

2024 EPSCoR PI Meeting: Programmatic Updates

Leveraging EPSCoR Investments for Increasing Impact

May 20-21, 2024

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Office of the Director | Office of Integrative Activities**



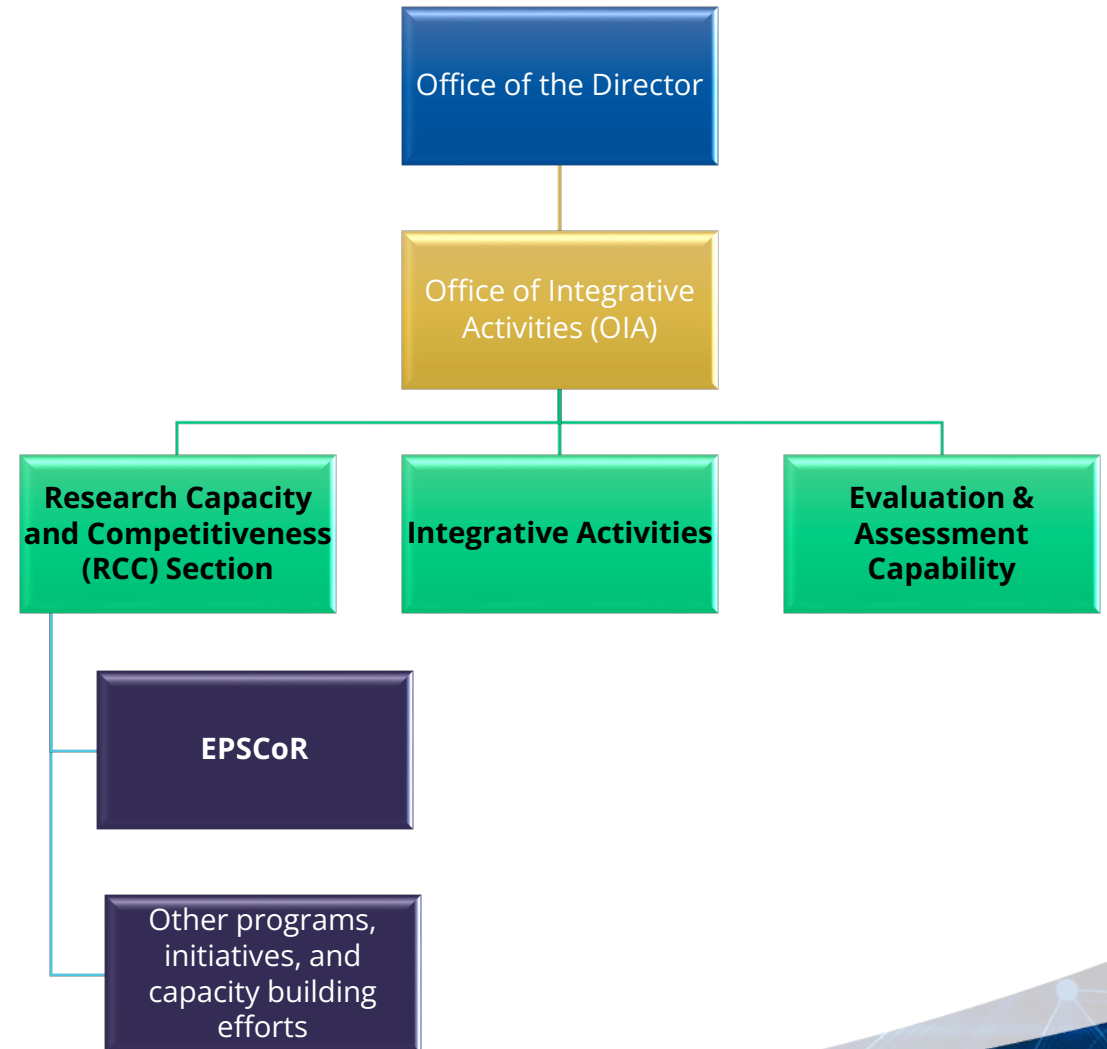
NSF EPSCoR
ADVANCING GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY IN STEM



NSF Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR)

Research Capacity and Competitiveness Section (RCC)

- Section name change in January
- Section name change is for NSF organizational structure needs and has no impact on EPSCoR mission, goals, or investment strategies
- The RCC Section supports the development and enhancement of STEM research capacity and competitiveness of individuals, institutions, states, territories, and regions historically underserved by NSF research and development funding



FY24 EPSCoR Programmatic Priorities



Utilize EPSCoR as a model within NSF and across the federal sector to address research capacity building and broadening participation challenges



Create sustainable jurisdictional networks, and leverages existing ones, that drive demonstrable and sustainable change to jurisdictional competitiveness



