Federal Equipment Acquisition and Equipment Development Opportunities

Below is a listing of federal opportunities for equipment acquisition and equipment development. Keep in mind that many federal sponsors allow for the purchase of equipment items on many research projects provided they are necessary to the project’s performance and sufficiently justified in the project proposal and justification.

The below opportunities are specifically *targeted* opportunities for equipment acquisition and development.

**Department of Defense**

**Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP)** The Department of Defense (DoD) announces the Fiscal Year 2014 Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP), a part of the University Research Initiative (URI). DURIP is designed to improve the capabilities of U.S. institutions of higher education (hereafter referred to as “universities”) to conduct research and to educate scientists and engineers in areas important to national defense, by providing funds for the acquisition of research equipment. Awards range from $50,000 to $1.3M.

**Department of Energy**

**Laboratory Equipment Donation Program (LEDP)** formerly the Energy-Related Laboratory Equipment (ERLE) Grant Program, was established by the United States Department of Energy (DOE) to grant surplus and available used energy-related laboratory equipment to universities and colleges in the United States for use in energy oriented educational programs. This grant program is sponsored by the Office of Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists (WDTS).

The listing of equipment available through LEDP is updated as new equipment is identified. It is available at no cost for a limited time and is granted on a first-received qualified application basis. Specific items may be recalled for DOE use and become unavailable through the program after the equipment appears on the availability list.

**Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory User Access** Located on the grounds of PNNL, EMSL offers scientists access to instruments housed at the facility. Access is available at no cost but proposals must be submitted to request access.
**National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

**Planetary Major Equipment** Provides funding for new or upgraded instrumentation required by investigators supported under the Planetary Science Research Program under the ROSES program. The proposal can be submitted as supplemental to a new proposal to PSRP or as a stand-alone equipment request affiliated with an award in the program.

**National Institutes of Health**

**Shared Instrumentation Grant Program (S10)** ORIP's Shared Instrumentation Grant (SIG) program supports the purchase of research equipment in the $100,000 to $600,000 price range. Examples of instrumentation supported by SIG funding include nuclear magnetic resonance systems, electron and confocal microscopes, mass spectrometers, protein and DNA sequencers, biosensors, X-ray diffractometers and cell sorters.

**High-End Instrumentation Grant Program (S10)** Open to groups of NIH-supported investigators, ORIP's High-End Instrumentation (HEI) grant program supports the purchase of a single major piece of research equipment that costs between $750,000 to $2.0 million. Instruments in this price range include structural and functional imaging systems, macromolecular NMR spectrometers, high-resolution mass spectrometers, electron microscopes, and supercomputers.

**Instrument Development for Biomedical Applications (R21)** The primary intent of this FOA is to stimulate the development of instrumentation for biomedical research that will support achievement of biomedical breakthroughs. Applications that are high risk but have potential for considerable payoff are encouraged. The proposed research may involve conceptualization, design, fabrication, and/or testing of new instruments or devices, including control software. Development of methodologies and software may also be included to the extent that they advance the instrument development project. However, applications with a primary thrust in methods or software development will be deemed nonresponsive. Direct costs are limited to $375,000 over a three-year period, with no more than $175,000 in direct costs allowed in any single year. Consortia F&A costs are not included in the direct cost limit.

**National Science Foundation**

**Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI)** This program especially seeks to improve the quality and expand the scope of research and research training in science and engineering, by supporting proposals for shared instrumentation that fosters the integration of research and education in research-intensive learning environments. Each MRI proposal may request support for the acquisition (Track 1) or development (Track 2) of a single research instrument for shared inter- and/or intra-organizational use; development efforts that leverage the strengths of private sector partners to build instrument development capacity at MRI submission-eligible organizations are encouraged. Instrument acquisition or development proposals that request funds from NSF in the range $100,000-$4 million may be accepted from any MRI-eligible
organization. Proposals that request funds from NSF less than $100,000 may also be accepted from any MRI-eligible organization for the disciplines of mathematics or social, behavioral and economic sciences and from non-Ph.D.-granting institutions of higher education for all NSF-supported disciplines.

**Instrument Development for Biological Research (IDBR)** The Instrument Development for Biological Research (IDBR) Program supports the development, production, and distribution of novel instrumentation that addresses demonstrated needs in biological research in areas supported by NSF Biology programs (see [http://www.nsf.gov/bio](http://www.nsf.gov/bio)). These systems would benefit a broad user community through mass distribution of the technology. Interdisciplinary collaborations are strongly encouraged, as are partnerships with U.S. industries that can facilitate knowledge transfer, commercialization and broad utilization in the research community. ~ Award size $200,000.

