

Guidance for Partnering with Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs)

FFRDCs are not eligible for an award under this opportunity, but they may be proposed as a team member subject to the following guidelines:

1. **Authorization for non-DOE/NNSA FFRDCs:** The Federal agency sponsoring the FFRDC must authorize in writing the use of the FFRDC on the proposed project a. The use of an FFRDC must be consistent with the FFRDC contract and must not place the FFRDC in direct competition with the private sector.
2. **Authorization for DOE/NNSA FFRDCs:** The cognizant DOE Contracting Officer must authorize in writing the use of a DOE/NNSA FFRDC on the proposed project. The following wording is acceptable for this authorization.

“Authorization is granted for the (insert name) National Laboratory and its Contractor to participate in the proposed project entitled _____. The work proposed for the National Laboratory Contractor is consistent with or complementary to the missions of the Laboratory, will not adversely impact execution of the DOE/NNSA assigned programs at the Laboratory, and will not place the Laboratory in direct competition with the domestic private sector.”

Failure to obtain such approval in a timely manner may delay the project if a grant is awarded, as work may not be performed by the FFRDC until DOE Contracting Officer approval is provided. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that this authorization requested as soon as possible, and, if available, submitted alongside this application.