

E.8 SUPPLEMENTAL OUTREACH AWARDS FOR ROSES INVESTIGATORS

Amended December 16, 2008

A second opportunity to submit a proposal for a supplemental outreach award through ROSES-08 is announced. The due date for Notices of Intent (NOIs) to propose is March 11, 2009. The due date for proposals is April 8, 2009. The text in Appendix E.8 has also been revised and clarified in response to questions submitted by the community.

1. Background

NASA's founding legislation, the Space Act of 1958, directs the Agency to expand human knowledge of Earth and space phenomena and to preserve the role of the United States as a leader in aeronautics, space science, and technology. High achievement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and public scientific literacy is essential to the accomplishment of NASA's mission.

The NASA Science Mission Directorate's (SMD's) vision for Education and Public Outreach is:

To share the story, the science, and the adventure of NASA's scientific explorations of our home planet, the solar system, and the universe beyond, through stimulating and informative activities and experiences created by experts, delivered effectively and efficiently to learners of many backgrounds via proven conduits, thus providing a return on the public's investment in NASA's scientific research.

SMD has a portfolio of investments (E/PO project activities) in Higher Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Informal Education, and Outreach. It is a major contributor to the overall NASA education and outreach effort through development and dissemination of new educational and outreach products that utilize SMD science discoveries and by providing opportunities for students and educators, citizen scientists, and the public to engage in authentic experiences working with our data and our research communities.

Outreach is an essential aspect of the SMD program. It directly connects to many aspects of NASA Public Affairs and NASA education efforts. It often provides an inspirational spark for participants to seek out education opportunities. Outreach can be directed at any audience, including students, teachers, citizen scientists, and the general public.

The SMD Outreach Goal is to stimulate interest in science, engineering, and technology relevant to NASA SMD.

SMD Supplemental Outreach awards are provided to support the SMD Outreach goal. SMD-funded researchers can design an outreach effort that capitalizes upon their own talents, interests, and scientific expertise. By adding an Outreach component to their research investigation, they can engage the public in the excitement of NASA’s scientific exploration of our home planet, the solar system, and the rest of the universe, through stimulating and informative activities that reach a broad and varied audience.

Beginning in 2008, there are two pathways available to research scientists who wish to propose for the supplemental Education and Public Outreach (E/PO) awards: the Outreach pathway and the Education pathway. This program element in Appendix E.5 is for Outreach supplements. ROSES Element E.6 is for Education supplements.

Principal Investigators of research proposals selected for funding through this NRA (hereafter called the “parent research award”) are eligible for a supplemental Outreach award to the parent research award. In addition, Principal Investigators of research proposals selected for funding through previous ROSES NRAs are eligible, if the research award has at least 15 months remaining in its period of performance at the time of the submission of the Outreach proposal.

This program element is expected to appear in every ROSES solicitation.

2. Scope of Program

This solicitation element is for project activities that utilize SMD content and contribute to achieving SMD Outreach objectives. The scope of the supplemental Outreach awards includes all aspects of public outreach. Efforts promoting participation of underrepresented groups in Earth and space science studies are encouraged.

NASA SMD Outreach Portfolio	
Portfolio Area	Project Activity Categories
Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities to increase interest in science, engineering, and technology careers relevant to NASA SMD; • Activities to increase understanding by the general public of SMD science, engineering, and technologies; • Activities to increase participation of citizen scientists in SMD education opportunities; • Activities to increase public engagement in improving science, mathematics, engineering, and technology education in the United States.

Project activities must be relevant to NASA SMD Outreach portfolio. This relevance must be clearly demonstrated in the proposal.

It should be noted that this program element is only one of several ways that SMD invests in education and public outreach. Proposers are encouraged to take advantage of SMD E/PO investments in products, dissemination mechanisms, and opportunities to work with ongoing mission and nonmission E/PO project activities. Proposed project activities should not duplicate existing efforts, but should complement existing E/PO project activities embedded in missions or other ongoing project activities.

An effort that may be proposed to other SMD E/PO opportunities will not be considered under this program element. Examples of opportunities that are not solicited include: competitive research support for faculty and early career scientists sponsored under ROSES, graduate research support sponsored under the NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship Program, and education and outreach activities embedded in flight missions.

3. Programmatic Information

3.1 General Information

In order to propose an Outreach activity as a supplement to a research proposal submitted in response to this NRA, the proposer must follow these instructions:

- Proposals must be submitted through NSPIRES no later than the proposal due date to be included in the current evaluation cycle. The opportunity to propose is not linked to the award date for the parent research award or to the anniversary date of the parent research award. The NSPIRES proposal opportunity will be open approximately 90 days before each proposal due date.
- Research awards associated with previously selected supplement proposals may not be used as the basis for future Outreach or Education supplement proposals.
- The PI of the science award must also be the PI of the supplement proposal. A Co-I of the supplement proposal may be designated as the E/PO lead.
- A science award may be used as for the basis of submission for both an Education and an Outreach proposal for the same due date. NASA will make the determination of which one of the two proposals it would fund if both were selectable. Only one of the proposals would be funded.
- The evaluation of proposals will be managed by NASA Ames Research Center with oversight from the Science Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters. The Selection Official is the SMD E/PO Lead.
- The page limit for Outreach proposals is 4 pages, excluding the required budget form and budget narrative. Shorter proposals are encouraged, as long as the proposed activity is described with sufficient detail to allow an assessment of its merit.

