

**University of California Lab Research Program
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

ELIGIBILITY

-Are researchers from Lawrence Berkeley National Lab eligible to apply?

No.

-Are engineering and computer science within the scope of the RFP?

Yes.

-Is the training limited to graduate students, i.e. PhD students, or can it include research residencies, post-Pharm D and post-MD fellows?

The training is not limited to graduate students and can include the categories listed in the question above.

-How would a largely undergrad team be considered?

It would be considered and would probably be acceptable.

-Do I need a formal letter from my collaborator?

Yes

-Do you require joint submission with lab collaborators?

No, but it might be helpful.

-Is there a matching requirement?

No.

BUDGET

-Can lab collaborators also be budgeted for joint work?

Yes.

-Can funds be used for equipment?

Yes.

-Are staff salaries at LLNL and LANL allowed?

Yes.

-Are faculty salaries at campuses allowed? (Posted 6/18/2008)

Yes.

-Is course buy-out allowed? (Posted 7/15/2008)

Yes.

-Is it possible to send any of the money outside of the UC system?

It will be considered but such requests will have lower priority for funding.

-Are we permitted to request salary support for laboratory personnel?

Yes.

-If funds are available for UC grad students, are they required to spend them at the labs?

No.

-If a campus PI wanted to hire a postdoc to work with them but to spend a month at either lab, would that be possible?

Yes. That is encouraged.

-Could funds support a lab employee for an extended campus stay?

Yes. That is encouraged.

-Must all funds be spent at either the UC campuses or the labs?

No.

-Do we include indirect costs/overhead in our budgets?

Yes. Research performed at UC campuses should include full overhead rates for each campus. Overhead charges for research performed at the labs are at the discretion of the laboratory directors. (Posted 6/18/2008)

-Does the \$2M limit on proposals include overhead or is overhead in addition to \$2M for research?

The \$2M is a total cap – it includes overhead. (Posted 6/18/2008)

-Should collaborations be budgeted as subcontracts?

No. Please submit one overall budget with the combined total for the project and then one for each collaborating institution. The funds will be distributed directly to each institution. (Posted 7/24/2008)

APPLICATION

-proposalCENTRAL asks me for personal information such as my social security number and my mother's maiden name. Do I have to answer those questions in order to submit a LOI or a proposal.

No. Providing personal information for the professional profile is strictly optional, and such information will not be made available to reviewers and will not affect the review process. We suggest that you only enter information in the required fields. If you miss any critical information, the system will alert you when you validate the application at the end. (Posted 6/23/2008)

-The submission instructions on the original RFP are a little different from the ones posted on the website and proposalCENTRAL. Which ones are correct?
Please follow the Application Instructions posted on the program website and proposalCENTRAL. (Posted 7/24/2008)

PROPOSALS

-Is it better to submit one large proposal or many small ones?
No preference.

-Would you accept multiple proposals from the same PI?
Yes.

-With reference to the page number restrictions, does the \$500k budget refer to the total project budget or the per year total?
-It refers to the per year total. Proposals with budgets of more than \$500k per year that exceed the 4-page limit will be reviewed by a separate committee. (Posted 7/15/2008)

-The original RFP called for references with names and contact information. What kind of references are required?
Applicants should provide a list of cited literature. Personal references are not required. The RFP has been revised to clarify that point. (Posted 7/15/2008)

-How many LOIs did you receive?
Approximately 650 LOIs were submitted. We expect the award process to be very competitive. (Posted 7/24/2008)

-Are signed signature forms required with the proposal?
No. (Do not obtain signatures at the proposal stage.) If the proposal is recommended for funding following peer review, the PI will then be required to obtain the appropriate signatures from the local campus officials. (Posted 7/24/2008)

Updated 7/24/2008