



**National Science Foundation**  
**4201 Wilson Boulevard**  
**Arlington, Virginia 22230**

**NSF 12-020**

**Frequently Asked Questions: for Network for Computational Nanotechnology (NCN)  
A Competition to Reconfigure the NCN ([NSF 12-504](#))**

**Eligibility and Personnel**

1. [Does the PI need to be a tenured faculty at the time of submission, or at the time the proposal is awarded?](#)
2. [What happens if the PI leaves or decides to transfer to another university during the review process or after the award? Can he/she take the proposal/award to the new university?](#)
3. [Can other personnel listed in the LOI change between submission of the LOI and submission of the full proposal?](#)
4. [Can we change the lead university after the full proposal has been submitted to NSF?](#)
5. [Can a faculty member from a foreign partner university be a Co-PI on the NCN?](#)
6. [For the LOI submission there is a limit of the PI plus up to four additional Co-PIs. Is there a Co-PI limit for the full proposal submission?](#)

**NCN Nodes**

7. [Can a Node deliver scientific code without a graphical user interface and without a first-time user guide?](#)
8. [Can a Node submission propose all research and deliver one tool at the end?](#)
9. [Are lectures and tutorials and classes considered valued content items for delivery to the Cyber Platform?](#)

**Proposal Discussion Guidance**

10. [Is there a "cut-off" date beyond which the NSF will allow proposers to discuss the content of their proposals with NSF staff?](#)

**Miscellaneous**

11. [Can we include Letters of Support in our \(Cyber Platform or Node\) proposal?](#)

**ELIGIBILITY AND PERSONNEL**

1. **Does the PI need to be a tenured faculty at the time of submission, or at the time the proposal is awarded?**

At the time of the LOI submission and throughout the review process and any subsequent award, the PI for the Cyber Platform and the Nodes must hold an eligible appointment as a tenured faculty member at the lead university.

2. **What happens if the PI leaves or decides to transfer to another university during the review process or after the award? Can he/she take the proposal/award to the new university?**

No. If the PI of either the Cyber Platform or a Node decides to transfer to another university during the review process or after an award is made, the proposal/award remains with the lead university.

3. **Can other personnel listed in the LOI change between submission of the LOI and submission**

### **of the full proposal?**

Yes.

#### **4. Can we change the lead university after the full proposal has been submitted to NSF?**

No, once the full proposal has been submitted and the deadline has passed the lead university cannot change.

#### **5. Can a faculty member from a foreign partner university be a Co-PI on the NCN?**

No, all Co-PIs must be faculty from domestic partner universities.

#### **6. For the LOI submission there is a limit of the PI plus up to four additional Co-PIs. Is there a Co-PI limit for the full proposal submission?**

Yes, for the full proposal submission you are limited to the PI and up to four additional Co-PIs, for a total of five. Any additional Co-PIs will be shown as "Senior Personnel" in the "Key Academic Participants" section.

## **NCN NODES**

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#### **7. Can a Node deliver scientific code without a graphical user interface and without a first-time user guide?**

A Node must deliver "usable" code with an existing graphical user interface that utilizes the available user interface infrastructure from the winning Cyber Platform. "Usable" means, in principle, that the tool developer would want to integrate and use the code in their own workflow.

#### **8. Can a Node submission propose all research and deliver one tool at the end?**

No. A Node must deliver a continued, balanced, and steady flow of a large body of tools and educational content throughout the award period, not just toward the end of the award period.

#### **9. Are lectures and tutorials and classes considered valued content items for delivery to the Cyber Platform?**

Yes.

## **PROPOSAL DISCUSSION GUIDANCE**

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#### **10. Is there a "cut-off" date beyond which the NSF will allow proposers to discuss the content of their proposals with NSF staff?**

Proposal submission questions are allowed throughout the process; however, December 1, 2011 is the last day proposers will be able to talk with NSF staff to discuss the content of their proposals.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

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#### **11. Can we include Letters of Support in our (Cyber Platform or Node) proposal?**

Yes. Letters of Support that substantiate contributions to the proposal can be included as supplemental documents.