Promote the breadth of research, training, and workforce development in a jurisdiction based on jurisdictional needs, strengths, and growth interests



FY24 Research Infrastructure Investment (RII) Program Highlights

- Archived RII Track-1 program
- Launched two new RII programs, E-CORE RII ([NSF 23-587](#)) and E-RISE RII ([NSF 23-588](#))
- Transitioned to two-year thematic topic for the RII Focused EPSCoR Collaborations program
- Grew the awardee cohort for RII EPSCoR Research Fellows: @NASA
- Launched a monthly EPSCoR webinar and office hour called EPSCoR Live!
- Led (leading) NSF implementation of provisions in CHIPS and Science Act



Program Announcement – RII Track 1

Congratulations to the final cohort of RII Track-1 awardees

State	RII Track-1 Title
AK	Interface of Change: Building Collaborations to Assess Harvested and Farmed Marine Species Prioritized by Gulf of Alaska Communities Facing Environmental Shifts
KY	Climate Resilience through Multidisciplinary Big Data Learning, Prediction & Building Response Systems (CLIMBS)



Track-1 Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII)

- One award/juris. (\$20M over 5 yrs)
- Research-driven improvements to
 - physical and cyber infrastructure
 - human capital development
- Topic selected by juris. EPSCoR Committee
- Requires research + admin core + EOD + ...
- Short(er) award duration with no renewal option
- Typically led by jurisdiction's major research universities
- Seeks to develop diverse STEM workforce to sustain research and catalyze economic development and growth
- Research focus is on depth vs breadth
- One size fits all model
- Only one topical focus irrespective of expertise in jurisdiction

E-RISE RII (NSF 23-588)

- Focus on research and related workforce development
- Multiple proposals from same juris. may be submitted on topic of their choice that links to S&T Plan
- Renewal possible
- State EPSCoR Committee facilitates communication across research activities to ensure strong linkages exist among participating institutions
- Integration of research with societal benefits is an essential component
- Concurrent with an E-CORE award

E-CORE RII (NSF 23-587)

- Leverages E-RISE and other relevant research activities
- Engages the public and private sectors of education, economic development, workforce, and governance
- Creates sustainable networks, and leverages existing ones, to drive demonstrable and sustainable change to jurisdictional competitiveness
- Required admin core + Jurisdiction identifies other cores
- Multiple awards per jurisdiction
- Renewal possible
- Opportunity to tap into other NSF funding opportunities

Congratulations to the inaugural cohort of E-CORE RII awards!

Strengthening Maine's Research Ecosystem and Pathways Through Strategic Capacity Building

Multi-Award Collaboration

Led by University of Maine
(Doctoral Institution)

Five collaborative awards
+ subaward partner

New Hampshire Long-term Investment to Fuel Transformative Research

Single Institution Award

Led by University of
New Hampshire
(Doctoral Institution)

Collaboration with subaward
partners

South Dakota Research Ecosystem Network: STEM Education, Community Engagement, and Broadening Participation

Multi-Award Collaboration

Led by Black Hills
State University
(Master's Institution)

Eight collaborative awards +
subaward partners



E-CORE RII Project Cores for Inaugural Awardee Cohort

Strengthening Maine's Research Ecosystem and Pathways Through Strategic Capacity Building

K-16/Workforce Readiness

Academic Facilities & Research Infrastructure

Economic Development & Use-Inspired

Administrative: diversity, coordination, evaluation, reporting, growth, & sustainability

New Hampshire Long-term Investment to Fuel Transformative Research

Early Career Research Trainee Pathway

Academic Infrastructure & Research Facilities

Research Support

Administrative: inclusion, safety, evaluation, & communication

South Dakota Research Ecosystem Network: STEM Education, Community Engagement, and Broadening Participation

