

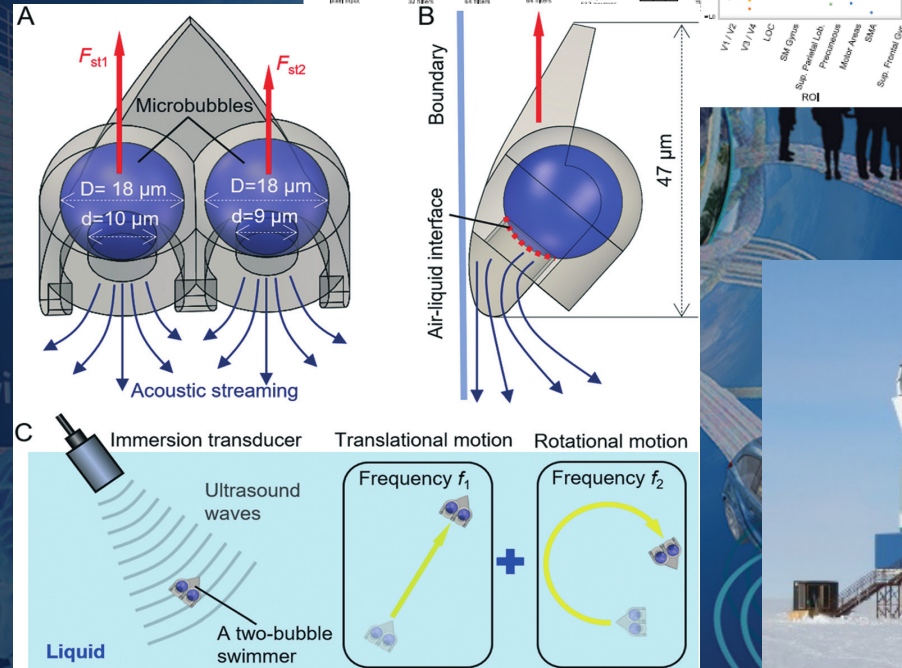
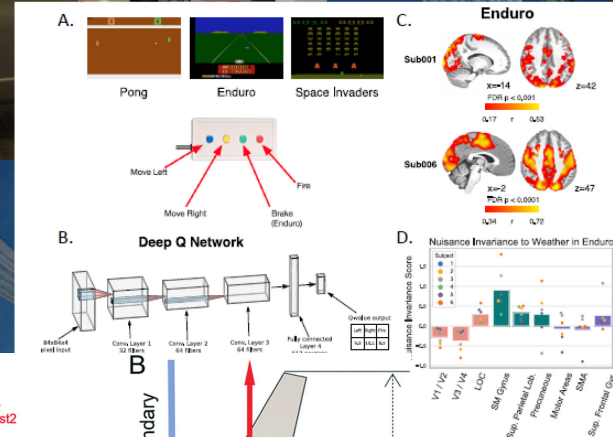
# National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation (MRI)

<https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/mri-major-research-instrumentation-program>

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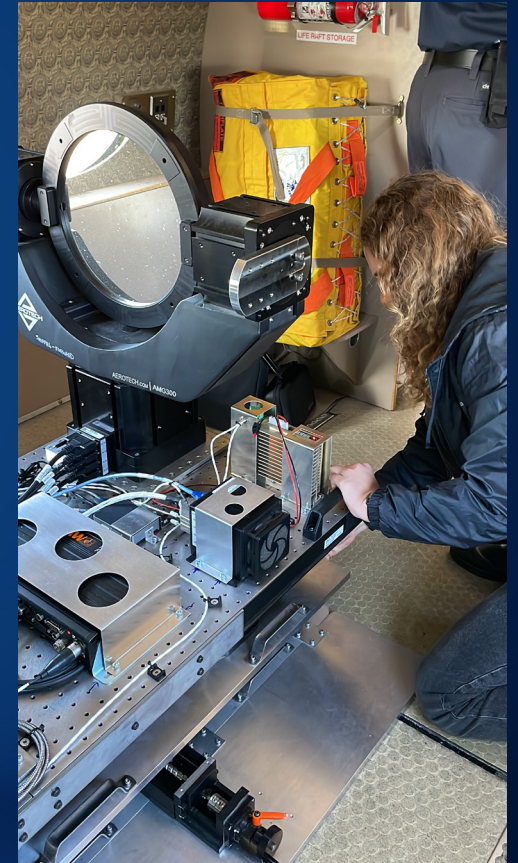


# MRI Overview

An MRI proposal seeks to fund the ***acquisition*** or ***development*** of a *major shared-use research* instrument that is, in general, *too costly* or *not appropriate* for support through other NSF funding opportunities. The instrument is expected to be operational for regular research use by the end of the award period (3 years for ACQ, up to 5 years for DEV).

