Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for the Quantum Information Science Enabled Discovery (QuantISED) for High Energy Physics FOA and LAB Solicitations (2019)

Please read the FOA and Lab Solicitation for the complete information and all guidelines.

These FAQ are only samples of possible questions and answers and are provided as additional clarification only. They do not replace or override any part of the solicitations.

1. What is the Office of High Energy Physics (HEP) Quantum Information Science (QIS) thrust? How does it relate to other QIS efforts within the DOE Office of Science (SC)?

HEP QIS activities are expected to advance scientific discovery within the HEP mission and to impact the P5 science drivers as well as contribute to QIS research and technology for public benefit. The HEP QIS thrust is aligned with a broader SC initiative in quantum information science and leverages the interdisciplinary nature of QIS. Partnerships or coordinated activities with researchers funded from other non-HEP sources, including other SC programs or other Federal agencies, are encouraged. The scope of the proposed HEP work must be clarified for such coordination or partnership.

2. What is the difference between a pioneering pilot and a quantum exemplar?

All applicants that meet the criteria stipulated may apply for Pioneering Pilots on any one of the topics A, B, C, D, or E. Only DOE National Laboratory led proposals may apply for Quantum Exemplars and only for Topic F.

3. How can teams apply?

Applications may be submitted by either a single institution or a multi-institutional consortium.

For Quantum Exemplars, only multi-institutional consortia led by a DOE National Laboratory may apply.

4. Should a consortium apply to the FOA or the LAB Announcement?

If a consortium is led by DOE National Laboratory, the proposal should be submitted to the LAB Announcement. Otherwise, it should be submitted to the FOA.

5. How are consortium proposals submitted?

Multi-institutional consortia should submit a single proposal via the lead institution. Applications must include the complete budgets and tasks for each institution involved as well as letters of institutional commitment. The research plan and its associated budgets should leave no confusion about which institution and which PI will do which parts of the research.

6. Can DOE National Laboratories be part of any consortium proposal and how will they be funded?

DOE National Laboratories can be part of any consortium proposal and their budgets should be included in the proposal as per Question 5. However, if the proposal is successful, participating DOE Labs will be funded directly through the DOE Field Work system.

7. How will institutions that are not DOE National Laboratories be funded when they are part of a consortium?

Their budget must be included in the proposal as per Question 5 and they should be funded as subcontracts/subawards by the lead Institution. Any subcontract costs should be included in the proposal budget.

8. What is the typical award size? What is the typical award duration?

For Pioneering Pilots, award amounts will range from \$100,000 to \$500,000 and the award period will be 2 years.

For Quantum Exemplar submissions under the LAB Announcement, award amounts will range from \$750,000 to \$2,500,000 and the award period will be 2-3 years.

9. Can Pioneering Pilot proposals combine sub-topics from the different topics A, B, C, D, and/or E?

No. Proposals must be focused on only one of the topics A, B, C, D, or E.

10. Are quantum Exemplars only open to topic F?

Yes.

11. Are there limits to the number of proposals an institution or an applicant can submit, or be part of?

There are no limits. PIs and Institutions are encouraged to focus their efforts on drafting high-quality innovative proposals that complement and do not duplicate the current QuantISED portfolio.

12. Where can I find the current QuantISED portfolio?

There is a link to 2018 awards with abstracts on the HEP website and links are in the FOA.

13. Are people currently funded through QuantISED in 2018 call eligible for the 2019 announcement?

While there is no formal eligibility restriction, we encourage new proposals from new PIs who propose efforts that are complementary to the current portfolio.