

Frequently Asked Questions  
FY 2023 DOE Office of Science Fusion Energy Sciences  
General Plasma Science Program FOA  
Research in Basic Plasma Science and Engineering  
DE-FOA-0002889  
Version 2.0, January 5, 2023

**Q: Where is the thrust - on Experiment or Theory?**

A: Proposed work may include experiment or theory. However, integrated research projects, involving detailed experiments, observation data, theory, modeling, and/or validation, etc. are encouraged.

**Q: Are Nanoscale Science Research Centers (NSRCs) of DOE Office of Science eligible?**

A: No.

**Q: Are small businesses eligible to submit?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Does this call cover "thermal plasma" besides "cold plasma"?**

A: Yes.

**Q: What are the statistics of winning proposals according to topics, and experiment, modeling, or integrated?**

A: Currently, detailed statistics are not available. However, overall success rate for a comparable program was approximately 20%.

**Q: While a federal agency cannot be the lead, can federal labs be subrecipients on a proposal?**

A: No.

**Q: Is Tungsten dust influx across the separatrix responsive?**

A: It is difficult to provide an answer without more details. However, proposed work on dusty plasma properties or phenomena based on inductive reasoning or a hypothesis should be responsive.

**Q: For the low temperature plasma topic, are proposals in plasma catalysis relevant to this call?**

A: Yes. However, proposed work should involve sufficient basic plasma science and engineering based on inductive reasoning or a hypothesis.

**Q: Do you have a similar topic call for national labs?**

A: Not at this time. It has been issued every 3-4 years. The last time it was issued in 2021.

**Q: Along, the same lines, does plasma-liquid interactions fall within the broad area of low-temperature plasmas?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Would novel diagnostic of plasma be of interest?**

A: Yes, specifically to fill a current gap.

**Q: Does this funding opportunity support Early Career Investigators?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Can an international institute be partnered with?**

A: Due to funding limitations, only domestic applicants are eligible. However, unfunded international collaborations are ok.

**Q: Will preference be given to senior PIs over early career PI's (if the merits of the application are equal)?**

A: No. All applications are subject to merit review. The selection official will take into consideration the results of the merit review and the program policy factors described in Section V of the FOA.

**Q: Would a topic of decarbonization be within the interest?**

A: Yes, if the proposed work involves sufficient science and engineering in LTP based on inductive reasoning or a hypothesis.

**Q: Is each institute only allowed two preapplications or two proposals?**

A: An applicant institution is limited to two preapplications or two lead applications.

**Q: Can the same PI submit 2 proposals?**

A: No. A PI is limited to one preapplication or one lead application. However, a PI may be listed as a senior or key personnel on separate submissions by other lead PIs without limitations.

**Q: Is an informal white paper to the program director encouraged before the preapplication submission?**

A: No. PIs should follow the guidance provided on the FOA for all requirements and submission process for preapplication, application, etc.

**Q: Does the limit of two preapplications only apply to the lead institution, or is the preapplication limit on all participating institutions?**

A: Only a lead institution is required to submit a preapplication, and the limit of two preapplications applies to the lead institution.

**Q: For the preapplication and application, which submission methods are acceptable, PAMS or Grants.gov?**

A: Preapplications and applications should be submitted according to the guidance provided in Section IV of the FOA. Preapplications must be submitted through PAMS and applications must be submitted through Grants.gov.