through the Idaho NASA EPSCoR Research Initiation Grant Program should result in future proposals to NASA and/or other federal, state, and private organizations for further funding and continued program development.

### Award Information

Proposers may request up to $50,000 including indirect/F&A costs. **No cost share is required, but proposers may voluntarily offer cost share.** The project period is approximately 1 year and may commence as early as Summer 2022.

*Please note: The funding of all Idaho NASA EPSCoR Research Initiation Grants is contingent upon availability of funds.*

### Eligible Organizations

Research Initiation Grants support NASA-related research and projects conducted by Idaho's higher education institutions. Eligible institutions include:

*Boise State University ★ Brigham Young University – Idaho ★ College of Southern Idaho ★ College of Eastern Idaho ★ College of Western Idaho ★ Idaho State University ★ Lewis-Clark State College ★ North Idaho College ★ Northwest Nazarene University ★ The College of Idaho ★ University of Idaho ★*

*Please note: Researchers that have been awarded a Research Initiation Grant from Idaho NASA EPSCoR in the past 3 years are not eligible to apply.*

### Proposal Preparation

All research proposals submitted through an eligible institution and satisfying the specific proposal guidelines below are eligible for funding consideration. Prior to submission, the appropriate higher education institution research/grant office should approve the proposal.

### *Proposal Guidelines*

Proposers should have the following items prepared to enter into the online proposal submission form available at https://www.idahonasaepscor.org/submit. More details on proposal materials are included below.

- Name of project
- Principal investigator (P.I.), and co-investigator(s) (Co-Is) contact information
- Name of primary NASA or STEM industry collaborator on the proposed research (if any)
- A project proposal (PDF file)
- A project budget (MS Excel file)
- A brief statement of work (usually 1 page or less with a summary of proposed deliverables)

- ***Proposed Research Description*** *(Not to exceed 5 pages)*
  The proposed research description should include, at a minimum:
  - *Description of the proposed research including the scientific and/or technical merit (40% of evaluation score).* The research plan should be presented in plain language so that individuals who are not experts in the proposed research area will be able to effectively evaluate the research plan. The description should include a research timeline with associated milestones and metrics to measure research success.
  - *Relevance to, and collaboration with, NASA and/or the aerospace industry (20% of evaluation score).* The alignment should be demonstrated by references to specific documents, solicitations, technology roadmaps, decadal plans, etc. Describe established and proposed collaborations with NASA researchers and/or private aerospace industry partners. Proposers without a connection to a NASA researcher may contact Idaho NASA EPSCoR at ine@uidaho.edu for assistance. *(Note: Any collaboration/partnerships correspondence should be included in the Collaboration/Letters of Support section of the proposal.)*
  - *Relevance and benefit to Idaho and the goals of Idaho NASA EPSCoR (10% of evaluation score).* Include a description of the benefits to the state of Idaho.
  - *Involvement of undergraduate and/or graduate students in research and inclusion of students typically underrepresented in STEM fields (15% of evaluation score)* A description of undergraduate and/or graduate student involvement in the research efforts. Idaho NASA EPSCoR actively encourages the involvement of underrepresented individuals in all programs.
  - *Future funding and/or technology transfer potential. (10% of evaluation score).* Outline the possibilities and any plans for sustaining the proposed research beyond the Idaho NASA EPSCoR 1-year grant period. Please include a statement regarding the prospect for future funding. The proposal must identify a specific NASA or other agency program announcement to which a future research proposal will be submitted. Alternatively, the proposal can identify possible commercial uses or technology transfer potential.

