

CRESST II Questions and Responses

Q1. The Synopsis of the FON state “Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement: YES”, is this true?

R1. No, cost sharing for research grants is not generally required. NASA may, however, accept cost sharing when voluntarily offered.

Q2. In the table on page 15, the CAN states that the cost section is excluded from the page count. Two paragraphs later, it states that the cost section shall not exceed 7 pages. Please clarify.

R2. The cost section is excluded from the page count.

Q3. We request that you allow a 10pt font size for tables, graphics, cost schedules and spreadsheets.

R3. The font for tables and graphics will remain at 12pt.

Q4. Please clarify the proposal due date – June 21 on cover vs June 20 on p. 13

R4. The proposal due date is June 21, 2016 as stated on the cover.

Q5. The instruction to provide a 5 year budget (Sec. 4.2.5 p. 19) seems incongruous with the stated term of the agreement (Sec. 2.7 p. 13) of a 2 year base period plus four 2 year options. It seems that the budget should parallel option periods. Please clarify.

R5. The language in (Sec. 4.2.5 p. 19) has been revised to reflect the period of performance.

Q6. We respectfully suggest that the CA be issued for a 5 year base period plus a 5 year option period.

R6. The period of performance will remain a 2 year base with five 2 year option periods.

Q7. The CAN (Sec. 4.3.4 p. 22) states that questions are "strongly encouraged" to be submitted by April 21. Can we expect a final cutoff date for acceptance of questions and new or revised instruction from NASA?

R7. At this time there is not official cutoff date for questions.

Q8. Regarding instructions to provide an itemized list of permanent equipment (Sec. 4.2.5.b p. 19) the definition of equipment appears to be inconsistent with 2 CFR 200.33, which defines permanent equipment as having a useful life of >1 year and acquisition costs of >\$5k. Does 2 CFR 200 apply to this CA? Please clarify.

R8. Yes, CFR 200 does apply. The Language has been revised accordingly.

For CRESST II personnel working on-site, GSFC will provide office space, telephone connections, and office supplies. Additionally, GSFC will provide existing on-site computer capabilities, if required.

The CRESST II shall provide on-site personnel with computing capabilities necessary to conduct the research if such facilities are not available at GSFC. In accordance with the NASA Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual, costs for the purchase of equipment will be permitted in the cooperative agreement only if it is determined that the equipment is scientific/technical in nature and relevant to the research being conducted.

Government property will not be provided to the CRESST II for use off-site unless required to perform approved research activities of limited duration and approved by GSFC/SED in advance. The CRESST II management will assure that all Government property is managed following NASA/GSFC property management policy and procedures.

2.5 Cancellation of the CAN

NASA reserves the right to make no awards under this CAN and, in absence of program funding or for any other reason, to cancel this CAN by having a notice published at Grants.gov. NASA assumes no liability for canceling the CAN or for anyone's failure to receive actual notice of cancellation. Cancellation may be followed by issuance and synopsis of a revised CAN.

2.6 Schedule

The estimated schedule for the review and selection of proposals for this CAN is as follows:

- Proposals due June 21, 2016
- Evaluations Completed October 31, 2016
- Selection and Award by November 30, 2016
- Effective and start date of January 24, 2017

2.7 Term of the Agreement

The term of the awarded Cooperative Agreement is planned have a basic period of two (2) years and shall commence upon the effective date indicated on the award agreement. There will be four (4) 2 year option periods to extend this agreement, for a total potential ten (10) year period of performance.

3 ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

3.1 Eligible Applicants.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
NOTICE No. NNG16541308C

number and date. Subsequent revisions, if requested, shall be similarly identified to show revision number and date. A table of contents shall be provided with figures and tables listed separately.

Section Component	Page Limitations	No. of Copies
Proposal cover sheet	Excluded	
Table of contents	Excluded	
Project Summary**	Excluded	
Scientific/Technical Section	25 Pages	Original plus 5 hard copies and 2 electronic copies
Management Section	18 Pages	Original plus 5 hard copies and 2 electronic copies
Cost Section	Excluded	Original plus 5 hard copies and 2 electronic copies
Key Personnel Biography	2 pages per	
References	Excluded	
Representations and Certifications	Excluded	

****Concise abstract (100-200 words) describing the objective of the proposed effort.**

Two electronic copies of the proposer's proposal shall be submitted (in addition to the hardcopies specified above) in Microsoft Word or editable Adobe PDF format. In the event of any inconsistency between data provided on the CD-ROMs and hard copies, the hard copy data will be considered to be correct.

Proposers are advised that the overall page limit for the proposal text shall not exceed 43 pages, utilizing one side of each page. The science and technical section of the proposal shall not exceed 25 pages, and the management section shall not exceed 18 pages. The page limit does not include the Cost Section, References, which can be as long as necessary to support the content. The biographical sketches shall be limited to two (2) pages per key personnel. These sketches are not included in the 43-page limit. Any information in excess of the page limitation will not be evaluated.

A page is defined as one side of a sheet, 8-1/2" x 11", with at least one inch margins on all sides, using not smaller than 12 point type Times New Roman font. Line spacing or the amount of vertical space between lines of text shall not be less than single line (Microsoft Word's default line spacing). Character spacing shall be "Normal", not "Expanded" or "Condensed." The margins may contain headers and footers, but shall not contain any quotation content to be evaluated. Information may be submitted on single or double-sided sheets, but shall not exceed the page limitations.

Bindings: Proposals shall be adequately bound in a manner that allows for ease of separation to facilitate the evaluation process. To facilitate the recycling of shredded proposals after review, proposals shall be submitted on plain, white paper only.

Marking of Proprietary Proposal Information: It is NASA policy to use information contained in proposals for evaluation purposes only. While this policy does not require

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
NOTICE No. NNG16541308C

Proposers should identify any resources they intend to contribute in the performance of this effort. Non-monetary resources should be fully described, and financial resources should be quantified and distinguished from those resources expected to be provided by NASA.

The cost section of the proposal shall contain cost estimates sufficient for meaningful evaluation. For budget purposes, assume a start date of January 24, 2017. Budgets must be presented by cost elements as detailed below. If a consortium proposes on this effort, separate annual budgets are required for each partner in the consortium. Additionally, summary budgets are required which show proposed cost by consortium partner for each year of proposed research. Any assumptions used to project the costs for individual partners should be stated.

The estimated costs must be broken down for each of the first two (2) years of the Agreement, using the assumed start date January 24, 2017 to show the following:

- a. Direct labor categories, labor hours, and labor costs associated with the research effort. For universities, the percentage of research time and salaries to be charged should be identified by academic year and summer effort;
- b. An itemized list of permanent equipment to be acquired showing the cost of each item. Permanent equipment is any article of nonexpendable tangible personal property having a useful life of more than 1 year, and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit;
- c. A general description and total estimated cost of expendable equipment and supplies;
- d. Contemplated expenditures for travel with brief explanation. Estimated costs should include destination, number of days, airfare, per diem and transportation;
- e. Other direct costs (e.g., publications, computer costs, and insurance);
- f. Cost for consulting services, if any, showing number of days, daily rate, and estimated travel/per diem costs. The need for consulting services must be fully justified;
- g. A description of services or materials to be awarded by subagreement or subcontract. For awards totaling \$100,000 or more, provide the following specific information:
 - (1) If known, the identification of the proposed subawards and an explanation of why and how the subcontractor was selected or will be selected;