- The on-line NSPIRES budget table will not be used to communicate to NASA the requested budget for this opportunity. A budget table following the format provided in the SMD Outreach Supplements Guide 1.0, Appendix I (available at <http://nasascience.nasa.gov/researchers/education-public-outreach/explanatory-guide-to-smd-e-po-evaluation-factors/>) must be included within the body of your attached proposal document. Neither this required budget table nor the required accompanying budget justification language will count towards the 4 page limit of the proposal narrative.
- The proposal must be clearly identified as an Outreach pathway proposal.
- The annual cost cap for a proposal by an individual investigator is \$10K per year for an Outreach pathway proposal.
- A “Collaborative Outreach Proposal” option is available that allows several SMD-funded ROSES researchers to collectively carry out more ambitious, expansive outreach efforts. Each collaborator must be involved in the effort and have an eligible ROSES research award. The supplemental funds are added to a single parent research award of the consortium of proposing investigators. The group submits the proposal under the parent research award of their choice and all collaborating research awards must be identified by title and PI (and Grant Number, if available). The PI of the parent research award is responsible for the overall performance of the effort and is responsible for distribution of any funding to collaborating researchers.

A Collaborative proposal may request up to \$50K annually, depending on the number of ROSES research awards being combined. The amount of eligible funding for Collaborative proposals is determined by multiplying the number of ROSES research awards by the individual award annual cap (\$10K) for Outreach project activities. For example, if there were six ROSES research awards in year 1, three in year 2, two in year 3, and two in year 4, the maximum funding per year for an Outreach project activity would be

Year 1	\$50k (6*10K=60K; limit of \$50K)
Year 2	\$30k (3*10K=30K)
Year 3	\$20k (2*10K=20K)
Year 4	\$20k (2*10K=20K)

Note: Research awards associated with a selected Collaborative proposal may not be used as a basis for a future Outreach or Education supplemental request.

- To ease the burden of NASA’s administration of such small supplements, the total period of performance for any Outreach supplement is limited to that of its parent research award (for collaborative supplements, this limit applies to the research award to which the supplemental Outreach funding is added). The supplemental Outreach supplement will begin at the time it is awarded and continue through the end of its proposed period, or through the end of the parent research award, whichever comes first.

- The total funding available for new supplemental Education and Outreach supplements is approximately \$500K per year. Pending adequate proposals of merit, NASA expects to select approximately equal numbers of Outreach pathway (Appendix E.5) and Education pathway (Appendix E.6) proposals, i.e., approximately 20 new supplements per pathway per year. Collaborative proposals may be selected in lieu of a number of individual proposals.

3.2 Technical Reporting Requirements

Reporting on the results of the Outreach project activity will be included as a component of the Annual Progress Report and Final Report of the parent research award. In cases where subaward arrangements exist, consolidated project activity reports are the responsibility of the PI.

3.3 Evaluation and Selection of Proposals

Proposers are reminded that the evaluation criteria for this solicitation are given in Section C.2 of the *NASA Guidebook for Proposers* (see below for reference). These criteria are intrinsic merit, relevance to NASA’s strategic goals and objectives, and cost realism and reasonableness. In addition, the evaluation of Outreach proposals will include the Program Balance Factors. The specific evaluation factors are described in the *Explanatory Guide to the NASA Science Mission Directorate Education & Public Outreach Evaluation Factors* at <http://nasascience.nasa.gov/researchers/education-public-outreach/explanatory-guide-to-smd-e-po-evaluation-factors>.

Proposers are strongly encouraged to review this *Explanatory Guide*. In particular, the *Explanatory Guide* provides discussion of requirements for SMD outreach project activities. Proposals to extend previously funded SMD E/PO efforts are also required to provide evaluation results of the prior effort.

4. Summary of Key Information

Expected annual program budget for new awards.	~ \$200K
Number of new awards pending adequate proposals of merit	~ 20 [Collaborative proposals may be selected in lieu of a number of individual proposals.]
Maximum duration of awards	Linked to parent research award
Due Date for Notice of Intent to Propose (NOI)	None requested for First Call Second Call: March 11, 2009
Due Date for proposals	First call: December 15, 2008 Second call: April 8, 2009
Page length for the central E/PO-Technical-Management section of proposal	4 pages

NASA strategic objective(s) which proposals must state and demonstrate relevance to	Every proposal must address one or more SMD Outreach Portfolio goals (see Section 2 of this appendix).
General information and overview of this solicitation	See the <i>ROSES Summary of Solicitation</i> .
Detailed instructions for the preparation and submission of proposals	See the <i>2008 NASA Guidebook for Proposers</i> at http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/procurement/nra/guidebook/ .
Submission medium	Electronic proposal submission is required; no hard copy is required or permitted. See also Section IV of the <i>ROSES Summary of Solicitation</i> and Chapter 3 of the <i>2008 NASA Guidebook for Proposers</i> .
Web site for submission of proposal via NSPIRES	http://nspires.nasaprs.com (help desk available at nspires-help@nasaprs.com or (202) 479-9376)
NASA point of contact concerning this program	Dr. Larry P. Cooper Science Mission Directorate NASA Headquarters Washington, DC 20546-0001 Telephone: (202) 358-1531 Email: larry.p.cooper@nasa.gov