

2015 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CENTERS FOR ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY (CAT) PROGRAM

RFP Number: 15-6104

Frequently Asked Questions (Through 4/15/15)

- Can I as the small business apply to this RFP?

No – Pursuant with Section I.C.1 of the Request for Proposals, eligible candidates for the program are limited to: “A ‘University’, ‘University-Affiliated Research Institute’ or Consortia lead thereof that meets each of the following criteria is eligible to apply: a. at least one on-site doctoral program in the research field(s) related to the Proposal’s Technology Focus; and, b. demonstrates its ability to meet the Matching Funds requirements described in Section I.D. of this RFP.”

- If not, would the proposal need to come from the researchers at Cornell or the University itself?

Yes – Pursuant with Section I.C.1 of the Request for Proposals, eligible candidates for the program are limited to: “A ‘University’, ‘University-Affiliated Research Institute’ or Consortia lead thereof that meets each of the following criteria is eligible to apply: a. at least one on-site doctoral program in the research field(s) related to the Proposal’s Technology Focus; and, b. demonstrates its ability to meet the Matching Funds requirements described in Section I.D. of this RFP.”

- Would a project designed to help us create a new material (a novel value added product based upon our unique technology) be eligible?

No – Single/individual projects are not eligible. Pursuant with Section I.A of the Request for Proposals, “The CAT Program is designed to spur technology-based applied research and economic growth in New York; encourage applied research collaboration and innovation with industry; promote workforce development; better leverage State funds with investments from the Federal government, industry, foundations, and not-for-profit economic development organizations; and increase the competitiveness of New York State Companies over the Center’s ten year designation period.”

- It appears that only the stipulated appendices will be allowed with the submission of the proposal. Is this the case or will Letters of Support be accepted?

Yes - Pursuant with Section III.E, the proposal's Project Narrative must; "Address the specific review criteria presented below. All visual materials (such as charts, graphs, maps, photographs, and other pictorial presentations), footnotes, endnotes, and citations must be included within the 15-page Proposal Narrative. All information provided in the Applicant's Proposal, taken as a whole, will be used in evaluating the Proposal in accordance with the review criteria." However, be advised this will be counted against the 15-page limit.

- Please advise how lines can be added in the different sections of Budget forms Page One (and two)?

Individual Budget Forms are locked/protected to preclude inadvertent additions/deletions/changes to embedded formulae and/or conditional formatting within the respective worksheets of the Excel workbook entitled "RFP 15-6104 (2015 CAT) Budget Forms One and Two". Microsoft EXCEL permits a worksheet (e.g., Budget Form One or Budget Form Two) to be duplicated (i.e., copied in its entirety) and inserted within the workbook regardless of any security/protection controls imposed. The original worksheet (e.g., Budget Form One or Budget Form Two) may then be used to aggregate the additional information from the subsequent [duplicated (copied)] worksheets. When filing the Budget; pursuant with Section III.F and III.G, the applicant's proposal Appendix (4) shall contain any-and-all worksheets from within the completed workbook. Pursuant with Section III.F and III.G, there is no page limit imposed on Appendix (4).

- Please confirm that the indirect rate allowed for matching funds has increased from 15% to 25% percent of salary and fringe benefits.

Yes-Pursuant with Section I.D.2, Indirect Costs are limited to 25 percent of direct personnel costs (salaries plus fringe benefits) on matching funds that will be recognized under the CAT Program.

- As a CAT that has been under contract with NYS for greater than 10 years, what would our match requirement be:

Pursuant with Section I.A: "The CAT Program is governed by Section 3102-b of the Public Authorities Law. Contractors will be bound by and responsible for complying with current laws and regulations and with any and all future statutory changes relating to the CAT Program." Additionally, pursuant with Section 3102-b.3.(a)(iv)(2) of the Public Authorities Law: "In the event a previously designated center is redesignated in the same area of technology, which redesignation is effective for the tenth academic year following the first academic year of both designation and funding, then, in that year and in each year thereafter, the foundation shall provide funds of up to seven hundred fifty thousand dollars to be matched equally by the center, amounts in excess of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars shall be matched by the center in amounts of at least two hundred percent." Therefore, the annual match requirements for a redesignated Center under contract for greater than 10 years will be 1:1 for the first \$750,000 and 2:1 for the balance.