***The following sections (if used) should also be included in the PDF project proposal file. Page limits for each section are noted.***

- ***Curriculum Vitae for P.I. and Co-Is*** *(2-pages for PI; 1-page for each Co-I)*
  - CVs for the P.I. and Co-Is must be included.
- ***Budget Justification*** *(No page limit)*
  - The budget justification should explain the purpose of each expenditure and the sources of cost share. The planned expenditures should align with both the budget details and the activities outlined in the body of the proposal.
- ***Collaboration Letters/Letters of Support*** *(No page limit)*
  - Any letters from NASA, industry, or other organizations, should be included in this section.
- ***References, if needed*** *(No page limit)*

- ▪ *Summary of research accomplishments* (No page limit)
  - Researchers who have received previous Idaho NASA EPSCoR funding for closely related research are required to submit a summary of research accomplishments resulting from the award, including proposals submitted, papers presented at professional conferences or published in refereed journals, and research contacts and potential collaborations initiated with NASA and industry.

*The project budget should be prepared in an MS Excel file and should align with the information in the budget justification included in the PDF project proposal.*

- ▪ *Project Budget Details* (5% of evaluation score)
  - The budget details should provide sufficient details on the planned expenditures in table form to allow proposal reviewers to assess the reasonableness of the proposed budget. The budget details should be prepared in an MS Excel workbook. Describe how each dollar amount was calculated, if not immediately apparent in the budget spreadsheet.
  - Please keep in mind the following restrictions when preparing the budget:
    - All individuals (including students) supported with Idaho NASA EPSCoR funds must be U.S. citizens. Exceptions to this policy exist for faculty members of accredited U.S. institutions of higher education. Please contact ine@uidaho.edu for details.
    - Idaho NASA EPSCoR funding cannot be used for food, international travel, capital outlay (i.e., equipment over $5,000 and/or having a useful life over 1 year), or items considered to be souvenirs such as t-shirts, hats, etc. Although food is not allowed, per diem is allowed for travel.
    - NASA EPSCoR funding cannot be used to purchase general-purpose equipment (e.g., desktop workstations, office furnishings, reproduction and printing equipment, etc.) as a direct charge.
    - Indirect costs for institutions are limited to the negotiated rate and negotiated base of the institution.

## Required Reporting and Invoicing

Progress and final reports are required for selected projects. Additional reporting information will be provided at the time of award. Any publications or presentations related to the project should also be submitted to Idaho NASA EPSCoR. Any students participating on the project will need to complete student participation forms which will be submitted to NASA. Awarded projects should be prepared to invoice Idaho NASA EPSCoR monthly for project expenditures.

## Proposal Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- ▪ **Merit of research plan, including timeline, milestones, and metrics** – 40%
- ▪ **Relevance to, and collaboration with, NASA and/or the aerospace industry** – 20%
- ▪ **Relevance and benefit to Idaho and the goals of Idaho NASA EPSCoR** – 10%
- ▪ **Involvement of undergraduate and/or graduate students in research and inclusion of students typically underrepresented in STEM fields** – 15%
- ▪ **Proposed budget** – 5%
- ▪ **Future funding and/or technology transfer potential** – 10%

## *Proposal Submission*

Proposals should be single spaced, 11-point font, and have one-inch margins on all sides. Submissions should be no more than 5 pages in length (excluding the curriculum vitae, budget, references, collaborators, and summary of research accomplishments sections). The main proposal should be a PDF file. The budget should be an MS Excel spreadsheet.

**Research Initiation Grant proposals should be submitted via the Idaho NASA EPSCoR website. Please visit [www.idahonasaepscor.org](www.idahonasaepscor.org) and click the Submit Proposals tab. Please follow the instructions on the submission form.**

## *Proposer's Teleconference*

Idaho NASA EPSCoR will hold a pre-proposal teleconference for proposers. The teleconference date is:

**Friday, January 21, 2022 at 1 pm Pacific/2 pm Mountain**
- https://uidaho.zoom.us/j/84920076764
- Meeting ID: 849 2007 6764
- Call in number: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

The teleconference will be recorded, and a link made available on the Idaho NASA EPSCOR website.
Any changes or updates to the solicitation will also be announced via the Idaho NASA EPSCoR website.

## Submission Deadline: Friday, March 11, 2022 (11:59 pm Pacific Time)