Internal Selection Procedures

for

Partnership for International Research and Education (PIRE)


Summary: Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE) is an NSF-wide program that supports international activities across all NSF supported disciplines. The primary goal of PIRE is to support high quality projects in which advances in research and education could not occur without international collaboration. PIRE seeks to catalyze a higher level of international engagement in the U.S. science and engineering community.

International partnerships are essential to addressing critical science and engineering problems. In the global context, U.S. researchers and educators must be able to operate effectively in teams with partners from different nations and cultural backgrounds. PIRE promotes excellence in science and engineering through international collaboration and facilitates development of a diverse, globally-engaged, U.S. science and engineering workforce.

This PIRE competition will be open to all areas of science and engineering research which are supported by the NSF.

Proposal Limitations: A single organization may submit one preliminary proposal as the lead institution. Full proposals will be accepted by invitation only. There is no limit on the number of proposals on which an institution can participate as a partner. There is no limit or restriction on the number of proposals per PI/Co-PI.

Selection Process: We will utilize the following procedures for an internal Notice of Intent (NOI) process to select the project that will be submitted on behalf of the University. Should more than one NOI be received from across the University, they will be reviewed by a process established by the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) in consultation with the Provost. The OVPR will notify each applicant whether or not their proposal has been selected to move forward and represent the University.

Proposal Schedule:

Internal NOI due to OSP on 2 September 2014, by 5:00 p.m. CDT
OVPR Notification of NOI selected to move forward by 10 September
Preliminary Proposal due to OSP on 15 October 2014, 8:00 a.m. CDT
Preliminary Proposal due to NSF on 21 October 2014, by 5:00 p.m. CDT

Direct any questions about the internal NOI preparation or process to your OSP Contract Administrator.

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NOI Format and Content:

Proposal pages should have at least 1” margins all around, and use no smaller than an 11-point font for the text. Tables and figures are exempt from the 11-point font requirement, but must be clearly legible.

Notice of Intent should be submitted as a PDF file to your OSP Contract Administrator.

NOI Contents:

1. Cover Page:
   a. Include “NSF 14-587 PIRE”
   b. Project title begins with PIRE and should convey the primary purpose of the proposal.
   c. Names, departments/centers, campus address and email address for each PI, Co-I, and key personnel proposed.
   d. List of other partnering institutions and entities.

2. Project Summary: (Limit: 2 pages double-spaced) Describe the concept of the proposed PIRE project, including why the international partnership is critical to the project success. Separately address the intellectual merits and broader impacts of the project. The summary should be informative to those working in the same or related field(s), and understandable to a scientifically or technically literate reader.

3. Project Description1: (Limit: 6 pages, double-spaced) Please include in this section the following information, each in its own subsection with the following headings:
   a. Administrative Summary
      a. Indicate length of study (maximum 5 years)
      b. Estimated total budget (does not need to be itemized)
      c. If the proposal is to be considered for an Additional Funding Opportunity as described in Section II.D., explicitly name the funding partner agency.
   b. Research Summary: Summarize the main ideas and essence of the proposed research. Describe issue/topic the proposed research is trying to address, the overall goal, approaches, expected outcomes, and the synergy that each participant brings to the project.
   c. Education Summary: Describe the goals of the proposed education activities, and how the integration of research and education will advance the proposed PIRE project in a way that other funding mechanisms cannot.

   The Project Description should be written such that it addresses the Additional Review Criteria given in Section VI.A of the solicitation (NSF 14-587).

4. One to two-page bio for each PI, Co-I and key personnel proposed.

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1 Based on NSF 14-587, Section V.4  Project Description (for Preliminary Proposal)
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