

# NSF EPSCoR

THE EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM TO STIMULATE  
COMPETITIVE RESEARCH

## Call for White Papers for RII Track-2

White Papers due: **June 19, 2008**  
Submit to: [jim.gershey@la.gov](mailto:jim.gershey@la.gov)

**ALABAMA, LOUISIANA, AND MISSISSIPPI**



## I. OVERVIEW

With the potential growth of NSF EPSCoR funding in FY 09, the NSF EPSCoR Office has indicated it intends to develop a new Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII)-like program to enhance the infrastructure of EPSCoR states called RII Track-2. The NSF EPSCoR Office is working on a solicitation in partnership with Office of Cyberinfrastructure (OCI) with a target release time (if the program is implemented) of the end of July 2008. The program will provide funding for consortia of EPSCoR jurisdictions (i.e., states) to enhance cyberinfrastructure focused on a thematic, regional, or a programmatic need. In other words, these partnerships can take a number of different forms, emphasizing research based on geographical regions, common science topics, common problem or disciplinary themes, or common technological platforms, with an overarching theme of innovation-enabling cyberinfrastructure.

Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi have formed an alliance based on regional research strengths and interests. These efforts were initiated in large part due to the Post-Katrina forums "Science Recovery and Discovery: The Role of Higher Education in Securing a Sustainable Future", held in New Orleans in April, 2006 and "Gulf States Alliance: Network Science and Recovery", held in Biloxi in August, 2007. The Vice Presidents/Chancellors for Research and the EPSCoR Committees from the three states have held a series of meetings and discussions to map out a strategy to solidify this partnership and identify ways to respond to this potential opportunity.

This solicitation seeks brief white papers (no more than five pages) from teams of investigators outlining existing or planned research projects with emphasis on the use of innovation-enabling cyberinfrastructure that include a consortium of all three states (AL, LA, and MS). These white papers will be used to determine possible themes for a single multi-state proposal to be submitted in response to the NSF EPSCoR Track-2 solicitation by the three states.

## II. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Although details are not yet available, funding for Track-2 projects is expected to be approximately \$2 million per year for a minimum of three years.

## III. ASSESSMENT OF WHITE PAPERS

All white papers will be reviewed by the AL-LA-MS EPSCoR Project Directors and the Vice Presidents/Chancellors for Research of the three states with the assistance of outside consultants, if necessary, to determine the research topics and research teams which most effectively take advantage of the expertise and facilities available in the region.

## IV. WHITE PAPER ELEMENTS

The white paper must contain the following elements, in the order presented here:

1. **Cover Page:** use the cover page form attached to this document.
2. **Project Description** –not to exceed five (5) pages, consecutively numbered, including text as well as visual materials, which puts forth ideas that can be developed into a potential Track-2 research project. The description should contain clearly defined goals and objectives and address the following topics:
  - Planned/existing research and its relevance to cyberinfrastructure
  - Relevance to AL-LA-MS research agendas
  - Leveraging of existing resources
  - Plan for sustainability
  - Involvement of underrepresented minorities
3. **References** – not included in five-page project description limit.

4. **Biographical Sketches** – must not exceed two (2) pages per investigator.
5. **Current and Pending Support** – The NSF current and pending support form may be used.

**V. WHITE PAPER SUBMISSION**

The white paper, formatted as a single pdf document, should be emailed by the PI to Jim Gershey at [jim.gershey@la.gov](mailto:jim.gershey@la.gov) no later than the close of business (4:30 p.m.) on **June 19, 2008**. An email acknowledging receipt of the white paper will be sent to the PI. Failure to receive an acknowledgement by noon on June 20, 2008 indicates that the white paper has not been received. All white papers will be distributed to the EPSCoR Project Directors of each state for dissemination to vice presidents/chancellors for research and statewide EPSCoR Committees as appropriate.

EPSCoR Project Directors:

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Field Code Changed

## COVER SHEET

<small>PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT</small> <b>NSF EPSCoR White Paper for RII Track-2</b>		
<small>NAME OF LEAD ORGANIZATION(S) INVOLVED:</small>	<small>ADDRESS(ES) OF LEAD ORGANIZATION(S), INCLUDING ZIP CODE:</small>	
<small>NAME OF LEAD CONTACT PERSON:</small>	<small>LEAD CONTACT EMAIL/PHONE/MAIL ADDRESS:</small>	
<small>TITLE OF PROPOSED PROJECT:</small>		
<small>LIST PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS/CAMPUSES IN ALABAMA, LOUISIANA, AND MISSISSIPPI:</small>		
<small>LIST PROJECT DISCIPLINE(S):</small>		
<small>PROJECT ABSTRACT: (250 words maximum)</small>		