EDRF INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND GOALS

The Infrastructure Program provides funding for improvement of infrastructure in support of research and economic development goals that fit within NDSU's strategic priorities or align with prior and/or existing research investments at NDSU. This program can be used for acquisition of research **instrumentation**, **equipment**, and **related installation services**.

NDSU'S STRATEGIC RESEARCH PRIORITIES [*Learn more >>*]

- Food, Energy, and Water Security
- Cybersecurity, Computer Science, and Software Engineering
- Life Sciences
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation

FUNDING SOURCE

Funding for this program will come from Economic Diversification Research Funds (EDRF). Established by the ND Legislature for NDUS institutions, the program's purpose is to:

- Stimulate economic activity across the state through innovation of new technology, concepts, and products;
- Promote job creation and career and wage growth;
- Enhance health care outcomes;
- Address loss of revenue and jobs in communities with economies that depend primarily on the fossil fuel industry;
- Provide experiential learning opportunities for students.

AWARD

An instrumentation / equipment proposal may request up to $50,000 in direct costs.
All funds must be spent by March 1, 2025.

TIMELINE

Proposals are due at 5pm on Monday, November 4, 2024.
Awards are anticipated to be made by Monday, November 25, 2024.

ELIGIBILITY

- Full-time faculty and research staff at NDSU are eligible to apply.
- Faculty may participate in more than one project. However, a PI is only eligible to receive one award.

BUDGET

Budget can be up to $50,000. Funds must be spent by March 1, 2025.
Budget may include cost of the instrumentation / equipment, as well as directly related installation costs.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

Infrastructure Program applications must be submitted using the online submission form in InfoReady:
https://ndsu.infoready4.com/#freeformCompetitionDetail/1949452

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Submission Instructions:
- Use the link above to access the competition page.
- When you are ready to submit your application, use the "Apply" button on the competition page.
- When prompted to log in, choose the large blue "North Dakota State University Login" button.
- Log in using your Bison credentials.
- Complete the InfoReady form (questions include name and department for PI and up to four Co-PIs).
- Combine all proposal documents (listed below) into a single PDF file for upload into the online form.
- As part of the proposal routing process, you will be asked to provide the email address of your department chair or unit head. The proposal will be routed to that individual for approval of the proposed application, including the budget. An application without department chair/unit head approval will not be reviewed.
- Preview and submit.

Note: You may save your application in progress and return to it at a later time.

Format:
- 11-point font or larger
- 1/2" margins
- When complete, combine all proposal documents into a single PDF file for upload.

Component	Description	Page Limit
Team	Brief description of relevant experience and accomplishments for each faculty member on the team. If there are pre-existing collaborations between team members, note those as well.	1 Page
Project Description	• Describe the instrumentation/equipment to be acquired. • Describe how the proposed instrumentation/equipment will impact and enable specific research programs or economic development pursuits. • Indicate the physical location of the proposed instrumentation and describe how it will be managed with a plan for sustainability. • If there are additional potential users of the instrumentation beyond the core team, list their names and departments / organizations. • Describe how this instrument will enable hands-on learning experiences for students, particularly experiences that directly correlate to workforce needs. • Describe any external and/or private sector partnerships that will be part of this effort. Indicate how this instrumentation will develop connections or deepen existing relationships with industry partners.	3 pages
References Cited	As applicable.	N/A
Vendor Quote(s)	Include a copy of the vendor quote(s) for the proposed infrastructure.	N/A
Evidence of Collaboration	If the infrastructure will be located in a shared facility rather than your personal lab space, include evidence of collaboration with the manager of that facility.	N/A
External Funding	Summary of **relevant** external research support (past, current, and pending) for primary team members (PI and up to 4 co-PIs). For each project, include title, start/end dates, agency, amount, and brief description.	1 Page
Brief Budget and Justification	Maximum award amount is $50,000. There is no minimum. Funding will be for cost of the instrumentation / equipment and directly related installation costs only.	**Use required template**
Local Collaborations	A list of the name, department, and email address of any NDSU collaborators of any/all members of the team. This list will be used in the review process to avoid conflicts of interest.	N/A

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REVIEW PROCESS & CRITERIA

Review Process:

RCA will coordinate review of proposals.

Review Criteria:

- Preference will be given to:
    - infrastructure proposals that develop connections or deepen existing relationships with industry partners.
    - proposals that provide hands-on learning experiences that directly correlate to workforce needs.
    - proposals that impact multiple departments / colleges at NDSU and/or will be placed in a shared use facility.
- Alignment of proposed work with the funding mechanism (EDRF program), including impact to research or economic development activities at NDSU / in North Dakota.
- Strength of team to carry out the proposed activities.
- Adequacy of plan to acquire/develop and manage new infrastructure.
- Appropriateness of budget.
- Proposal clarity.

QUESTIONS

Contact ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu with questions.