K-16 STEM Education

Community Engagement & Outreach

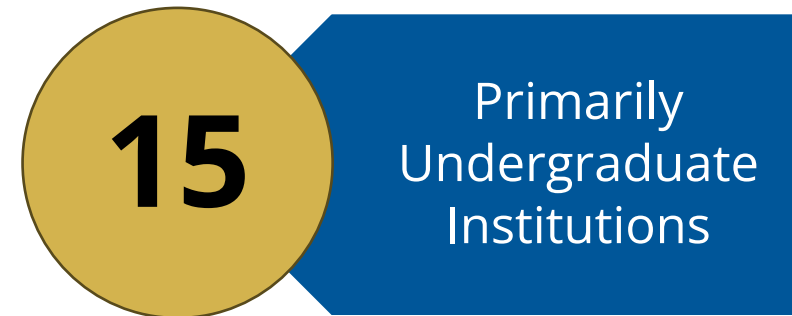
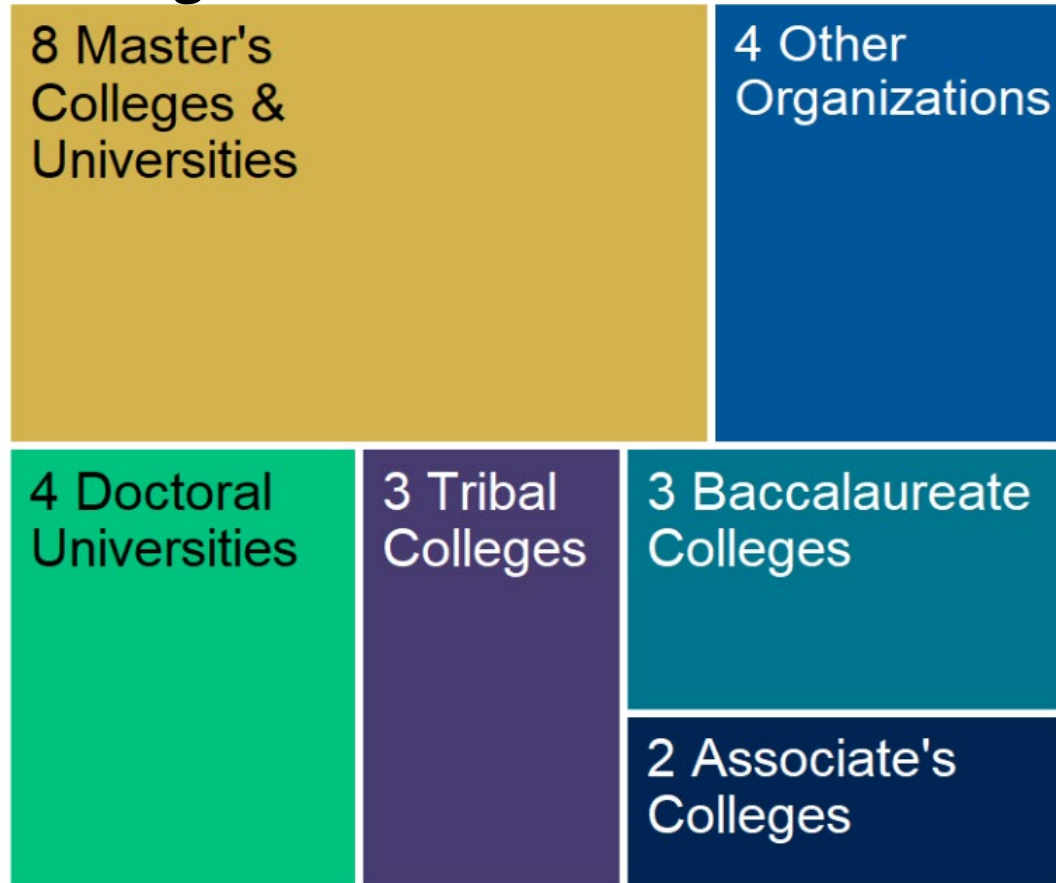
Broadening Participation

Administrative: STEM education both in-school and out-of-school



E-CORE RII Awardee & Partner Institution Types for Inaugural Awardee Cohort

Carnegie Classification



Other Program Announcements – RII Focused EPSCoR Collaborations (RII FEC)

- FY24 new awards to be announced in summer 2024
- RII Track-2 prefix dropped in program name (e.g., Track-2: Focused EPSCoR Collaborations renamed to *Focused EPSCoR Collaborations*)
- New program solicitation - [NSF 24-573](#)
 - Standard solicitation with topic announced biennially via a published Dear Colleague Letter
 - Letters of intent due: Dec 17, 2024
 - Full proposals due: Jan 28, 2025
 - Topic for FY25 – FY25 announced with release of DCL this week



Other Program Announcements cont.

- RII Track-4 prefix dropped (e.g., Track-4: EPSCoR Research Fellows renamed to *EPSCoR Research Fellows*)
 - NSF 23-535
 - Submissions were due April 9, 2024; next competition deadline April 8, 2025
 - Two tracks: EPSCoR Research Fellows: NSF and EPSCoR Research Fellows: @NASA
 - See solicitation for other updates and program page for recorded webinars
- EPSCoR Workshop Opportunities
 - New solicitation: NSF 24-540
 - Maximum budget for workshops has been increased to \$200,000
 - Virtual workshop proposals are allowed
 - Submission of concept paper required



