

Funding Opportunities May 23, 2022

Department of Energy Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Regional Direct Air Capture (DAC) Hubs Deadline: May 31, 2023

Summary: The Department of Energy (DOE) National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) intends to issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) on behalf of the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM). DE-FOA-0002735 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Regional Direct Air Capture (DAC) Hubs (Section 40308) is anticipated to be issued in the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2022.

Additional Information: DE-FOA-0002735

National Science Foundation Centers for Chemical Innovation Deadlines: August 10, 2022 (Preliminary) | October 18, 2022 (Phase II) | August 10, 2022 (Phase I)

Summary: The CCI Program is a two-phase program. Both phases are described in this solicitation. Phase I CCIs receive significant resources to develop the science, management and broader impacts of a major research center before requesting Phase II funding. Satisfactory progress in Phase I is required for Phase II applications; Phase I proposals funded in FY 2023 will seek Phase II funding in FY 2026

The FY 2023 Phase I CCI competition is open to projects in all fields supported by the Division of Chemistry, and must have scientific focus and the potential for transformative impact in chemistry. The NSF Division of Chemistry particularly encourages fundamental chemistry projects aligned with articulated budget priorities, including Advanced Manufacturing, Artificial Intelligence, Biotechnology, Climate Research and Sustainability, Clean Energy and Quantum Information Science.

Program Description: CCI awards support the formation and development (Phase I) or sustained funding (Phase II) of research centers that can address major research challenges in fundamental chemistry. Successful centers will tackle challenges of large scope and impact, producing transformative research leading to innovation and enhanced economic competitiveness. CCI awards will bring researchers with shared and complementary interests into productive contact to foster synergy, potentially transformative research, and innovation.

CCIs are expected to integrate their research with activities that broaden the impact of their research. A Phase I team will pilot activities in these areas. A Phase II CCI is expected to implement broad, strategic, center-scale activities in each of the areas below:

- Innovation A center-wide plan for innovation will demonstrate strategies and capabilities for translating their research to key non-academic stakeholders via intellectual property protection, licensing, entrepreneurship, partnerships, development and distribution of open source tools, or other knowledge transfer paths.
- Higher Education and Professional Development center-wide plan for the education and professional development of undergraduate and graduate students supported by the CCI, including co-mentorship or other collaborative education and continued professional development and mentoring for postdoctoral research associates. This may also include education in various aspects of innovation (intellectual property, entrepreneurship, etc.) and other higher education activities (i.e., new undergraduateor graduate-level course materials or curricula).
- Broadening participation center-wide plans for increasing engagement by underrepresented groups.
- Informal science communication center-wide plans for communicating the CCI research to public audiences (outside the K-12 classroom).

Estimated Number of Awards: 4

Estimated Funding Amount: \$9,400,000

In FY 2023, NSF anticipates making up to three new Phase I awards (each up to \$1,800,000 for 3 years) as standard or continuing grants. NSF also anticipates up to one new Phase II award (up to \$4,000,000 per year for 5 years) as a cooperative agreement. Both of these plans are pending availability of funds and submission of sufficient quality proposals.

Additional Information: NSF 22-596

Department of Energy

Foundational Agrivoltaic Research for Megawatt Scale (FARMS) Deadlines: June 1, 2022 (LOI) | August 30, 2022 (Full Proposal)

Summary: The Foundational Agrivoltaic Research for Megawatt Scale (FARMS) funding opportunity will award \$8 million in funding for projects that examine how agrivoltaics can scale up to provide new economic opportunities to farmers, rural communities, and the solar industry. Agrivoltaics is defined as agricultural production, such as crop production, livestock grazing, and pollinator habitat, that exist underneath solar panels and/or in between rows of solar panels

Program Description: SETO is interested in projects that partner with farmers who are pursuing climate-smart and sustainable agriculture and are considering agrivoltaics to enhance the economic efficiency and sustainability of these farms. Additionally, SETO is interested in projects that offer economic benefits to underserved communities in these farming areas. This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) has three areas of interest:

- Integrated agriculture-energy impact studies that investigate how agrivoltaic designs impact both agriculture production and energy production;
- Socioeconomics of agrivoltaics research that studies how agrivoltaics can fit into existing agricultural communities and economies or enable new ones; and
- Resources for replicable and scalable agrivoltaics that lower the barrier of entry to agrivoltaics, making it easier for interested agricultural producers and solar developers to benefit from the opportunities that agrivoltaics provides.

Estimated Number of Awards/Funding Amount: DOE expects to make between 4 and 6 awards under FARMS, each ranging from \$1-2 million.

Additional Information: DE-FOA-0002697