NIST Manufacturing USA
Rapid Assistance (for) Coronavirus Economic Response (RACER)
Funding opportunity for Manufacturing USA Institutes

June 2, 2021

Advanced Manufacturing National Program Office, NIST
An interagency team building partnerships with U.S. industry and academia
Manufacturing USA®: Securing U.S. Global Leadership in Advanced Manufacturing

**Mission:** Connecting people, ideas, and technology
- solve industry-relevant advanced manufacturing challenges
- enhance industrial competitiveness and economic growth
- strengthen our national security

Image: AIM Photonics, SUNY Poly
Purposes of Manufacturing USA

- Competitiveness
- Leadership
- Scale Technology
- Shared Resources
- Workforce Development
- Knowledge Transfer
- Partnership
- Manufacturing Employment
- Innovation Ecosystems

Images: Adobe Images
2020 Network Impacts

FY 2020 Network Impacts

- **2,000+ Institute Members**
- **500 Major R&D Projects**
- **$425M State, Private & Federal Funds**

70,000 participants in advanced manufacturing workforce development & training
Manufacturing Innovations to Combat COVID-19: funding from CARES Act
Rapid Response to COVID-19
Advanced Manufacturing Leadership to Support National Resiliency

ManufacturingUSA.com/covid-19-response
NIST: 2020 Manufacturing USA National Emergency Assistance Program (NEAP) and NIIMBL Awards

- Used new public service grant authorities to fund non-NIST institutes
- Requested high-impact projects to respond to COVID-19 pandemic
- Proposals reviewed on a rolling basis

- $220 M projects proposed
- 39 eligible proposals from 12 institutes (10/2020)
- 5 institutes $12.4M in Awards

Slide updated 06/03/2021
Funding Opportunity
The notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) is the official competition document. Nothing in this presentation is intended to contradict or supersede the NOFO in any way. Any questions regarding the terms of the competition must be resolved by referring to the NOFO.

grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=333762
Purpose for Funding

Sec. 7501. National Institute of Standards and Technology
“...to fund awards for research, development, and testbeds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.”

1. The commas are important. You can interpret those words in that phrase separately. More on this later.

2. NIST is running this competition as function of the Manufacturing USA National Program Office and the Congressionally mandated role to support the network of institutes.
Topics in Today's Webinar

Notice of Funding Opportunity

- Eligibility
- Application Deadline
- Funding
- Scope
- Evaluation Criteria
- Application Process
Eligibility:
Only Manufacturing USA institutes

Only Manufacturing USA institutes are eligible
- not receiving financial assistance under 15 U.S.C. § 278s(e)
- In other words, AFFOA, AIM Photonics, America Makes, ARM, BioFabUSA, BioMADE, CESMII, CyManII, IACMI, LIFT, MxD, NextFlex, PowerAmerica, RAPID, or REMADE (but not NIIMBL)

An institute may
- work individually,
- include proposed subawards to other institutes, or
- Include proposed contracts with other organizations
Application Deadline

Fixed Date
11:59 pm
July 26, 2021

This is different than the 2020 NEAP program which had a rolling admission.
Funding

Single Institute Proposals: Up to $5M
Period of Performance: 24 months

Multi-institute Proposals: Up to $15M
Period of Performance: 36 months
Any proposal “...for research, development, and testbeds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus” considered responsive.

Project ideas proposed but not funded in 2020 NEAP competition may be resubmitted with updated technical proposal and budget information.
Illustrative Projects

May include, but are not limited to:

- innovative medical and non-medical countermeasures;
- strengthening state and community resilience by leveraging institute capabilities;
- creating testbeds or small-scale production facilities;
- establishing or reshoring critical supply chains;
- or workforce development and training for a skilled advanced manufacturing workforce.

Remember:
any proposal that focuses on “research, development, and testbeds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus” will be considered responsive.
Project Teams

Bring together key expertise, access to facilities, or specialized goods and services especially if this will result in a larger national or regional impact.

Strongly supports outreach to, recruitment of, and engagement with a diverse array of project participants.

NIIMBL may participate in projects as an unfunded collaborator.

Letters of commitment needed from all known partners.
Equity and Diversity

Looking for diversity in the project teams and equity in the project outcomes

- Try engaging Minority Service Institutions
- Think about how your project may benefit low-socio-economic or rural regions
Evaluation Criteria

Rationale
Appropriate areas of focus
Institute(s) mission(s) alignment
Enhances the U.S. advanced manufacturing infrastructure; and
Advance discovery and understanding
In national interest?
Unlikely to receive private sector financial support?

Plan & Execution/Merit
Coherence (conception and organization) of the approach
Clear project goals, objectives, and deliverables that are specific, measurable, achievable, and trackable
Extent to which the application effectively addresses national advanced manufacturing needs issues

All criteria will be weighted equally.
Impact, Outcomes, & Dissemination
Likelihood for substantial contribution
Clear methodology for identifying and analyzing project outcomes
plans to track the outcomes

Project Management, Resources, & Budget
Management structure
Clearly identified roles and skill alignment
Access to necessary facilities and expertise
Assessment of the overall budget and at sub-project level

All criteria will be weighted equally.
Evaluation

Merit Review
- Three reviews
- DoD, DOE, and DOC/NIST

Panel
- Federal panel of at least 3 people
- A programmatic review
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection Factors: One or more</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alignment with grant program objectives &amp; Manufacturing USA purposes and activities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Duplication of efforts</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Geographic diversity (project participants), the distribution of project work among urban, suburban, and rural communities, and outcomes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The institutional diversity of project participants: SMEs, women, minorities, veterans, state/local/tribal governments, schools (CTE/community colleges/universities)</strong></td>
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Disclaimer: NOFO has the exact language
Applications must be submitted via grants.gov

Applicants should carefully follow specific grants.gov instructions

A receipt from grants.gov indicating an application is received does not provide information about whether attachments have been received.

Merit Review & Panel Review (August 2021)

Selection (~September 2021)

Grant processing & award (~October 2021)

For further information or questions about the application process, contact grants.gov or 800-518-4726.
Together We Are Securing America’s Manufacturing Future

Get involved: www.ManufacturingUSA.com  @MFGUSA
Questions + Answers
NIST CARES Act: COVID-19 Response Projects

- **BioFabUSA**: Technology roadmap for pandemic response and recovery
- **ARM**: Automated COVID-19 Testing
- **LIFT**: Virtual Workforce development + training
- **America Makes**: Biomedical equipment and supplies development, manufacturing
- **NIIMBL**: Virus proteins for improved blood testing; rapid in-house testing; source domestic supply chains

Images: Adobe Images
Executive Orders

• Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government
  – Engagement with Members of Underserved Communities

• Executive Order on Ensuring the Future Is Made in All of America by All of America’s Workers