**CISE Research Infrastructure (CRI)** With its CISE Research Infrastructure (CRI) program, CISE drives discovery and learning in the core CISE disciplines covered by the three participating CISE divisions through support for the creation and enhancement of world-class computing research infrastructure. Further, through the CRI program CISE seeks to ensure that individuals from a diverse range of academic institutions, including minority-serving and predominantly undergraduate institutions, have access to such infrastructure. The CRI program supports two classes of awards: 1.) Institutional Infrastructure (II) awards support the creation of new (II-New) CISE research infrastructure or the enhancement (II-EN) of existing CISE research infrastructure to enable world-class CISE research opportunities at the awardee and collaborating institutions. And 2.) Community Infrastructure (CI) awards support the planning (CI-P) for new CISE community research infrastructure, the creation of new (CI-New) CISE research infrastructure or the enhancement (CI-EN) of existing CISE infrastructure to enable world-class CISE research opportunities for broad-based communities of CISE researchers that extend well beyond the awardee institutions.

The majority of the Institutional Infrastructure (II) awards will be made in the $200,000 - $750,000 range. However, a small number of II awards may be made in the $750,000 - $1,000,000 range. The majority of the Community Infrastructure (CI) awards will be made in the $500,000 - $1,000,000 range. However, a very small number of CI awards may be made in the $1,000,000 - $3,000,000 range. The majority of the Community Infrastructure Planning (CI-P) awards will be made in the $50,000 - $100,000 range.

**Earth Sciences: Instrumentation and Facilities (EAR/IF)** EAR/IF will consider proposals for:

- **Acquisition or Upgrade of Research Equipment** that will advance laboratory and field investigations, and student research training opportunities in the Earth sciences. The maximum request is $1,000,000. The maximum request for upgrade of research group computing facilities is $75,000;

- **Development of New Instrumentation, Analytical Techniques or Software** that will extend current research and research training capabilities in the Earth sciences. The maximum request is $1,000,000;
• **Support of National or Regional Multi-User Facilities** that will make complex and expensive instruments or systems of instruments broadly available to the Earth sciences research and student communities;

• **Support for Early Career Investigators** to facilitate expedient operation of new research infrastructure proposed by the next generation of leaders in the Earth Sciences. This opportunity allows for submission of a proposal for **Acquisition or Upgrade of Research Equipment** that includes budget line items associated with support of a new full-time technician who will be dedicated to manage the instrument(s) being requested. Any request for technical support under this opportunity is limited to three years duration. The maximum request is $1,000,000.

Planned research uses of requested instruments, software, and facilities must include basic research on Earth processes supported by the division of earth sciences.

**Improvements in Facilities, Communications, and Equipment at Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories (FSML)** FSMLs support environmental and basic biological research and education by preserving access to study areas and organisms, by providing facilities and equipment in close proximity to those study areas, and by fostering an atmosphere of mutual scientific interest and collaboration in research and education. To fulfill these roles, FSMLs must offer modern research and educational facilities, equipment, communications and data management systems for a broad array of users. In recognition of the continuing need for modern facilities and equipment at FSMLs, the NSF invites proposals that address the general goal of FSML improvement. Requests must fall exclusively into one of two classes: Improvement or Planning. Improvement proposals should focus on well-defined projects of major equipment acquisition, data management and communication systems modernization, or physical plant improvement. Planning proposals are for strategic institutional planning for the long term research and education goals of the station. Individual award sizes will range from $25,000 for planning grants to $350,000 for other awards.

**Ocean Technology and Interdisciplinary Coordination** The Oceanographic Technology and Interdisciplinary Coordination (OTIC) Program supports a broad range of research and technology development activities. Unsolicited proposals are accepted for instrumentation development that has broad applicability to ocean science research projects and that enhance observational, experimental or analytical capabilities of the ocean science research community.

**Chemistry Research Instrumentation and Facilities (CRIF)** provides funds to research institutions and consortia thereof for the purchase of multi-user instruments and for the establishment and support of multi-user research facilities in the chemical sciences. *Temporarily suspended.*

**Instrumentation Fund to Provide Mid-Scale Instrumentation for FY14 Awards in Physics Division**