

Federal Equipment Acquisition and Equipment Development Opportunities *(Revised 9/2021)*

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 University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP) is designed to improve the capabilities of U.S. institutions of higher education 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 \$1.5M.

Department of Energy

[Laboratory Equipment Donation Program \(LEDP\)](#) The Laboratory Equipment Donation Program (LEDP) was established by the United States Department of Energy (DOE) to grant surplus and available used laboratory equipment to full-time faculty at universities and colleges in the United States for use in energy oriented Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) educational programs. This program is managed 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.

[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.

**Note: Eligibility for these NIH opportunities are dependent on the number of active NIH supported investigators at the time of application.*

National Science Foundation

Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI) . The Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program serves to increase access to multi-user scientific and engineering instrumentation for research and research training in our Nation's institutions of higher education and not-for-profit scientific/engineering research organizations. An MRI award supports the acquisition or development of a multi-user research instrument that is, in general, too costly and/or not appropriate for support through other NSF programs.

CISE Community Research Infrastructure (CCRI)

The Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Community Research Infrastructure (CCRI) program drives discovery and learning in the core CISE disciplines of the three participating divisions [(Computing and Communication Foundations (CCF), Computer and Network Systems (CNS), and Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS)] by funding the creation and enhancement of world-class research infrastructure. This research infrastructure will specifically support diverse communities of CISE researchers pursuing **focused research agendas in computer and information science and engineering**.

Earth Sciences: Instrumentation and Facilities (EAR/IF)

The Instrumentation and Facilities Program in the Division of Earth Sciences (EAR/IF) supports meritorious requests for infrastructure that promote research and education in areas supported by the Division (see <https://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=EAR>). EAR/IF will consider proposals for:

1. **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 \$500,000. The maximum request for upgrade of research group computing facilities remains \$75,000.
2. **Development of New Instrumentation, Techniques or Software** that will extend current research and research training capabilities in the Earth sciences. The maximum request is \$500,000.
3. **Community Facility Support** to make complex and expensive instruments, systems of instruments or services broadly available to the Earth science research and student communities. There are no maximum request limitations but potential proposers of new Community Facilities must contact cognizant Program Officers before submission.

Planned research uses of requested instruments, software, and facilities must include basic research on Earth processes SUPPORTED BY CORE PROGRAMS OR SPECIAL PROGRAMS OF THE DIVISION OF EARTH SCIENCES (see <https://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=EAR> for a current list of programs funded by the Division of Earth Sciences).

Infrastructure Capacity for Biological Research (Capacity)

The Infrastructure Capacity for Biological Research (Capacity) Program supports the implementation of, scaling of, or major improvements to research tools, products, and services that advance contemporary biology in any research area supported by the Directorate for Biological Sciences at NSF. The Capacity Program focuses on building capacity in research infrastructure that is broadly applicable to a wide range of researchers in three programmatic areas: Cyberinfrastructure, Biological Collections, and Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories. This program will also accept proposals for planning activities or workshops to facilitate coordination that may be necessary in building capacity in infrastructure that meets the needs of a research community. Areas not included in this program are instrumentation (PIs should submit to the MRI program) and, projects that develop infrastructure for a specific research project, laboratory, or institution (PIs should submitted to the relevant BIO programs that would normally support that research). Projects are expected to produce quality products, result in important science outcomes that will be achieved by the users of the resource, be openly accessible to a broad scientific and education community, and serve a community of researchers beyond a single research team.

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. Specific announcements for funding opportunities are made for additional projects involving [Improvements in Facilities, Communications, and Equipment at Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories \(FSML\)](#) and the [National Ocean Partnership Program](#).

NSF Mid-scale Research Infrastructure-1 (Mid-scale RI-1)

Within Mid-scale RI-1, proposers may submit two types of projects, "Implementation" and "Design". Design and Implementation projects may comprise any combination of equipment, infrastructure, computational hardware and software, and necessary commissioning. Design includes planning (preliminary and final design) of research infrastructure with an anticipated total project cost that is appropriate for future Mid-scale RI-1, Mid-scale RI-2 or MREFC-class investments. Mid-scale RI-1 uses an inclusive definition of implementation, which can include traditional stand-alone construction or acquisition and can include a degree of advanced development leading immediately to final system acquisition and/or construction. Implementation projects may support new or upgraded research infrastructure.

Amount \$600,000-\$20million

NSF Mid-scale Research Infrastructure-2 (Mid-scale RI-2)

The NSF Mid-scale RI-2 program supports implementation of projects that comprise any combination of equipment, instrumentation, computational hardware and software, and the necessary commissioning and human capital in support of implementation of the same. Mid-scale RI-2 projects will directly enable advances in any of the research domains supported by NSF, including STEM education. Mid-scale RI-2 will support projects in high states of readiness for implementation, i.e., those that have already matured through previous developmental investments. Projects may also include upgrades to existing research infrastructure.

Amount: \$20 million - \$70 million

United States Department of Agriculture/NIFA

Equipment Grants Program

The Equipment Grant Program (EGP) serves to increase access to shared-use special purpose equipment/instruments for fundamental and applied research for use in the food and agricultural sciences programs at institutions of higher education, including State Cooperative Extension Systems. The program seeks to strengthen the quality and expand the scope of fundamental and applied research at eligible institutions, by providing them with opportunities to acquire one major piece of equipment/instruments that support their research, training, and extension goals and may be too costly and/or not appropriate for support through other NIFA grant programs.