

Overview of Research
Coordination Network (RCN)
Solicitation

Participating EHR Programs

DGE	CYBER CORPS: SCHLAR FOR SER NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) Core R&D Programs Big Data Science &Engineering
DUE	S-STEM: SCHLR SCI TECH ENG&MATH IUSE Core R&D Programs Big Data Science &Engineering
HRD	AGEP HIST BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIV TRIBAL COLLEGE & UNIVERS PROGR Core R&D Programs Big Data Science &Engineering CENTERS FOR RSCH EXCELL IN S&T ALLIANCES-MINORITY PARTICIPAT.
DRL	STEM - Computing Partnerships ITEST AISL DISCOVERY RESEARCH K-12 Core R&D Programs Big Data Science &Engineering

Synopsis of the RCN Program

- Advance a field or create new directions in research or education by supporting groups of investigators to communicate and coordinate their research, training and educational activities across disciplinary, organizational, geographic and international boundaries.
- Foster new collaborations, including international partnerships, and address interdisciplinary topics.
- Innovative ideas for implementing novel networking strategies, collaborative technologies, and development of community standards for data and meta-data are especially encouraged.
- RCN awards are not meant to support existing networks; nor are they meant to support the activities of established collaborations.
- RCN awards do not support primary research.
- RCN supports the means by which investigators can share information and ideas, coordinate ongoing or planned research activities, foster synthesis and new collaborations, develop community standards, and in other ways advance science and education through communication and sharing of ideas.
- Proposed networking activities directed to the RCN program should focus on a theme to give coherence to the collaboration , such as a broad research question or particular technologies or approaches.

All RCN proposals must conform to the following 7 guidance items:

1. Topic/focus of research coordination.
2. Principal investigator (PI).
3. Steering committee.
4. Network participants.
5. Coordination/management mechanism.
6. Information and material sharing.
7. International participation.

In addition, the narrative must include a management plan, a coordination plan, and a plan to increase diversity.

Note on RCNs and AISL

- RCN submissions do not count toward the institution or individual submission maximums
- RCN submissions are due on Nov. 6.

Details

- **Full Proposal Deadline(s)** (due by 5 p.m. submitter's local time)
 - Proposals Accepted Anytime. RCN proposals should be submitted to a particular program according to the program's submission dates.
- **Anticipated Type of Award:** Standard Grant or Continuing Grant
- **Estimated Number of Awards:** 15 to 25 (agency-wide)
 - The actual number of awards varies across disciplinary research programs.
- **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$7,500,000 to \$12,500,000
- No firm funding commitments requested. No general oversight. Programs make their own decisions.
- RCN proposals can be up to 5 years in duration and budgets should not exceed \$500,000.
- Investigators should consult program descriptions on the NSF website and are strongly encouraged to contact appropriate program directors to discuss suitability of an RCN idea prior to submitting a proposal.
- If an RCN project is relevant to multiple programs, divisions, or directorates, before submitting a proposal the investigator should consult with program directors in those programs for guidance on suitability for co-review among programs and instructions on how to submit.

Additional details

Proposals may only be submitted by the following:

- Universities and Colleges - Universities and two- and four-year colleges (including community colleges) accredited in, and having a campus located in, the US acting on behalf of their faculty members. Such organizations also are referred to as academic institutions.
- Non-profit, non-academic organizations: Independent museums, observatories, research labs, professional societies and similar organizations in the U.S. associated with educational or research activities.

•**Organization Limit:** Although the research coordination networks are expected to be multi-organizational, a single organization must serve as the lead and all other organizations as subawardees. Organizations ineligible to submit to this program solicitation may not receive subawards. If they are part of the proposed network, their participation is expected to be supported by non-NSF sources.