The Kansas NASA EPSCoR Program (KNEP) is preparing to award Partnership Development Grants (PDG’s) to Kansas’s investigators. These grants are intended to facilitate the development of beneficial and promising NASA (or industrial) collaborations.

The PDG recipient is expected to initiate, develop, and formalize a meaningful professional relationship with a NASA (or industry) researcher. The grant allows a faculty member and student to travel to a NASA center, or relevant industry location, for one or more week’s time.

Ideally the faculty member, student, and host become co-participants in a promising research effort. The PDG award should lead to sustained collaboration, joint publications, and, most importantly, future grant proposals.

**Award Criteria**

PDG awards are competitive, with a required emphasis on:

- Clearly addressing NASA, Kansas, and KNEP interests
- Developing new, meaningful, and sustained collaborations (in Kansas and with NASA)
- Building a foundation for sustained Research and Development (R&D) growth
- Involving US-students in research (especially underrepresented and underserved Kansas undergraduate and graduate students)
- Exploring new and unique R&D opportunities
- Generating publications and future non-EPSCoR grant submissions
- Promoting a redirection of non-aerospace research assets to efforts addressing NASA development needs

Additional information on NASA and KNEP strategic objectives can be found on the following web sites: www.NASA.gov and www.NASAinKansas.org

Proposals must detail other important infrastructure development related components, including:

- Investigator specific goals and priorities
- Measurable, award related, deliverables or metrics
- Past experience and long-term research plans
- A detailed, clear, and reasonable budget

As instructed by NASA, the KNEP program cannot support proposals augmenting existing funded research projects. New and unique activities increasing Kansas’ research infrastructure and competitiveness are essential and required.
Funding, Required Match, and Restrictions

The total KNEP funding available is $89,100 (of which, $67,200 is from NASA and $21,900 from the Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation - KTEC).

KNEP expects to award a total of three (3) PDG’s.

The following KNEP PDG program restrictions apply:

- NASA strongly urges that indirect costs be waived or reduced by the university; the waived indirect costs can be used as match
- At least $8,400 of NASA money must be allocated to support US-students working on the proposed project
- Funds used for student support must be fully matched (cash or in-kind)
- Funds cannot be used for equipment (items under $5,000 are “supplies”)
- Funds cannot be used for foreign travel
- Funds cannot be used for civil service personnel travel
- Proposals augmenting existing funded research projects cannot be supported

Grant Reporting

Grant recipients must submit a progress and final report. Both reports address KNEP Research Infrastructure Development (RID) program results, including:

- Grant related publications and presentations
- Additional proposals, submitted or accepted, owing directly to the KNEP award
- Additional funding secured from industry or other sources
- New collaborations formed
- Detailed information on the students supported (e.g., number of students involved, funding amounts, activities, performance, their future plans, etc.)
- Other quantifiable items, as defined by individual investigators (in their original proposals)
- An update on short- and long-term research plans
- Patent applications or awards

PDG target outcomes, per award, include:

- One or more publications, with NASA or relevant industry co-authors
- One or more EPSCOR or non-EPSCOR grant proposals, as a product of the PDG award
- Significant project involvement by one or more students

Proposal Submission:

There is an 8-page limit for PDG proposals (excluding cover sheet, budget, and related institutional pages). Use one-inch margins, 12-pt times new roman font, and single-spaced text.

Proposals must include the signature of the submitting Organization’s Authorizing Official.

The proposal budget must clearly identify the distribution of available NASA, KTEC, and university funds.

Submit proposals in a PDF-format to the KNEP director, scott.miller@wichita.edu by noon May 1st, 2009.

Contact Dr. Eddie Irani (KNEP Associate Director, eddie@aero-labs.org) or Linda Cory (KNEP Coordinator, linda.cory@wichita.edu) with RFP related questions.