

Questions & Answers - #4

DE-FOA-0000426 – NEET Reactor Materials

Q.16. What can be the earliest start date?

A.16. DOE will strive to make all selections within 6 to 8 months of receiving applications. DOE anticipates having multiple award selection dates.

Q.17. Do we need to address education component of the project in the proposal (training undergraduate students, post-docs, outreach to minorities) ? We typically do this for NSF proposal.

A.17. No, unless you believe you should add it to address your specific proposed project. Complete the application to the best of your ability using the information and instructions provided in the FOA.

Q.18. It seems facilities and Equipment can be added as attachments outside the 10 page limit, is that right ?

A.18. Please follow the instructions in the FOA. If something should be included in the project narrative as per instructions, then you should include it in the project narrative. If you choose to attach a document that is to be part of the project narrative, that is your choice as the applicant, but you should at least reference the attachment in the project narrative.

Q.19. If the project has two PIs, would each PI need a separate application and budget?

A.19. Please see PART IV, SECTION C, Numbers 3 and 4. DOE is not sure what is meant by a separate application, but each PI would need to be separately identified in the budget, as required, or if the second PI is classified as a subawardee, a separate budget would need to be completed if the expected work to be performed is in excess of 50 percent of the work or more than \$150,000.

Q.20. Are the Roles of participants, Multiple Principle investigators, Facilities and Equipments are all in the 10 page limitation for project Narrative? Can we use the other attachment area to upload this information? How about the appendix?

A.20. Please follow the instructions within the FOA document. If the specific section states that you can include it as an appendix and attach, then you should do so. See Question and Answer 18 above.

Q.21. An appendix will be used that is attached to the Narrative that shows the bio sketches. Is the two page limit per PI or total of all PIs will have only two page space for biosketch?

A.21. See PART IV, Section C, Number 2, Bullet "Biographical Sketch Appendix". It states, "...Provide a biographical sketch for the **project director/principal investigator (PD/PI) and each senior/key person listed in Section A** on the R&R Budget form... The biographical information **for each person must not exceed 2 pages** when printed on 8.5" by 11" paper with 1 inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) with font not smaller than 11 point...". Please read all information for this bullet to complete the biographical sketch appendix.

Q.22. In the Environmental check list, there are a couple of unclear areas: A) SECTION B asks to "Attach a complete and concise description of the project or activity. Include purpose and need...". We are sending this form along with the proposal with all details. What else can we add here or how much in depth should we answer this question is not clear. B) The Chemical Waste Disposal we make normally goes to the university safety department to be disposed. Are we supposed to report those? How much chemicals is considered considerable enough to be reported? If we generate small amount annually, should we report it?

A.22. A) The project narrative in the proposal is the complete and concise description that will be used for the Environmental Checklist. B) Yes. Report all Chemical Waste Disposal, regardless of amount, in accordance with the instructions provided on the Environmental Checklist.

Q.23. On page 6 (second bullet), the call asks for applicants to address each of the merit criterion and sub-criterion listed in Part V.A. In looking at Part V.A on page 12, the way it is stated is confusing.

o There is no criterion showing.

o The criteria listed refer to what the reviewer should be looking for and use as metric and not what the applicant must do to adhere to format.

Can you clarify?

A.23. The project narrative must include a "Merit Review Criterion Discussion" as per page 6. It must address the projects "Technical Merit", "Appropriateness of the Projects Methods/Approach", and the "Competency of the Proposed Team" for the project. Both applicants and reviewers must use the same merit review criteria.

Q.24. Is the Data Input Sheet required with the proposal? If so where should it be attached?

A.24. Include it in Field 12, Other Attachments.

Q.25. Are the cover page and table of content necessary in the Project Narrative?

A.25. Please reference instruction for the "Project Narrative" which states, "The project narrative must not exceed 10 pages, **including cover page, table of contents**, charts, graphs, maps, photographs, and other pictorial presentations, when printed using standard 8.5" by 11" paper with 1 inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right).".

The cover page and table of contents are not required, but should you choose to include them, they must be included in the page count as stated above and in the FOA. The applicant will determine what to include and not include in their proposal and project narrative.

Q.26. It states on page 5, Section C – that a maximum of three separate applications for different distinct projects may be submitted from EACH ENTITY. Yet in the Q&A – Q3, it seems to indicate that it would be a limit of 3 applications per PI rather than entity. Please clarify?

A.26. Question 3 and the answer are as follows:

Q.3. If a PI has a Co-PI from another institution will this count towards the 3 applications limit for the Co-PI?

A.3. No, please see PART IV, Section C, Number 2, Bullet "Multiple Principle Investigators" of the FOA. You can be a Lead PI on a maximum of three applications.

To add further clarification, only 3 applications will be accepted from a specific entity. It is acceptable for an individual to be listed as the PI for all 3 applications. Also see PART IV, Section C, **“A maximum of three separate applications for different distinct projects may be submitted from each entity.”**

Q.28. Can you please clarify? Section "Identification of Potential Conflicts of Interest or Bias in Selection of Reviewers Appendix" asks the applicant to "List in alphabetical order all persons, including their current organizational affiliation, who are, or who have been, collaborators or co-authors with you on a research project, book or book article, report, abstract, or paper during the 48 months preceding the submission of this application".

A.28. This is to have the applicant list persons who may have a potential COI if they were to be selected by DOE as reviewers. Accordingly, please focus your attention to those persons that worked with staff in a related technology or market application to your proposal topic.