

IRP Q&A

Q: Are there any limits on the number of full proposals someone can submit as a co-PI (not lead)? I would like to participate in 4 proposals in response to the NEUP topics and 3 proposals in response to the IRP topics. I found a limitation on the number of preapplications, but no limitation on full applications for co-PIs considering the IRP topics.

A: The restriction for full apps is the same as pre apps (up to 3 as lead, up to 6 total). Acting as a collaborator on any number of IRP proposals does not affect this total. There would be limits if you were submitting an IRP as a lead PI. Please let me know if I can help with anything else.

Q: Would a technoeconomic assessment of an integrated energy system be within the scope of the IRP-3 topic area?

A: Techno-economic assessments of integrated energy systems are considered part of the Integrated Energy System scope. An application for an IES TEA should demonstrate that the proposed integrated energy systems have practical potential on a large enough scale to have impact on the energy system at a national level. A full TEA is not warranted without defending initial rough cost projections and calculations to determine whether the proposed IES is within the realm of economic viability.

Q: Can international partners participate?

A: Yes, international collaborations are permitted and encouraged. No international collaborator can be funded with IRP funds.

Q: Is the focus on U.S. workforce?

A: Yes, the focus should be on U.S. workforce.

Q: Can international students at the team universities be funded?

A: Yes, team participants must be students at a participating U.S. institution or employed at a participating U.S. institution to receive funds as part of any NEUP project.

Q: Can IRPs extend beyond 3-years? Can I propose a 5-year project?

A: IRP project durations are dependent on the specific work scope. With approval, projects can only extend for one 12-month no cost time extension.

Q: Is there a limit to the number of applications I can submit under an IRP?

A: Yes, applicants can only lead one IRP project. Individuals can collaborate as a Co-PI or collaborator on multiple IRP projects.

Q: I have not submitted my final report for an R&D project that was due December 31, 2022. I've talked to my DOE counterpart, and he understands the delay. Can I still submit an IRP proposal? If not, is there a way to obtain a waiver or special circumstances approval?

A: Yes, you can submit an IRP application, but potential awards could be impacted for individuals or institutions who have delinquent reporting, including final reports.

Q: I currently have two R&D projects and a third one I inherited due to the original PI leaving the University. Would this automatically bar me from applying for an IRP?

A: Yes, IRP applicants can only have one active CINR R&D project when they apply for an IRP.

Q: During the pre-proposal stage. Can you submit both a research proposal and an IRP proposal, for which you are the lead PI on for both?

A: You may choose to submit a pre-application and then not submit a full application. You may not be awarded a full application and an IRP application at the same time, but you could have a pre-application you submit along with an IRP application then you could make a decision on whether to submit the full application or not.

Q: If I submit an IRP application as a lead PI, can I be a Co-PI for an R&D proposal? And, if yes, what is the maximum number of R&D proposals where I can serve as a Co-PI?

A: Yes, if you submit an IRP proposal, you may be a Co-PI for an R&D proposal. The maximum number of R&D proposals you may serve as a Co-PI is six (6).