

NSF Webinar on NSF Solicitation 20-593

COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (CISE) RESEARCH INITIATION INITIATIVE (CRII)

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

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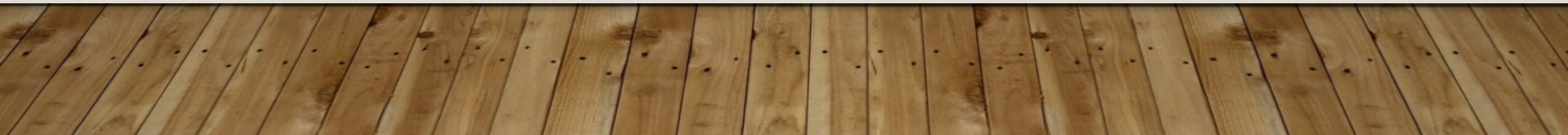
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10 SEP 2020



OUTLINE

- Goals of the program
- Eligibility
- Areas of interest
- Submission process
- Review process
- Questions
- Program Director contacts

STEP 1



- READ THE SOLICITATION

PROGRAM GOALS

- Encouraging research independence immediately upon obtaining one's first academic position
- Undertake exploratory investigations
- Acquire and test preliminary data
- Develop collaborations within or across research disciplines
- Develop new algorithms, approaches, and system designs/prototypes

****This program is not appropriate for PIs who already have access to resources to conduct any early-career research ****

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- I. Hold a primary appointment (or if applying to the CISE Office of Advanced Cyberinfrastructure, hold a full- or part-time appointment) in computer and/or information science and/or engineering, or in a related field of computational or data science (where the PI would normally submit proposals to CISE programs).
- Be untenured and;
- Be in the first three years of a tenure-track or research science or education position (or equivalent) **as of the submission deadline**. The number of years includes any academic position held post-PhD, exclusive of postdoctoral appointments.
 - Only official leaves of absence (for illness, family, etc.) may be subtracted from the total time in the position, as certified by the PI's department chair/head in the required letter, to be included in the Supplementary Documents section of the proposal.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY (CONT)

- **At the time of the award**, the PI may not have received any other grants in the PI role from any institution or agency
- Following do **NOT** disqualify:
 - Award as a co-PI or Senior Personnel on another grant;
 - Workshop or student conference travel awards;
 - Doctoral dissertation improvement grants;
 - Post doctoral research fellowship awards, such as SEES Fellows or CI Fellows;
 - A Graduate Research Fellowship or similar fellowship award from NSF;
 - REU or RET awards;
 - SBIR or STTR awards that were received while the PI worked in industry;
 - Awards from PI's university;
 - Awards from companies or private foundations

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY (CONT)

Funds from
existing awards
(Fed/state govt,
industry, university,
other) *including*
funds already
expended:
NOT MORE
THAN 24
MONTHS of grad
student support

+

Funds from CRII
proposal:
NOT LESS THAN
24 MONTHS of
grad student
support

=

Sufficient
resources
NOT MORE
THAN 48
MONTHS

MAGIC DATES

- Nov 2 2015 – PhD must be granted *after* this date to meet the five year limit
- Nov 2 2017 – must have started academic appointment *after* this date to meet three year limit
- ONLY EXCEPTIONS ARE FOR FAMILY OR MEDICAL LEAVE
- No exceptions for any other reason, including work abroad, ”just a few days”, etc.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Anything that fits within any of the NSF CISE research programs
- Office of Advanced Cyberinfrastructure (OAC)
 - OAC Core Research
- Computing and Communications Foundations (CCF):
 - Algorithmic Foundations (AF)
 - Communications and Information Foundations (CIF)
 - Software and Hardware Foundations (SHF)
 - Foundations of Emerging Technologies (FET)
- Computer and Network Systems (CNS):
 - Computer Systems Research (CSR)
 - Networking Technology and Systems (NeTS)
 - CISE Education and Workforce (EWF)
 - Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)
 - Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC)
- Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS):
 - Information Integration and Informatics (III)
 - Human-Centered Computing (HCC) - formerly Cyber-Human Systems (CHS)
 - Robust Intelligence (RI)
 - Smart and Connected Health (SCH)
- **Program sites have more information on topics for each program**

STEP 2



- READ THE SOLICITATION

SUBMISSION DETAILS

- Project summary plus **10 pages** of project description; see Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG) for standard NSF font & margin limits.
 - The Project Description **must justify** how the proposal helps obtain essential resources that the PI otherwise lacks to initiate the PI's research career, and not just for this project.
 - The department chair letter must follow the template provided – no changes.
- Proposals (< \$175,000 for **exactly** 2 years – no more, no less)
 - Must include a minimum .5 months salary for PI per year
 - Must include a minimum of 24 months grad student support over the 2 years (except PUI)
 - No co-PIs or other senior personnel permitted
 - Postdocs are allowed
- Submission deadline: **November 2, 2020**
- Limit of **1 proposal per PI**
 - **Note:** this limit is distinct from the PI limit in any other NSF solicitation
- No classified proposals will be accepted

SUBMISSION DETAILS (CONT)

- Data Management Plan
- Postdoc Mentoring Plan
- **Department Chair/Head Letter (required): A letter from the PI's department chair/head must be submitted as a Supplementary Document, following the template provided.**
 - <https://nsf.gov/cise/cii/deptchair.pdf>
- Four sections, for four criteria:
 - Time criterion
 - Appointment criterion
 - Federal financial assistance criterion
 - Essential resources criterion

BUDGET DETAILS

- Up to \$175,000 / 2 years
- Eligible for Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) supplements
- Funding for students, equipment, travel
- Minimum of .5 months of support for the PI per year
- Most of the funds should go toward student(s)
 - Must include at least one full-time graduate student – minimum 24 months of support over the 2 years (except for PUIs, where at least two part-time undergraduate students must be included for each year of the award. Students may receive summer and/or academic year support)
 - May be used toward postdoctoral scholars, travel, and/or research equipment.

PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS

- Proposals will be reviewed through standard NSF merit review process including **Intellectual Merit** and **Broader Impact** criteria
- Factors to be considered:
 - Relevance to one or more CISE programs
 - Appropriateness to 2-year timeline
 - Potential of activities to produce sufficient preliminary results to serve as the basis for future competitive research proposals (e.g., CAREER, other solicitations)
 - Whether the activities are necessary and critical steps for the PI to achieve research independence

STEP 3



- READ THE SOLICITATION

TAKEAWAYS

- CRII is for new faculty members to initiate independent research through funding students, equipment, and travel
- Proposals due **November 2, 2020**
- READ THE SOLICITATION
 - **Follow font and margin requirements**
 - **Follow title guidelines**
 - **Make certain all the required sections are easily identifiable**
 - **Department chair letter must follow the template**
- Contact an NSF program officer with questions!

Q u e s t i o n s ?

**Submit your questions through
the Zoom chat**

Thank You

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Jeremy Epstein

Ephraim Glinert

Henry Kautz

Alan Sussman

**Our email addresses can be
located on the NSF web site**