

RESEARCH ANNOUNCEMENT
PRE-ENGINEERING PROGRAM
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & MATHEMATICS
K-12 PUPILS

The U.S. Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) through its detachment at the Stennis Space Center, Mississippi (NRL-SSC) seeks proposals under authority of the National Defense Education Act (1959) to stimulate young pupils in the sciences, technology and mathematics (STEM) and under the Pre-Engineering Program. The NRL-SSC effort is graphically represented on the web page of the White House at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/files/documents/ostp/PCAST/McGahern.pdf> (see page 10 of the pdf file).

The target students attend primary, middle and high schools in St Tammany Parish LA, and in the following Mississippi counties: Hancock, Harrison and Jackson. The target students may attend public or private schools.

NRL-SSC solicits basic research proposals in the general DoD STEM Education and Outreach Program from colleges, universities and non-profit organizations. Depending upon the availability of appropriated funds, NRL-SSC may: (1) Make multiple awards under this BAA; and (2) Consider options exercisable for multi-year performance. Funding is limited and proposals are primarily sought in the not-to-exceed \$30,000 range; however larger awards may be considered when appropriate.

The research proposal should:

- (1) Contain an executive summary not to exceed one page;
- (2) In 10 pages or less describe a plan to create and manage basic scientific projects for target pupils, K-12, setting out areas of research appropriate to the age of the pupil and of interest under STEM stimulation set out by the Office of the Director, Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E) – see the description of NDEP goals at the following web site: <http://www.dtic.mil/descriptivesum/Y2009/OSD/0601120D8Z.pdf> . The technical/management plan should identify mentoring opportunities with seasoned research scientists within the university/college community or NRL;
- (3) Contain an itemized budget. Include a copy of any federal rate agreement;
- (4) Identify key personnel;
- (5) Describe your organization's qualifications;
- (6) Describe your organization's past experience related to NDEP/STEM or PEP projects; and,
- (7) Include references from past grant-type instruments (grants/cooperative-agreements/youth-cooperative-outreach-agreements).

Specific evaluation criteria are as follows:

- (1) Degree to which creative approaches to achieving the objectives of the NRL programs are proposed.
- (2) The offeror's ability to implement the proposed approach as demonstrated by specific accomplishments in similar projects, by the qualifications (including relevant experience) of the proposed key personnel, and availability of appropriate facilities.

- (3) The offeror's proximity to the target students.
- (4) Proposed cost and cost realism.

Proposals in response to this announcement will be continuously accepted and evaluated from the date this announcement is published until the end of the fiscal year (30 September 2010).

NRL reserves the right to reject all proposals if none are found suitable. Depending upon the availability of appropriated funds, NRL may: (1) Make multiple awards; or (2) Consider an offeror's options for multi-year projects.

NRL anticipates awarding one or more cooperative agreements to qualifying institutions.

For questions, call or email: Dr Joseph Calantoni, 228-688-4435 or joe.calantoni@nrlssc.navy.mil .

Grants.gov applicants have been experiencing system slowness and validation issues which may impact the time required to submit proposals. If an applicant is experiencing difficulty in submitting its proposal through Grants.gov, the applicant may email its proposal to nrlproposals@nrl.navy.mil .