

High Energy Density Laboratory Plasma Science for Inertial Fusion Energy

Program Announcement [LAB 12-02](#)

FAQ Last Updated: September 18, 2012

Q1: Can the same person be a **lead PI** on more than one proposal, for instance on two very orthogonal proposals?

A1: **YES**

Q2: Concerning listing "Senior" versus "Key" personnel, I have Junior personnel (Postdocs and Junior Staff) who are going to do much of the work, so in that sense should they be considered "Key", since I cannot do the work without them or should I only list really Senior personnel besides myself.

A2: "Key" personnel are considered to be "individuals who contribute in a substantive, measurable way to the scientific or technical development or execution of the project", as described in the Program Announcement. This certainly can include "Junior" staff (e.g. limited term scientist 1 or 2) as well as postdocs. Please include their CV's in both the pre-proposal and full proposal, as the reviewers (and us) will be evaluating the contributed value provided by each member of a Research Team. To that end, as "Key personnel" they should be identified, along with their roles and responsibilities, in the proposed management structure as part of the full proposal. They also count against the Research Team size limit of 15 researchers.

Q3: What is the likelihood that a research project proposing a maximum award size budget (e.g. \$2,000,000 per year) will be funded?

A3: While we do not know *a priori* which projects will be funded and at what levels, we will strive to maintain program scope and balance. As the anticipated available funding for the entire solicitation is up to \$5,000,000 per year, it would be difficult to maintain scope if more than one award is made at the maximum level (\$2M). Thus, to aid reviewers and program officials in recommending and determining an appropriate funding level for your proposed project, you should consider clearly indicating multiple possible funding levels (e.g., Full, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, etc.), with corresponding scope of work, in your proposal.

Q4: Is a DOE Laboratory only allowed to submit 6 PRE-proposals as the project lead institution ?

A4: No. DOE Laboratories can submit as many pre-proposals as they like. We will review all of them for completeness and responsiveness to the solicitation. All pre-proposals which are complete and responsive we will encourage, the total number of which may exceed the full-application limit of 6 lead-proposals from a single Laboratory, and will be eligible to submit a full application. We will **only** accept 6 full lead-proposals from a Laboratory. So, no down selection is required by the pre-proposal deadline, but the Laboratories should down select which 6 full proposals will be submitted by the 1 October 2012 application deadline.

Q5: For the pre-proposal for Lab-12-02, should any budget numbers be mentioned?

A5: No. Budget numbers are not required for the preproposal.

Q6: Are proposals for capacity/ capability enhancements for an existing facility which enable science connected with this call considered responsive to the solicitation?

- A6: No. The NDCX-II facility will be reviewed along side this call to critically evaluate the scientific capabilities and demand with regards to common scientific interests. No other facility operations/enhancement proposals are being considered at this time.
- Q7: Regarding budgeting for Lab 12-02, if funding decisions FY13. Do we budget for funding to arrive in the middle of the fiscal year or do we ask for full years FY13, FY14 and FY15 and then 'carry forward'?
- A7: A full year's budget will be allocated when awards are made in mid FY 2013. Thus, if a full year of FY 2013 funding is received in April 2013, it is expected that this will cover work performed from April 2013 to April 2014. Hence, please plan to carry-forward funding from one fiscal year to the next.
- Q8: How important are students?
- A8: Education is not a required component for research projects applying to this lab announcement. The inclusion of students neither positively or negatively impacts funding decisions.
- Q9: Does one have to work on existing problems or is it OK to pose *new* problems?
- A9: The majority of scope identified as being of specific interest in LAB 12-02 (see p. 4) relates to existing problems in areas of ongoing research (e.g. assessment and control of the angular spread of energetic particles accelerated by intense lasers). While research on new problems will be entertained, the primary programmatic objective of LAB 12-02 is to fund research teams which will produce definitive answers to a single outstanding problem facing IFE by the end of the three year project period.
- Q11: There appears to be a tension between HEDLP-science and enabling technology (e.g. target design). What is the preferred focus, science or technology?
- A11: Research proposals should focus on HEDLP-science for inertial fusion energy . In terms of targets, it is identified on p. 5 that optimization studies to identify potential targets for various drivers are of interest. Such optimization studies should be based on related HEDLP-science, e.g. hydrodynamic stability, mix, etc..
- Q12: How should proposals submitted through the searchable FWP system reference that the FWP is being submitted in response to LAB 12-02?
- A12: ALL proposals submitted through searchable FWP should reference LAB 12-02 in the Record Details. Please be sure to inform the submitting official (CFO, etc) to reference both Lab Announcement Name (High Energy Density Laboratory Plasma Science for Inertial Fusion Energy) and the Lab Announcement Number (LAB 12-02).