Date: February 18, 2016
From: Neil Sharkey, Vice President for Research
To: URC Members for Distribution
Subject: NIH Major Instrumentation Solicitations: $50K - $2M Equipment Grants

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently released two solicitations for the Shared Instrumentation Grant (SIG) program encouraging grant applications for the purchase or upgrade of a single item of expensive, specialized, commercially available instruments or integrated systems. The full solicitations can be accessed at the links provided at the end of this memo. The following is summary of key eligibility requirements of these solicitations:

- Proposal Due Date: **May 16, 2016** (both solicitations)***
- The separate solicitations cover two award ranges $50,000 - $600,000 or $600,000 - $2,000,000.
- The Major User group must include 3 investigators who have NIH research grants
- NIH-funded users must together require at least 75 % of the Accessible User Time (AUT)
- Users with active research awards from other federal sources (e.g., NSF, DoE, DoD), private foundations or academic institutions may constitute up to 25% of the AUT
- Types of instruments supported include, but are not limited to: X-ray diffraction systems, nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) and mass spectrometers, DNA and protein sequencers, biosensors, electron and confocal microscopes, cell-sorters, and biomedical imagers.
- No cost share is required
- There is no limit on the number of applications from a single institution.

***Individuals and teams interested in submitting applications should start immediately to request vendors to run test samples so that applications can have convincing proof the requested equipment will be truly enabling. Vendor quotes will also be needed as part of the application.

Interested potential applicants may contact Lorraine Mulfinger, Interim Assistant Vice President for Research and SIRO Director, at 814-865-7787 or lxm14@psu.edu to discuss these solicitations, request writing templates, or ask for help in identifying additional NIH-funded faculty who might be willing to support an application for a specific piece of equipment. Teams wishing to request SIRO support for the actual preparation and submission of an application should first seek out their college research dean or institute director for concurrence, then contact SIRO Program Manager Justin Whitmer at jaw978@psu.edu to make a formal request for SIRO support. The SIRO office is willing to provide comprehensive submission support and Red Team review for applications responsive to these two solicitations.

**SOLICITATION LINKS**


For the purchase or upgrade of a single item of expensive, specialized, commercially available instruments or integrated systems that cost at least $600,000. The maximum award is $2,000,000.


For the purchase or upgrade of a single item of expensive, specialized, commercially available instruments or integrated systems that cost at least $50,000. The maximum award is $600,000.