AND

An MRI instrument enables advances in fundamental science and engineering research, which may not otherwise occur, and allows recipients to integrate research with research training.



MRI Award: AGS-1919809

# MRI Overview

MRI is an immensely popular and high-impact program. In FY 2025:

- >800 proposals were received;
- Requesting >\$1B;
- From institutions of higher education and not-for-profit research organizations located in every state and most U.S. commonwealths and territories (as well as the District of Columbia).



MRI Award: PLR-0958658



# MRI in FY 2026

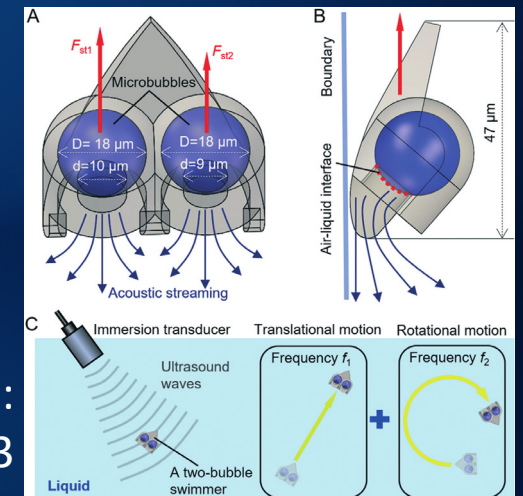
*NSF has many meritorious proposals from the FY2025 submission window (October 15 – November 15, 2024), so...*

*On July 1, 2025, the U.S. National Science Foundation announced that it will not accept new proposals for the MRI program during the previously scheduled FY2026 submission window (October 15 – November 14, 2025). Any proposals submitted in response to this FY 2026 submission window will be returned without review.*

*Subject to the availability of funds, NSF will fund additional awards from FY 2025 submissions in FY2026.*



MRI Award: AGS-2117975



MRI Award:  
ECCS-1919653



# MRI FAQ

**Q:** My office manages our institution's internal competition for limited proposal submissions. I see that the 2025 application dates for NSF's MRI submissions have been removed from the solicitation. I thought I would reach out to confirm whether those dates are being revised or if the program is cancelled this year.

**A:** There is a hiatus in accepting new MRI proposals. In FY 2026, subject to the availability of funds, NSF anticipates funding additional awards from the previously submitted FY 2025 proposals.





# MRI FAQ

**Q:** Why is NSF considering funding proposals submitted during the FY 2025, October 15 – November 15, 2024 window, instead of accepting new proposals in the FY 2026, October 15 – November 14, 2025, window?

**A:** MRI currently has many unfunded, meritorious proposals from the FY 2025 submission window (October 15 – November 15, 2024). NSF recognizes that researchers, research administrators and their organizations have already spent considerable time and effort on FY 2025 submissions, as well as the time and effort of reviewers. We have decided to forego accepting new proposals in FY 2026, and subject to the availability of funds, NSF will make awards to proposals submitted in FY 2025.



# MRI FAQ

**Q:** If I submit an already-written MRI proposal to the October 15-November 14, 2025 submission window, will it still be reviewed and potentially awarded?

**A:** No. As noted in the solicitation and elsewhere, any proposals submitted during FY 2026 will be returned without review.



# MRI FAQ

**Q:** If I submitted a proposal for the November 15, 2024 deadline (FY 2025 competition), is it still being reviewed and considered for funding.

**A:** Please monitor the information available to you about the proposal on your research.gov account. Included there are the name and contact information for the managing program officer, who may be able to provide additional status information.





# MRI FAQ

**Q:** The MRI solicitation is updated from time to time. Where can I find out about future updates?

**A:** Please monitor the MRI program page at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/mri-major-research-instrumentation-program> for updates.



# Thank you!



For more information

<https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/mri-major-research-instrumentation-program>

[MRI@nsf.gov](mailto:MRI@nsf.gov)

