

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for the Research Opportunities in Accelerator Stewardship FOA and LAB Solicitations

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## **How can teams apply?**

**NOTE: The teaming mechanism has changed since the FY 2015 solicitation.** We no longer accept Collaborative Proposals. Instead, a single proposal must be submitted by the lead institution, with subawards provided to collaborators if needed.

## **Is a Letter of Intent (LOI) required?**

**NOTE: The pre-screening mechanism has changed since the FY 2015 solicitation.** We have switched from requiring a Letter of Intent to requiring a Pre-Application (FOA applicants) or Pre-Proposal (LAB applicants). The format and content is essentially unchanged, but the change in mechanism allows a more streamlined handling of the encourage/discourage process using PAMS. See the Funding Opportunity Announcement section IV(B) for further details.

## **Should I apply to the DOE Comparative Review in HEP or to the Accelerator Stewardship solicitation?**

You should apply to all solicitations for which you meet the eligibility requirements and for which you can submit a strong application that is responsive to the requirements of the solicitation.

If the work you propose predominantly impacts HEP, submit the proposal to the DOE Comparative Review in HEP. If the work you propose predominantly impacts non-HEP users of accelerator technology, and there is an identifiable stewardship customer, submit the proposal to the Accelerator Stewardship call. See the Funding Opportunity Announcement section V(A)2 “Merit Review Criteria” for further details.

## **How many proposals may one PI (or one institution) submit?**

There is no limit. However, PIs are strongly encouraged to focus their effort on one or very few proposals where their interests and capabilities align well with the objectives of the solicitation, and they can write a strong proposal.

## **Are letters of endorsement from collaborators helpful?**

Endorsement letters are helpful for proposals.

## **Can labs apply to Track 2?**

No. See the Funding Opportunity Announcement, section III(A), Eligibility.

**Can labs apply to the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)?**

No. DOE National Laboratories must apply to the separate Program Announcement to DOE National Laboratories (LAB). Other (non-DOE) FFRDCs may apply under the FOA. See the Funding Opportunity Announcement, section III(A), Eligibility.

**Can Track 2 applications include a lab as a subaward?**

Yes. The university must lead the effort, and such an arrangement must not be used to circumvent the restrictions on Track 2 eligibility. See the Funding Opportunity Announcement, sections II(H) and II(I).

**What is the typical award size?**

The award size depends on the Track, the topic, the work scope, the available funding, and other factors. Track 1 awards generally do not exceed approximately \$2M/3 years, Track 2 awards generally average \$500k/3 years. That said, the requested budget should always be driven by the research goals and proposed work scope, not the other way around.

**What is the typical award duration?**

The typical award duration is 3 years. The duration should be chosen in light of the research goals and proposed work scope.

**What does the language in section II(B) “Estimated Funding” mean?**

Budget numbers listed in section II(B) refer to the specific fiscal year only. For example “It is anticipated that approximately \$X,XXX,XXX will be available in FY 20YY” means that the sum of all FY 20YY year obligations incurred as a result of new awards under this solicitation (including awards made under **both** the FOA and LAB calls) will not exceed \$X,XXX,XXX. This amount does not include prior-year or subsequent-year obligations, and is subject to appropriated funds being available.

**Can the submitting institution be a foreign organization?**

No. See the Funding Opportunity Announcement, section III(A), Eligibility.

**Can a subawardee be a foreign organization?**

Yes. However, preference should be given in such a manner as to enhance the accrual of economic and technological benefits to the U.S. domestic economy.