

# Informational Webinar:

## ⦿ The Genesis Mission: Transforming Science and Energy with AI Request for Applications (RFA) – Updates Since Release

DE-FOA-0003612

Genesis Mission RFA Team | April 21, 2026

RFA Issue Date	March 17, 2026
Amendment 000001	April 10, 2026
Amendment 000002	April 17, 2026
Amendment 000003	April 20, 2026
Submission Deadline for FY 2026 Phase I Applications	<b>May 1, 2026</b> , at 11:59 PM Eastern Time   A Pre-Application is not required
Submission Application for FY 2026 Phase II Letter of Intent	<b>May 1, 2026</b> , at 5:00 PM Eastern Time   A Letter of Intent is strongly encouraged
Submission Deadline for FY 2026 Phase II Applications	May 19, 2026, at 11:59PM Eastern Time
Submission Deadline for Phase II Applications Resulting from FY 2026 Phase I Awards	December 17, 2026, at 11:59 PM Eastern Time



**U.S. DEPARTMENT**  
*of* **ENERGY**

**Disclaimer:** This presentation summarizes the contents of the RFA. Nothing in this webinar is intended to add to, take away from, or contradict any of the requirements of the RFA. If there are any inconsistencies between the RFA and this presentation or statements from DOE personnel, the RFA is the controlling document.

# Questions & Answers

- Please submit questions using the Zoom Q&A window, which is accessible at the bottom of your Zoom window
- If your question is not answered today, or you have additional questions, please submit via [GenesisMissionNOFO@science.doe.gov](mailto:GenesisMissionNOFO@science.doe.gov). Please note that email volume is currently extremely high and not all questions may receive a response.
- A Frequently Asked Questions is available on the Funding Opportunities website. It will be updated periodically.
- Video and slides will be available on the [Funding Opportunities website \(https://science.osti.gov/grants/FOAs/Open\)](https://science.osti.gov/grants/FOAs/Open)

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# RFA Amendments

The Request for Applications (RFA) “The Genesis Mission: Transforming Science and Energy with AI” was released on March 17, 2026.

Since its release, DOE has amended the RFA three times:

- Amendment 000001 - Released April 10, 2026
- Amendment 000002 - Released April 17, 2026
- Amendment 000003 - Released April 20, 2026

Today’s webinar provides an overview of the most substantive changes made to the RFA with the three amendments.

**Please review the updated RFA carefully for a complete list of all changes made through the three amendments.**

# Summary of Changes – Amendment 000001

Amendment 000001 was issued on April 10, 2026, with the following changes:

- **Added instructions for Phase II LOIs.**
- Changed LOI responses from “not provided” to “at the discretion of DOE”.
- **Added instructions for Phase II applications.**
- Added a small number of questions for merit reviewers to consider for Phase II applied technology applications.
- Added “per year” to “Envisioned as 3 to 5 times the Phase I award per year” in all cases where it is listed. Previously, it was listed in only one location.
- Added language that clarified that Phase II budgets both above and below the 3 to 5 times the Phase I award are allowed when appropriate.
- Added the possibility of a Phase II midterm review.
- Set a Phase II award start date that applicants can use when preparing budgets.
- Added program policy factor, “Availability of computational resources”
- **Removed Legacy Management and Isotope R&D and Production as participating offices from the following topic areas (no associated funding in this solicitation): 6-A, 12-E, 13-A. This resulted in focus area 12-E being removed.**
- **Added the statement: “Phase II applications will not be accepted in this focus area.” to the following focus areas: 1-D, 1-E, 1-F, 2-E, 3-B, 3-C, 9-A, 10-A, 10-B, 12-F, 12-G, and 21-C.**



# Phase II Letters of Intent

## Section IV. Application Contents and Format

- A Letter of Intent (LOI) is strongly encouraged for planned FY 2026 Phase II applications and should be submitted by the deadline on the cover of the RFA.
  - A template is provided on the RFA website  
<https://science.osti.gov/-/media/grants/excel/2026/Genesis-Mission-Phase-II-LOI-Template-v2.xlsx>
  - LOIs should be submitted in PAMS, **not** Grants.gov
  - DOE may hold a Phase II application until FY 2027 if the LOI is not submitted by the deadline.
  - Only the lead institution of the multi-institution team should submit the LOI
  - Responses will be provided at the discretion of DOE
  - Only the primary focus area identified in the LOI will be used to determine if an institution has submitted too many applications



# Phase II Letters of Intent

## Section IV. Application Contents and Format

- The format for the LOI and the required content is provided on p. 63-65, which includes:
  - A title page (not included in page limit), including:
    - Primary and optional secondary challenge and focus areas
    - Anticipated budget
    - List of all senior/key personal at each participating institution (including institutions where DOE funds are not proposed to be received)
  - A description of the objectives and technical approach of the proposed research, **not to exceed three pages**, including:
    - Project goal
    - Alignment with focus areas
    - How the project will lead to AI advantage
    - Research methods and approaches
    - How the project is distinct from ongoing efforts
    - Potential impact and the need for an integrated multi-disciplinary team
  - A list of individuals who should **not** serve as reviewers for the Phase II application and an optional list of suggested reviewers (not included in page limit). See Sec. IX of this RFA for instructions; a Collaborator Template is available ([https://science.osti.gov/-/media/grants/excel/Collaborator\\_Template.xlsx](https://science.osti.gov/-/media/grants/excel/Collaborator_Template.xlsx))