General Reminders

- EPSCoR follows guidance in the NSF PAPPG for Planning Grants and Supplements, unless otherwise indicated in an NSF publication
 - **NSF PAPPG Chapter II-41:** A planning proposal is a type of proposal used to support initial conceptualization, planning and collaboration activities that aim to formulate new and sound plans for large-scale projects in emerging research areas for future submission to an NSF program. ... Concept outlines can be submitted by email to a cognizant Program Officer (or via the Program Suitability and Proposal Concept Tool (ProSPCT) if not for an EPSCoR RII program).
 - Supplement requests: See NSF PAPPG Chapter VI-4
- For EDOCS inquiries, please follow up with your cognizant PO and/or contact Liz Lawrence for general questions
- Active RII Track-1 projects will have in-person SVs and virtual RSVs





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Exploring EPSCoR Research Ecosystems

Important Dates

- **Phase 2: May 22-23, 2024**
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM EDT
This is the in-person event to be held at NSF in Alexandria, Virginia.
Space is limited!

Deadline: April 30, 2024 at 11:59 PM EDT

[Apply for Phase 2 >>](#)

- **Phase 3: June 20, 2024**
2:00 - 6:00 PM EDT
Final output session. **Open to all.**
To receive EPSCoR program updates, including registration for the
Phase 3 workshop, [sign up here](#).

Event Introduction

Event Introduction by Dr. Sandra Richardson, RCC Section Head, National Science Foundation.

[Watch Now >>](#)

Past Events

- **Phase 1: April 17 & 18, 2024**
2:00 - 6:00 PM EDT
This is a two part virtual workshop. **Open to all.**
Phase 1 Complete





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EPSCoR

Live!

WEBINAR

June 3rd, 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EDT

Topic: NSF Office of Legislative and Public Affairs will discuss the new NSF Policy on Brand Standards, the NSF brand identity and how to apply its brand elements effectively. The proper procedures for use of NSF and EPSCoR logos will also be discussed.

How to Attend: Advance registration is required. [Click here to register.](#) Please use an institutional email address for registration.

Additional June EPSCoR Live!

June 20th

Topic: Exploring EPSCoR Ecosystems

General Requests

- Know your cognizant Program Officer.
- Invite cognizant PO to jurisdiction's All Hands Meeting
- Consider serving as a reviewer for EPSCoR and other NSF programs.
- Nominate colleagues for membership on NSF federal advisory committees via the Federal Register Committee call.
 - Visit the notice page on the Federal Register.
 - Self-recommendations are accepted.
- Sign up for RCC and EPSCoR updates ([sign up here](#)).
- Use the EPSCoR logos.



NSF EPSCoR Logo



- **5 nodes:** 5 interconnected goals of EPSCoR: Catalyze, Establish, Broaden, Effect and Impact.
- Each node is a different color to represent the diversity of our jurisdictions.
- **The pentagon** represents the EPSCoR community as a homebase for EPSCoR's goals that are situated within the overall mission.



NSF EPSCoR Logo for 28 Jurisdictions



- The logos developed for the NSF EPSCoR program should be used widely and must not be deconstructed or altered.
- State logo variations are downloadable at <https://nsf.widencollective.com/portals/5t1aweok/NSFEPSCoRLogos>
- NSF will be using these logos when communicating about EPSCoR. Consistent use of these logos will help strengthen the EPSCoR brand and community.



Contact the FY24 EPSCoR Program Team

- General Inquiries: nsfepscor@nsf.gov
- E-CORE RII Inquiries: EPSCoR-CORE@nsf.gov
- E-RISE RII Inquiries: EPSCoR-RISE@nsf.gov
- EPSCoR Live! Inquiries: epscor-live@nsf.gov
- RCC Section Staff: [NSF Directory](#)
- Section Head (Sandra Richardson): srichard@nsf.gov



Primary Contacts for NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Programs



- Jeanne Small
- RII Track-1 SVs/vRSVs
- RII Track-1 (lead)



- Jose Colom
- RII Focused EPSCoR Collaborations (lead)



- Casonya Johnson
- E-RISE RII (lead)
- E-CORE RII (co-lead)



- JD Swanson
- E-CORE RII (lead)
- E-RISE RII (co-lead)



Primary Contacts for NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Programs and Activities



- Chinonye Whitley
- RII EPSCoR Research Fellows (lead)



- Ben McCall
- RII Workshops (co-lead)
- EPSCoR Live! Coordinator



- Pinhas Ben-Tzvi
- RII Workshops (lead)



- Liz Lawrence
- Outreach Coordination
- EDOCS Portal (general)



FY24 EPSCoR Program Team

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Sr. Program Analyst



Hongmei Luo
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Ben McCall
Program Officer



Dave Ogden
Science Analyst



Jeanne Small
Program Officer



J.D. Swanson
Program Officer



Chinonye Whitley
Program Officer



Additional Conversation

