



2011-2012 Request for NECC Regional Awards for Cyber Enabled Research (RACER) pilot awards

Pre-proposals due: 15 April 2011

Proposals due: 1 June 2011

The Northeast Cyberinfrastructure Consortium (NECC) is an interdisciplinary consortium of research and higher education institutions in five states (Delaware, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont) that are collaborating to build cyberinfrastructure in the Northeast region. The Consortium is currently affiliated with both NSF EPSCoR and NIH IDeA. The NECC states have received a collaborative NSF EPSCoR Track-2 award and collaborative supplements to NIH-NCRR INBRE and COBRE grants for specific fiber, research, workforce development, outreach and diversity programs in the region that support collaborative cyber-enabled research and education.

RACER Program Overview

Regional Awards for Cyber- Enabled Research (RACER) pilot awards are designed to initiate collaborative, cyber-enabled research among investigators in NECC states.

- Pre-proposal process:
 - A pre-proposal process will be used to facilitate collaborations.
 - Pre-proposal submissions will be posted to the North East Cyberinfrastructure Consortium website (<http://necyberconsortium.org>).
- The maximum amount of each award is \$10,000 for a project period of 1 September 2011 through 1 August 2012.
- Projects must involve investigators from at **least two NECC states**;
- Preference will be given to projects in water-related environmental research or bioinformatics.
- Preference will be given to projects that use the regional Delaware and Maine database facilities and take advantage of regional visualization and analysis facilities;
- Important Dates:

1 March 2011	Request For Proposals issued
15 April 2011, 4 p.m.	Pre-proposals due
22 April 2011	Pre-proposals posted on NECC website
15 July 2011, 4 p.m.	Proposals due

Obligations Associated With Funding

- An electronic final technical report and a paper of your final report is due to the Vermont EPSCoR office by the end of the funding period;
- Quarterly and Annual reporting of progress throughout the funding year; updates and follow-on funding to Vermont EPSCoR office through August 2016;
- Attendance at the annual NECC Conference and applicable state EPSCoR conferences.

Pre-proposal:

The purpose of the pre-proposal (1 page, excluding references) is to assist PIs in finding inter- and intra-state collaborators. The pre-proposal should include a brief description of your potential project, general PI expertise, and ideas for the type of collaboration sought. Pre-proposals will be posted to the NECC website and PIs interested in applying for a RACER award will be asked to start here for potential partnerships

Proposal Content:

- Proposal title, list of PI, Co-PIs (with institutions and depts.), & any other collaborators
- Project Summary: (one paragraph) Brief summary of project intent. Address intellectual merit and broader participation.
- Project Description (3 pages)
 - Proposed cyber-enabled research and the nature of collaboration;
 - Results from Prior Support: If a PI or co-PI identified on the project has received NSF EPSCoR or NIH IDeA (INBRE/COBRE) funding in the past five years, the following information on the award(s) is required: (a) project title; (b) summary of the results of the completed work; (c) a description of the relation of the completed work to the proposed work, if applicable;
- Past Work (1 page)
- Personnel: detail the role and contribution of all personnel listed
- Budget (2 pages): Include an expenditure budget (in NSF format) and a detailed budget justification. Indirect costs are not allowed;
- Identification of in-kind funding is not required but in-kind matching will be greatly appreciated. An example of in-kind matching funds is percent effort. Questions about in-kind funds can be directed to Vermont EPSCoR at epscor@uvm.edu.

Evaluation Criteria:

The NECC Water Research Working Group will evaluate RACER pilot awards. The review will focus on regionally, cyber-enabled research. The current membership of the group is listed at <http://necyberconsortium.org>.

Evaluation criteria will include:

- Intellectual merit;
- Broader impacts;
- Alignment with NECC research goals;
- Potential to catalyze long-term, interdisciplinary regional, cyber-enabled research partnerships;
- Impact on workforce development (STEM “pipeline”) and potential future job creation;
- Ability to utilize existing NECC cyberinfrastructure resources;

How to Submit a RACER Award Proposal to the NECC:

Web based submissions are the only accepted form of submission. Please go to <http://necyberconsortium.org> and click on the RACER link to access proposal form, budget form and cover page information. **Forms will be made available on the web on 15 April 2011.** You are encouraged to submit early to avoid any potential submission complications.

1. Pre-proposals are due 15 April 2011 by 4:00 p.m. by web-submission only at <http://necyberconsortium.org>.
2. Proposals are due 1 June 2011 by 4:00 p.m. by web-submission only at <http://necyberconsortium.org>

For additional information, please contact the member of the NECC Executive Committee from your state:

State	Contact	
Delaware	Karl Steiner	ksteiner@udel.edu
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