# Phase II Applications

## Section IV. Application Contents and Format

- Detailed requirements for FY 2026 Phase II applications have been provided in the amended RFA (see pp. 77-90). **Please review this information carefully.**
- Noteworthy expectations include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - A Project Narrative that clearly articulates a vision for the science and/or applied energy initiative that will be pursued and a description of how and why AI will enhance the scientific and technical workflows
    - For all phase II applications, the RFA provides the expectations for describing workflows, required preliminary results demonstrating AI acceleration/improvement, pipelines for data generation through model training and integration, and protection of sensitive data
    - **For applied technology applications**, the narrative should describe the transition from proof-of-concept demonstration to applied energy-relevant deployment environments, and, where applicable, describe how data can be reused across multiple DOE applied energy offices
  - Applicants are encouraged to build upon general-purpose capabilities, especially those produced by the Genesis Mission teams, building domain-specific capabilities deployable in a plug-and-play fashion



# Phase II Applications

## Section IV. Application Contents and Format

- Appendixes (see RFA for page limitations):
  - Bibliography and References Cited
  - Facilities and Other Resources
    - Computing, networking, and data resources to conduct the work should be provided. DOE does not guarantee computing allocations necessary to complete the work but anticipates resources will be available through DOE/NNSA labs and/or private-sector Genesis Mission partners
    - Investigations requiring access to experimental user facilities should provide documentation from the facility manager that access will be provided
  - Equipment
  - Data Management and Sharing Plan (see Sec. IX of the RFA for requirements)
  - Synergistic Activities (Optional)
  - Transparency and Foreign Connections
  - Other Attachment, including letters of commitment and optional letters of collaboration or access

# Changes in Focus Areas

- Amendment 000001 has made the following changes to the focus areas supported under the RFA.
  - The Office of Legacy Management and the Isotope R&D and Production do not have funding associated with this solicitation. As such, the following focus areas have been updated and/or removed:
    - (Updated) 6-A: Environmental Management AI R&D Roadmap Implementation
    - (Removed) 12-E: Targetry by Design
    - (Updated) 13-A: AI-driven Accelerator Facilities

# Changes in Focus Areas

- Amendment 000001 has made the following changes to the focus areas supported under the RFA.
  - Multiple focus areas have been updated to indicate that they will not be accepting Phase II applications for FY 2026:
    - 1-D: Digitalization of Industrial Processes
    - 1-E: AI-Enabled Smart Manufacturing
    - 1-F: Energy Material Manufacturing
    - 2-E: AI-Enabled Biological Reaction Engineering, Bioreactor Design, Process Scale-up and Integration
    - 3-B: AI-Enabled Materials Discovery and Engineering
    - 3-C: Economic Modeling and Market Analysis
    - 9-A: Angstrom (sub-1-nm) Scale Microelectronics Manufacturing
    - 10-A: Data Center Load Flexibility
    - 10-B: Data Center Thermal Management
    - 12-F: AI-Enabled Materials Discovery, Development, and Qualification
    - 12-G: Electrochemical Energy Conversion Catalyst Discovery and Scale up
    - 21-C: Data-Driven Operational Intelligence and System Resilience

# Changes in Focus Areas

- The Phase II application restrictions for selected focus areas apply only to FY 2026. No decision has been made on focus areas to be included in a planned FY 2027 solicitation.
- All Phase I awards made in FY 2026 will undergo a go/no-go review for Phase II application eligibility, including those in the updated focus areas.
- Eligibility to submit a Phase II application does not guarantee the availability of funding for those focus areas in FY 2027, which is contingent on Congressional appropriations

# Summary of Changes – Amendment 000002

- Amendment 000002 was issued on April 10, 2026, with the following changes:
  - Changed the type of application from strongly encourage collaborative application to very strongly encourage a single application from a lead institution with proposed subawardee(s)



# Type of Award Instrument

## Section II. Eligibility

- DOE has updated the RFA to reflect its intention to **very strongly encourage** that applicants utilize a **prime and sub model** for all applications, rather than a collaborative model
- Federally affiliated entities must adhere to the following standards:
  - DOE/NNSA National Laboratories:
    - If recommended for funding as a prime, subrecipient, or a team member, funding will be provided through the DOE Field-Work Proposal System
    - If recommended as a sub-recipient, the value of the proposed subaward will be removed from the prime applicant's award and provided to the lab through the FWP system.
    - Lab-led project team members may receive funds preferably through an other transaction agreement (OTA) or through a lab subcontract.
      - DOE may ask one subawardee to submit their own application if IP provisions and data sharing cannot be adequately ensured by standard M&O subcontracts. The lab would remain the lead organization in this situation.
  - Non-DOE/NNSA FFRDCs and other Federal Agencies
    - Eligible to submit collaborative applications as a team member and may be proposed as subrecipients. Remain ineligible to lead a team in either a collaborative application or as a prime recipient.
    - Value of proposed subaward may be removed from prime applicant's award and provided through an interagency agreement to the FFRDC's sponsoring agency or the agency partner.



