

This message is intended for faculty contemplating applying to the NSF Partnerships for Innovation: Building Innovation Capacity program.

Partnerships for Innovation: Building Innovation Capacity (PFI:BIC) supports academe-industry partnerships, which are led by an interdisciplinary academic research team collaborating with at least one industry partner in order to carry out research to advance, adapt, and integrate technology(ies) into a specified, human-centered smart service system. The selected service system should function as a technology test bed.

Partnership projects are unrestricted as to domain knowledge and application areas and should be in the translational, pre-commercialization space, building on fundamental research discoveries with the objective of creating or transforming a "smart(er)" service system that has the potential for significant social and economic impact.

Service systems are socio-technical configurations of people, technologies, organizations, and information designed to create value by fulfilling the needs of those participating in the system. A "smart" service system is a system that amplifies or augments human capabilities to identify, to learn, to adapt, to monitor and to make decisions. The system does so through self-detection, self-diagnosing, self-correcting, self-monitoring, self-organizing, self-replicating, or self-controlled functions. The system utilizes data received, transmitted, or processed in a timely manner, thus improving its response to a future situation. These capabilities are the result of the incorporation of technologies for sensing, actuation, coordination, communication, control, etc.

LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PROPOSALS PER ORGANIZATION:

Academic institutions are limited to participation on two (2) proposals as a lead institution, preferably involving distinct application areas.

A lead academic institution that has submitted a proposal has the option to participate as a subawardee on additional proposals submitted under this solicitation. Lead academic institutions that have submitted a proposal may also provide consultants to other proposals submitted under this solicitation.

LETTER OF INTENT DUE DATE (REQUIRED, and to be submitted by RSP) (due by 5 p.m. proposer's local time): December 2, 2015.

FULL PROPOSAL DEADLINE (due by 5 p.m. proposer's local time): January 27, 2016.

Because of the above restrictions, Research and Sponsored Programs is requesting that all those interested in applying to the NSF PFI: BIC competition submit an abstract for their project to Deborah Lundin by **Monday, November 2**. This will enable us to ensure that the University does not submit more than the allotted amount of proposals for our institution. If the number of abstracts we receive exceeds the number of proposals we are allowed to submit, we will advise the relevant faculty on how a selection will be determined and, subsequently, how to proceed with the submission of the proposal to the National Science Foundation.

You may download the complete program description and application guidelines at http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504708&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund. If you have any questions, you may contact our office at ext. 2425.