

University Reactor Sharing and Outreach Q&A

Q: Would the Transparency of Foreign Connections be required from unfunded collaborators?

A: The FOA states proposed “recipient and subrecipients.” Transparency of Foreign Connections would not be required for unfunded collaborators.

Q: Is Current and Pending Support required for FFRDC participants?

A: Current and Pending Support is not required for FFRDC participants. DOE FFRDCs¹, Non-DOE FFRDCs, and Federal agencies and instrumentalities (other than DOE) are eligible to participate as a subcontractor but are not eligible to apply as a recipient.

Q: This reactor sharing program appears to have a larger expected award size and fewer awards than the program that existed in the earlier 2000s. Is this based on an intentional aim?

A: We are limited based on how much we are appropriated for these types of funding opportunities. The larger amount of funds was intentional. We took feedback from the previous program so something more impactful can be done. Now, it's not just to support public visits, or offset some of those costs. It's about how do you develop the reactor outreach? DOE is always interested in feedback on how these programs are going and about making adjustments.

Q: Our university is planning to submit a Reactor Sharing proposal. We plan to involve 3-4 other universities as part of our proposal, where representatives from each of those entities would travel to our university. Should our request for travel funds be directed to applicant University and then disseminated to each university as a subcontractor, or should each university receive funds directly from DOE-NE?

A: Lead universities will receive funding through DOE, and depending on the activity, the university will distribute funds to partners as participant supports costs as defined by 2 CFR 200 or, in some cases, through subaward/subcontract arrangements. DOE will only provide funds to the lead university.

¹ FFRDCs are public-private partnerships that conduct research for the U.S. government. A listing of FFRDCs can be found at <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/ffrdclist/>.