Additional FAQs

How many FFRDCs participate?

DOE and Non-DOE FFRDCs may participate as a Subrecipient.

As long as they have no conflict, DOE and non-DOE FFRDCs may be proposed as a subrecipient on another entity's application subject to the following guidelines:

How does Authorization for non-DOE FFRDCs work?

The Federal agency sponsoring the FFRDC must authorize in writing the use of the FFRDC on the proposed project and this authorization must be submitted with the application. The use of a FFRDC must be consistent with its authority under its award.

Who has responsibility for FFRDCs?

The recipient will be the authority responsible regarding the settlement and satisfaction of all contractual and administrative issues, including but not limited to disputes and claims arising out of any agreement between the recipient and the FFRDC.

Are there Cost Share Requirements for this Opportunity?

The cost share must be at least 20% of the total project costs for this opportunity.

Applications that do not meet the minimum required cost share will be deemed ineligible during the initial compliance review. The cost share must come from nonfederal sources unless otherwise allowed by law.

The cost share percentage is calculated by dividing the cost share by the total allowable project costs for the award. Total allowable project costs include the government share (including Federal Funded Research and Development Center [FFRDC] costs, if applicable) and cost share. An example is provided below.

Who has Legal Responsibility for Cost Share?

Although the cost-share requirement applies to the entire project, including work performed by members of the project team other than the recipient, the recipient is legally responsible for paying the entire cost share. If the funding agreement is terminated before the end of the project

period, the recipient must contribute at least the cost share percentage of total expenditures incurred through the date of termination.

The recipient is solely responsible for managing cost share contributions by the project team and enforcing cost share obligations assumed by project team members in subawards or related agreements.

How does Cost-Share Allocation work?

Each project team is free to determine how best to allocate the cost share requirement among the team members. The amount contributed by individual project team members may vary as long as the cost share requirement for the entire project is met.

How does Cost Share Verification work?

You must provide written assurance of your proposed cost share contribution in your application. If selected for award negotiations, you must provide additional information and documentation on your cost share contributions.

What is an example of a Cost Share Calculation?

Cost sharing is calculated as a percentage of the total project cost. If applicable, FFRDC costs must be included in total project costs. Cost share calculation should not go beyond 2 decimals (e.g., 79.25 - not 79.24875).

Example - Standard Cost Share Calculation

- A project with $1 million in federal funds with a minimum 20% nonfederal cost sharing requirement:

Formula: Federal share ($) divided by Federal share (%) = total project cost

- Example: $1,000,000 divided by 80% = $1,250,000

Formula: total project cost ($) minus Federal share ($) = nonfederal share ($)

- Example: $1,250,000 minus $1,000,000 = $250,000

Formula: nonfederal share ($) divided by total project cost ($) = nonfederal share (%)

- Example: $250,000 divided by $1,250,000 = 20%