

Click [here](#) to return to the Q&A page.

General

Q: To what mailing address should official transcripts and test scores be sent for the NEUP scholarship/fellowship programs?

A: No, Official transcripts and scores for both scholarship and fellowship applications can be sent to the following address:

NEUP Integration Office
Attn: Jenna Payne
Idaho National Laboratory
PO Box 1625 MS 3560
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415

Q: Is NEUP an Idaho National Laboratory program?

A: No, it is not. Nuclear Energy University Program is a Department of Energy Office of Nuclear Energy initiative. The NEUP Integration Office, located in the Center for Advanced Energy Studies building in Idaho Falls, administers the program on behalf of the Department of Energy Office of Nuclear Energy. The NEUP Integration Office is staffed by Idaho National Laboratory employees.

Q: How is NEUP funded?

A: DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy set aside approximately 20 percent of its research budget to fund NEUP. Congress allocated an additional \$5 million in FY09 and FY10 to NE for an integrated university program. If awarded in FY11, these funds will be used for scholarships and fellowships.

Q: So how much money is NEUP awarding to universities and students next year?

A: DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy makes that decision once Congress and President Obama have approved its budget.

Q: Is NEUP just Nuclear Energy Research Initiative with a new name?

A: They are not the same program although they do have similar elements. Like NERI, NEUP funds university-led nuclear energy research and development projects. But NEUP also funds infrastructure and equipment grants and scholarships and fellowships for students, which NERI did not. The last of the NERI research projects will wrap up in 2010.

Q: Why does NEUP use a semi-blind review for the research and development component?

A: NEUP decided early on to use this method to ensure the technical and scientific merit of projects were evaluated as fairly as possible by reviewers. The names of the principal investigators are withheld during the first phase of the review so proposals are evaluated and scored on technical and scientific merit. During the second phase, reviewers assess the research team qualifications as well as the budget and facility capabilities.

Q: Why aren't reviewer scores released to principal investigators?

A: NEUP does not view this as being as helpful to researchers as the reviewers' comments, which are released.

Q: Where do you get your reviewers?

A: The DOE Office of Nuclear Energy maintains a database of university professors and industry and lab researchers who are qualified to evaluate proposals in the technical workscopes. They are assigned proposals based on their areas of expertise. We are always looking for addition to this database! Please send your recommendations to neup@inl.gov.

Q: Can national laboratories submit proposals?

A: They cannot submit proposals as principal investigators. They can collaborate with universities, but cannot receive more than 20 percent of a project's overall funding.

Q: My school isn't on the list of universities and colleges approved to administer NEUP scholarships and fellowships. Am I still eligible for an award?

A: Yes, conditionally. Your chosen university must be able to demonstrate a program or field of study related to Nuclear Energy and must apply and be approved prior to any transfer of funding. See the section on universities for details. [Additional Information](#)

Q: Are NEUP fellowships and scholarships only for nuclear engineering students?

A: No. The awards are open to students in a variety of nuclear-related fields, including radiochemistry, health physics, nuclear physics and other fields of engineering. Students enrolled two-year technical programs in nuclear also are eligible for scholarships.

Q: The pricing guidance mentions "use a separate excel worksheet for each partner". Will there be a combining worksheet too if there is more than one participating institution? Does each budget year need a separate worksheet or can they be combined into a multiple-year budget worksheet?

A: The intent is to have one workbook with multiple worksheets. A revised example will be given under the PI link on the website as of January 19.

R&D RFP

Q: If a university proposes to collaborate with two national laboratories, can each national laboratory obtain 20% of the total funding (i.e., 40% of the total budget to the national labs), or do the labs have to share 20% of the total budget between them?

A: No, the RFP specifically states that the sum total of all funds that go to the all national laboratory and industrial partners may not exceed 20% of the total funding request.

Q: The INL budget form indicates we should include a CV for each degreed person. If we have more than 4 degreed persons on the project (CVs will be provided for the PI and in the technical expertise document), how should the additional CVs requested for degreed persons be submitted?

A: These additional documents should be uploaded to the "Supplemental Information" portion of your submission.

Q: What flexibility do we have to modify the workscope in the full proposal from that in the pre-application?

A: If you are making minor tweaks to your workscope, or want to make minor adjustments to address the comments/suggestions you received during the pre-application review process, then there is some flexibility. Major changes to the workscope are not recommended.

Q: Are 4 year proposals still allowed as long as the costs do not exceed \$1.5 million?

A: Yes, as long as the costs of the project are appropriate for the workscope and do not exceed the \$1.5M cap.

Q: Should anonymity be maintained in the Capabilities document?

A: No. In the Capabilities document of your submission, you may use the names of the lead organization as well as any collaborating organizations.

Q: If there are 2 university partners, will the funding go directly to both universities or will the lead university have to subcontract to the other university?

A: If selected, funding to the 2 partnering universities will be through a subcontract.

Q: Do I need to submit any letters of commitment from my partners when I submit the pre-application?

A: No. You just need to check the box on the submission form indicating your partners are committed.

Q: Should costs for INL subaward be included in our budget, or will that funding be awarded directly to INL, as it was in the first NEUP awards?