# Transitioning from Collaborative to Prime/Sub Proposals

- Transitioning from a collaborative application to a prime/sub application has specific requirements for the lead and partner institutions
- For institutions that were planning a **lead collaborative application**, the following information should be submitted by the lead:
  - (Unchanged) Project narratives and your institutional budget; current and pending support and biosketches for all senior/key personnel in the team
  - (New) Subaward budgets and justifications; Transparency of Foreign Connections disclosures for all participating institutions; and Identification of Individuals Who should not Serve as Merit Reviewers for all participants ([Collaborator Template](#))
- For institutions that were planning a **non-lead collaborative application**, the following information should be shared with the lead:
  - (Unchanged) Current and pending support and biosketches
  - (New) Detailed budgets and justifications (not required for unfunded partners); Transparency of Foreign Connections disclosure; and Identification of Individuals Who should not Serve as Merit Reviewers ([Collaborator Template](#))

# Summary of Changes – Amendment 000003

- Amendment 000003 was issued on April 20, 2026, with the following changes:
  - The due date for Phase I applications was changed from April 28, 2026, at 11:59 PM to May 1, 2026, at 11:59 PM.



# Cost Share

- Cost share is **not required** for basic and applied R&D under this RFA except for-profit entities. For-profit entities, whether prime- or sub-recipients, are required to provide not less than:
  - 20% cost share for basic and applied R&D
- All entity types are required to provide 50% cost share for demonstration and commercial application tasks based on total project costs. The project team may determine amongst the team members how to satisfy this cost share requirement.
- A description of the process by which cost share should be calculated is provided in the [FAQ](#). Please review this carefully. In brief:
  - For R&D projects, cost share is based on the total cost (final negotiated budget) of the project **for the for-profit entity's portion of the project**
    - An unfunded entity in a team should not be required to meet the cost share requirement
  - For demonstration and commercial application, cost share is required for all entities and is therefore determined based on the **total project cost** per the final negotiated budget
- Cost sharing funds must originate from non-federal sources and may include: cash; personnel costs; the value of a service, other resource, or third-party in-kind contribution; indirect costs or facilities and administrative costs; or any funds received under the power program of the TVA (excluding annual appropriations)



# Other Transaction (OT) Agreements

- DOE will use its “Other Transaction (OT)” authority for awards made under this RFA
- Funding to DOE/NNSA laboratories, whether as prime or sub recipients, will be made using the DOE Field Work Proposal (FWP) system
- Fast-track OT Agreements and Project Agreement samples have been provided on the [RFA website](#). The fast-track OT Agreements are intended to be non-negotiable for rapid award. Negotiating the OT Agreements is acceptable but will delay awarding.
- Prime applicants that are **not** DOE/NNSA laboratories should be prepared to work with DOE on behalf of the project team, with intellectual property terms worked out ahead of time (using [DOE examples](#) or your own)
- Prime applicants that are DOE/NNSA laboratories may be asked to identify a different partner entity to submit an application and enter into an OT agreement with DOE

# Checklist for avoiding common errors

(Not a comprehensive list of requirements. See Section IX. Other Information)

- **Cover Page and Public Abstract**
- **Project Narrative:** One PDF including all appendices (Data Management and Sharing Plan for Phase II applications only)
- **Budget and Budget Justification** (including cost share requirements)
- **Application Templates** (do not change format or convert to PDF):
  - Phase I Application: <https://science.osti.gov/-/media/grants/excel/2026/Genesis-Mission-Phase-I-Application-Template-v2.xlsx>
  - Phase II LOI: <https://science.osti.gov/-/media/grants/excel/2026/Genesis-Mission-Phase-II-LOI-Template-v2.xlsx>
  - Phase II Application: <https://science.osti.gov/-/media/grants/excel/2026/Genesis-Mission-Phase-II-Application-Template.xlsx>
- **List of Individuals who should not Serve as Merit Reviewers** ([Collaborator Template](#))
- **Letters of Commitment** (Appendix 7)
- **Biographical Sketch and list of Current/Pending support:**
  - Submission is required for all senior/key personnel. Follow the instructions in the RFA, including the use of [SciENCv \(Science Experts Network Curriculum\)](#); ensure complete list of activities regardless of source of funding.
- **Transparency of Foreign Connections:**
  - Submission is required for all team institutions (prime/lead applicant, proposed subawards, and collaborative applications). A [template](#) is provided but is not required for the submission.

# Questions & Answers

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