

**Frequently Asked Questions**  
**EXPRESS: 2023 Exploratory Research for Extreme-Scale Science**  
**DE-FOA-0002950**  
**Version 2: February 15, 2023**

**Q1:** Is there a limit to the total budget that a multi-institutional team may request?

**A1:** The FOA does not expressly provide a limit to the size of multi-institutional teams, though different types of institutions have unique budget caps. However, a prudent applicant would note:

1. A total of \$10 million is available to support awards under this FOA. If a team of 20 institutions, each allowed a \$500,000 budget, were to apply, that would exhaust all available funds.
2. This FOA seeks applications in support of *exploratory* research for a two-year period. This implies that teams should be small, nimble, and modestly-resourced.
3. You may use the public award search at <https://pamspublic.science.energy.gov/WebPAMSEExternal/interface/awards/AwardSearchExternal.aspx> to see examples of past EXPRESS awards by expanding the “Advanced Search Parameters” and entering “EXPRESS” in the “Solicitation Name like” field.

**Q2:** For a proposed project involving a multi-institutional team, are there other important points to keep in mind in terms of requested funding.

**A2:** The FOA itself provides the complete set of details. For a multi-institutional team project, it is worth noting that:

1. Applications for multi-institutional teams must ensure that the lead institution requests more funding than any other institution on the team. This implies, combined with the ceiling and floor restrictions on support requested by each application, that collaborative applications are permitted where:
  - \* A DOE National Laboratory applies as the lead with one or more non-Laboratory team members applying collaboratively.
  - \* A Non-R1/EPSCoR-academic institution applies as the lead with one or more other institutions, which are not DOE National Laboratories or Non-R1/EPSCoR-academic institutions, applying collaboratively.
2. For applications proposing one or more DOE National Laboratories as subawards, the DOE National Laboratory effort, in aggregate, shall not exceed 60% percent of the total estimated cost of the project, including the applicant’s and the DOE National Laboratories’ portions of the effort. Note that this does not apply to applications led by DOE National Laboratories.