



Solicitation of White Papers

Open to researchers at *any* of the institutions of higher learning within the Mississippi NASA EPSCoR Jurisdiction

issued by the

Mississippi NASA EPSCoR Director

in anticipation of

FY 2022 NASA EPSCoR Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

International Space Station (ISS) Flight Opportunity

APPLICATIONS MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED IN PAPER FORMAT

Key Dates

Release/Posted Date: Wednesday, October 20, 2021

White Paper Due Date: **Monday, November 15, 2021, 5:00pm**

******* No late submissions will be accepted *******

This announcement is to solicit a two-page “White Paper” from potential proposers at Mississippi universities. Based on a review of the white papers, the Mississippi Research Consortium (MRC) will select *one* for development into a full proposal to this NASA EPSCoR program.

Solicitation Cycle

NASA issued the FY22 NASA EPSCoR ISS Flight Opportunity NOFO Solicitation on 15 October 2021. The full-proposal due date is 14 January 2022. The Mississippi jurisdiction may submit only one proposal in response to this opportunity.

The proposal development and timeline will be as follows: white paper solicitation (this document) 10/20/21; NASA solicitation released 10/15/21; white papers due 11/15/21; PI selection and notification of authorization to proceed with full proposal 12/13/21; final proposal documents to MS NASA EPSCoR Director 1/3/2022; full proposal submitted to NASA 1/14/22.

For questions about this call for white papers, contact the MS NASA EPSCoR Director, Dr. Nathan Murray, nmurray@olemiss.edu, 662-915-3190.

Section 1. Solicitation Details

The Mississippi jurisdiction may submit *one* proposal to the FY22 NASA EPSCoR ISS Flight Opportunity program for three years of research funding for a maximum \$100,000 *per award* (proposers are not required to fund launch costs). **This announcement is to solicit a two-page “White Paper” from potential proposers at Mississippi universities.** *One* of these White Papers will be selected by the Mississippi Research Consortium (MRC) for development into a full proposal to this NASA EPSCoR program.

To be seriously considered for selection, white papers *must* demonstrate:

- that the research project is sufficiently mature to successfully design/develop an experiment that can safely be flow on the ISS;
- direct ties with, and responsiveness to the objectives of, a NASA Center or Directorate;
- contribution to the overall research infrastructure and economic development of Mississippi; and
- involvement of faculty/students from groups underrepresented/underserved in STEM.

The most competitive white papers *may also* demonstrate partnerships or cooperative arrangements with one or more of other government agencies, business/industry, private research foundations, jurisdiction agencies, and/or local agencies, and/or additional academic institutions.

The MS NASA EPSCoR Director will conduct the first-stage review to assess the white paper’s responsiveness to the NASA EPSCoR NOFO. The white papers, along with the first stage review assessments, will then be provided to the MRC,¹ who will judge and select the white paper for development into a full proposal for submission to NASA.

The full NASA NOFO is available through NSPIRES, go to <http://nspires.nasaprs.com>, click on Solicitations, enter EPSCOR in the search box, find announcement number NNH22ZHA003C.

It is *strongly recommended* that proposers read and comprehend the details of the ISS NOFO along with all the details regarding experiment preparations for microgravity, flight and ground safety review, travel requirements, and payload integration steps.

1.A. SUBMISSION OF WHITE PAPERS

All white paper submissions must be submitted to *both* the MS NASA EPSCoR Director (Dr. Nathan Murray, nmurray@olemiss.edu) and the cognizant research official of the proposer’s home institution by 5 p.m. **Monday, 15 November 2021.**

1.B. WHITE PAPER EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Intrinsic Merit and Research Maturity
- NASA Alignment and Partnerships
- Management and Evaluation
- Demonstrated Understanding of the ISS Program Requirements (reflected in budget and scope of work)
- Budget Justification: Narrative and Details

¹ mississippiresearchconsortium.org

1.C. FORMAT FOR WHITE PAPERS

No more than 2 pages, 11- or 12-point font size in Times, Arial, or Calibri, single-spaced. Smaller font ok for tables/illustrations but should be easy to read.

1.C.i. White Paper Sections:

Cover Info, Project Summary and Description, and Budget Summary Justification.

Altogether, these three sections must not exceed two pages.

Cover Info:

In six lines at the top of the first page in the same style/size font as the rest of the submission, provide the following:

- (1) Submission Title (bold),
- (2) Science Investigator (Sc-I) and Institution Name (bold),
- (3) Title and Departmental Affiliation,
- (4) Other Participating Co-Investigators (co-Is) and Institutions,
- (5) NASA Point of Contact,
- (6) *Mission Directorates and priorities addressed.*

Separate the cover information from the project summary by a double space.

Here is an example of the cover information formatting ...

Investigation of the How and Why
Sc-I: Sue Z. Que (University Name)
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Understanding
Co-I: R. Green (USM), S. Brown (UM), J. Pink (MSU), E. Blue (JSU)
NASA Point of Contact: B. Red (NASA Johnson)
NASA Priority: Improving Prediction of Climate Change (Science Mission Directorate)

Project Summary and Description should include:

- (a) the objectives,
- (b) relevance of those objectives to NASA priorities and objectives,
- (c) description of what is novel,
- (d) description of anticipated impact, and
- (e) short description of technical approach.

Budget Summary and Justification:

Should include sufficient details that your Chief Research Officer will be able to confirm that you are requesting appropriate, reasonable, and allowable fund. Include personnel and work effort.