

**University of California
UC Laboratory Fees Research Program**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - UPDATED 1/5/12

1. How do I apply?

Refer the LOI and Application Instructions available at <http://www.ucop.edu/labresrfp/call.html>

ELIGIBILITY

2. Who is eligible to submit a proposal?

Any member of the University of California eligible for Principal Investigator (PI) status or any full-time research staff member at LANL or LLNL eligible for PI status may submit a proposal.

UC PIs may reference the eligibility guidelines provided in section 1-530 of the UC Contracts and Grants Manual “Who May Submit Proposals” <http://www.ucop.edu/raohome/cgmanual/chap01.pdf> for additional information.

3. Are researchers from Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (LBNL) eligible to apply?

Researchers at LBNL with a joint appointment at a UC campus can apply through the campus.

4. Do I need Contract and Grant/SPO signatures in order to submit my proposal?

The Lab Fees Research Program (LFRP) does not require the signature of a campus official to submit a proposal. PIs are responsible for ensuring all relevant research policies and budget requirements are complete and accurate.

Please note: local campus Offices of Research (C&G or SPO) or laboratory Work for Other’s offices may require review and sign off prior to submission. It is the lead PI’s responsibility to follow local rules for submitting a proposal and confirm that all collaborators have obtained local approvals prior to submission, if required. Campus/lab approvals will be requested for proposals nominated for funding by review panels prior to final selection of awards. Total project costs pursuant to any required budget revisions may be reduced but cannot exceed the budget submitted in the original proposal.

5. Is joint submission with a lab collaborator required?

No. However, proposals that do not involve collaboration between at least one campus and one lab PI must target the mission of the labs or propose research complementary to the laboratory’s mission, and include a written endorsement from a laboratory representative.

6. May I submit an application to extend/renew my current Lab Fees Research Program Award?

A primary purpose of this funding opportunity is to foster new collaborations between UC faculty, graduate students and post docs, and laboratory scientists, bringing to bear the unique strengths and facilities of the research partners to launch compelling, cutting-edge research. Proposals to extend (or

renew) existing research collaborations must demonstrate how funding from this opportunity will break new ground or accomplish new outcomes that meet program goals within the extension/renewal period.

BUDGET

7. What are expenditures are allowable under the Lab Fees Research Program?

Please refer to the Budget Definitions and Guidelines provided in the budget workbook available in proposalCENTRAL or at the following website: http://www.ucop.edu/labresrfp/documents/budget_wrkbk.pdf

8. Is course buy-out allowed?

Yes.

9. Can Summer Salary be charged to the project?

Yes.

10. Can a PI or Graduate Student's effort exceed 25%?

The 25% is a general guideline. A participant's percentage can be more if it is justified by the proposed work and in the budget justification.

11. Can LFRP funds be used to pay a contractor?

It is expected that most funds will remain either at a UC campus or lab. Funds for contracts or subcontracts must be justified in the budget justification and must address why these activities cannot be performed at the lab or one of the UC Campuses. Subcontracts may not exceed 10% of direct costs.

12. Can a campus PI hire a postdoc and propose that he/she spends time at either lab?

Yes. That is encouraged.

13. Could funds support a lab scientist or UC faculty for a visiting appointment?

Visiting appointments to foster collaboration between the labs and UC are encouraged. However, the FTE salary for the visiting scientist/faculty must be paid for by the home institution or other sources. Only that portion of effort directly devoted to a specific research activity described in the proposal may be charged to the grant. The LFRP will pay for reasonable travel and housing costs and related research expenses in accordance with UC policy (<http://www.ucop.edu/ucophome/policies/bfb/g28b.pdf>).

14. Can indirect costs/overhead be included in budgets?

Yes. Research performed at UC campuses should utilize their federally approved indirect cost rate. Overhead charges for research performed at the labs are determined by applicable rules set by the lab.

14a) What are the overhead rates for work done at LANL?

The LANL PI/co-I should contact their group budget analyst for information. Funds at LANL will be dispersed as a TR-code (Work For Others funds that are distributed through the Technology Transfer

Office). The analyst can forecast the Time and Effort rates and overhead expenses associated with this class of charge codes.

14b) What are the overhead rates for work done at LLNL?

Fee funds that support work at LLNL will be treated as work for others with the exception that they will be exempt from the Management Fee and Program Management Charge (PMC) burdens.

15. 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.

PROPOSALS

16. Is a Letter of Intent (LOI) required in order to submit a proposal?

Yes. LOIs are due by 12 Noon PT, Tuesday, December 6, 2011. LOIs will be used for administrative purposes to establish the size and scope of the review and confirm eligibility. *Applicants should not expect feedback on their LOIs.* LOIs will be approved on a rolling basis. Once approved, applicants have access to the full proposal materials.

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

Do not provide your Social Security Number, Passport Number or mother's maiden name. No information is required in the Personal Data section of the Personal Profile.

18. Can a PI be included in multiple proposals?

Yes.

19. Is 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. Opportunities that foster career advancement for post-docs and early career faculty and scientists are also encouraged.

20. What is the page limit for Proposal Narratives?

Proposal narrative may not exceed seven (7) pages in length (including tables, figures, graphs) with an additional two (2) pages maximum for literature cited.

21. Can I apply for Lab Fees program support for a project that has LDRD support?

Ongoing LANL LDRD projects may form the basis for collaborative work to complement proposed UCOP projects. Under LDRD rules, any paired projects may not augment each other - each must be capable of a successful conclusion independent of the other. However, projects that complement each other, so that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts, are quite desirable.

Please consult specific guidance at LANL
at: <http://www.lanl.gov/science/ldrd/highlights/UCOPCall.shtml>.

For additional information on LANL funded LDRD projects, please go
to <http://www.lanl.gov/science/ldrd/docs/ldrdFY12projects.pdf>