

CEPS Engineering Initiative Request for Proposals:

Interdisciplinary-Collaborative Seed Grants for AY 2023-2024

1. Summary and Funding Areas

The College of Engineering and Physical Sciences (CEPS) Dean's Office seeks proposals for Seed Grants of up to \$25,000 from interdisciplinary teams of faculty in the College. The purpose of the funding is to facilitate the development of new research areas to become suitable for external funding. The College has set aside \$150,000 total for this round of seed grants and has the goal that additional funding will be available for this purpose annually going forward.

2. Timeline

<u>RFP Issued:</u>	March 10, 2023
<u>Proposals Due:</u>	April 21, 2023
<u>Decisions:</u>	June 1, 2023
<u>Funding Start Date:</u>	July 1, 2023
<u>Funding End Date:</u>	June 1, 2024 (all awarded funds must be encumbered)
<u>Interim Report Due:</u>	June 30, 2024
<u>Final Report Due:</u>	By June 30, 2025

3. Requirements:

- (a) Because the funding source is the Tier 1 Engineering Initiative, at least one member of the proposal team *must* be from one of the five Engineering departments (CAECM, CBE, EECS, EPE and ME).
- (b) At least one co-PI is required from outside the PI's department. Co-PIs may be from any of the College's departments.
- (c) A two-page proposal (12-point font, single-spaced, not including the budget) that provides:
 - (i) The project title
 - (ii) The name of the proposal team leader and names of all other members of the proposal team with their departments/units clearly identified.
 - (iii) The total amount requested (\$): One inclusive number. Provide the budget details in a later section.
 - (iv) A description of the research problem to pursue and proposed long-term benefits.
 - (v) The short-term objectives to be achieved during the time frame of the proposal and a work plan to accomplish those objectives.
 - (vi) A list of potential future partners, if any.
 - (vii) A list of funding sources and programs that would fund the proposed research in the future.
- (d) A one-page budget description and justification (in addition to the two-page proposal). This amount must include fringe on salaries as well as shipping and other associated costs. There are no indirect costs.
- (e) The complete proposal (in a single PDF file) must be received in the CEPS Dean's Office (bagley@uwyo.edu and jmoede@uwyo.edu) by 4:30 pm Friday April 21, 2023.

4. Deliverables

- (a) The key deliverable from this funding is a proposal that has been *developed and submitted* to an external funding agency.
- (b) An interim report is due June 30, 2024. This report should describe the activities conducted and work completed during the funding period (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024) as well as the remaining plans to complete the required proposal in the subsequent year.
- (c) The final report will be a copy of the proposal that has been submitted to the external funding agency. The final report is due no later than June 30, 2025.
- (d) PIs who do not achieve these deliverables by June 30, 2025 will be *ineligible for any* future Tier 1 Engineering Initiative funding opportunities as either a PI or Co-PI *until* they achieve the deliverables of this project.

5. Other Information

- (a) Proposals of any size up to \$25,000 will be considered.
- (b) While a minimum of two investigators across two departments is required, research teams may contain more than two investigators and additional investigators from within one department as long as the minimum is met.
- (c) Additional team members from outside the College are allowable but will not receive funding.
- (d) The budget may include summer salary for all PIs and co-PIs in the College, travel expenses, graduate student support, post-doc support, contract grant writers, and other appropriate expenditures.
- (e) The review criteria are:
 - (i) How well the proposal demonstrates the link between the research problem and the targeted funding source(s) and program(s) (30 pts). In other words, does the proposal demonstrate high promise for attracting external funding?
 - (ii) How well the proposal demonstrates the participation of the proposal team members (25 pts). For example, will the proposed work primarily support just the PI or will the entire multidisciplinary team be impactfully involved?
 - (iii) How well the work plan demonstrates a high probability of delivering a proposal to an external funding source or program (25 pts).
 - (iv) How well the planned expenditures link to the work plan and achievement of the objectives (20 pts). For example, while summer salaries are allowed, how are those expenditures balanced against other needs, such as collecting preliminary data?
- (f) A review committee led by Associate Deans Bagley and Dale will be formed from faculty within the College who are neither PIs nor Co-PIs on submitted proposals. This committee will review all the proposals and provide a rank-ordered list of the proposals for funding to the Dean for his decision.
- (g) Please contact David Bagley (bagley@uwyo.edu) if you have any questions about this funding opportunity.