A: If selected, the national laboratory will receive their funding through the lead university UNLESS that laboratory is INL, in which case the funds will be administered through NEUP. If INL is a collaborating organization of your project, you WILL still need to create a budget sheet for them.

Q: We are not sure we know how to fill in the PROC-3204 form. First of all, who is going to fill in the form, the leading institution or all the participating institutions? Second, what is the "Contractor's Subcontract No."?

A: All university participants should fill out this form. Partners from National Laboratories are not required to fill this out. In regard to the Prime Contractor's Subcontract No., this is something that will be provided with the issuance of an award, so that doesn't need to be filled in right now.

Q: Where can I find form PROC 2113?

A: Should your proposal be selected for an award, you may be required to submit this form; however, it is not needed at this time.

Q: For those national laboratory subcontracts (except INL administered by NEUP) administered by the lead university (if awarded), would you please confirm that, as last year, a restriction on adders for subcontracts (between universities and national labs or industry) will be imposed, with adders (F&A) only applied to the first \$25K to these pass-through subcontracts.

A: You are correct. The lead university can charge G&A on the first \$25K only; however, none on the INL portion.

Q: Should names be included in the technical abstract?

A: Since the technical abstract will not accompany the technical narrative throughout the review process, you may use the names of the organizations involved in the project.

Q: Is a minor revision of the proposal title allowed?

A: Yes. As long as you aren't making significant changes to the workscope itself, you can make minor adjustments to the title of your project.

Q: Section 4.2 of the RFP requires offers to identify nuclear funding sources within the submission form. Should these be placed in the technical proposal or the technical expertise and qualifications section?

A: Include this information in Form 3204. Click on the "Principal Investigators" tab on the NEUP website, and then on the "Supplemental Information" link to find the form.

Q: Can national laboratory personnel, whose salary is being paid by the federal government, be paid to act as a consultant on a NEUP project?

A: Yes. They will be paid through a subcontract from the university. It is very important to remember that if the consultant's time is being used on a NEUP project, you must account for their total cost in your budget form. DO NOT assume that their salary will be paid for by the federal government.

R&D RPA

Q: If we believe a proposal could be funded under different workscopes, should we submit the same proposal twice?

A: No. If you are unsure where your proposal should be listed, you should refer to the Technical Points of Contact list and discuss with them where they would suggest you submit your proposal under. It is not recommended to submit a proposal more than once.

Q: Do references count within the page maximum of the Technical Abstract?

A: Yes they do.

Q: Should we upload CV's for the Co-PIs?

A: At this phase we allow only the lead PI full CV. All others should be described succinctly within the Benefit of Collaborations document.

Q: Can the collaborators at the lab be Co-Principal Investigators?

A: No. The lab folks would be considered collaborators not PIs.

Q: Do you need letters of commitment from each institution?

A: No. It is sufficient to check the box under Terms and Conditions.

Q: Can national laboratory personnel, whose salary is being paid by the federal government, be paid to act as a consultant on a NEUP project?

A: Yes. They will be paid through a subcontract from the university. It is very important to remember that if the consultant's time is being used on a NEUP project, you must account for their total cost in your budget form. DO NOT assume that their salary will be paid for by the federal government.

Q: Are national laboratories allowed to participate on R&D proposals? What is the budget limit for lab participation?

A: Yes, 20% -- please read the RFP for more detail.

Q: Can you please clarify the recent change to the RPA - "Collaborations with foreign organizations are allowed if their role is focused on fundamental research and they are not a denied party or a party that requires an export license. Foreign organization participants are not eligible for U.S. funding". Are collaborations with foreign partners in France allowed to be paid on a subcontract?

A: No.

Q: Do I need to submit any letters of commitment from my partners when I submit the pre-application?

A: No. You just need to check the box on the submission form indicating your partners are committed.

Q: Are 4 year proposals still allowed as long as the costs do not exceed \$1.5 million?

A: Yes, as long as the costs of the project are appropriate for the workscope and do not exceed the \$1.5M cap.

Q: Should costs for INL subaward be included in our budget, or will that funding be awarded directly to INL, as it was in the first NEUP awards?

A: If selected, the national laboratory will receive their funding through the lead university UNLESS that laboratory is INL, in which case the funds will be administered through NEUP. If INL is a collaborating organization of your project, you WILL still need to create a budget sheet for them.

Q: I have been asked to contribute to more than one preapplication in different areas of research. Is being a PI or Co-PI on two or more preapplications allowed?

A: Yes.

Scholarships & Fellowships

Q: Are there going to be fellowships awarded for the 2011 year? If that is currently unknown, is there a date when it will be known?

A: Yes, the call should be posted on the NEUP website in December.

Q: To be eligible for a scholarship or fellowship, must a student be part of a NEUP funded project, or may they only be doing work in a nuclear related field.

A: There is no requirement that a student be part of an existing project. They need only be pursuing a course of study related to nuclear energy.

Q: The scholarship application indicates that an ACT or SAT score is required, dated from between 10/1/03 and 12/31/10. What if I took both in 1995 or 1996.

A: More information is needed in order to answer your question. Could you please provide more information to neup@inl.gov?