



## **Iowa NASA EPSCoR Partnership Development Travel Grant**

### **Request for Proposals**

**Release Date: August 14, 2025**

**Awarded on rolling basis until funds are depleted.**

Period of Performance: September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2026

Final Report Due: September 30, 2026

#### **PTDG Description**

The specific goals and objectives of Iowa NASA EPSCoR include improving research connections between Iowa researchers and NASA collaborators. To increase Iowa's ability to respond to the technology needs within the NASA Mission Directorates, the Partnership Development Travel Grant (PTDG) allows travel to visit collaborative centers and attend meetings. You may complete the [NASA Collaboration Request](#) if you have not yet found a NASA collaborator.

The goal of the PTDG is to provide funds through the Iowa NASA EPSCoR program to build a broad cadre of researchers and industry through support of travel to bring together intra-state scholars to better exchange ideas, explore emerging research areas, and to work more effectively with NASA Centers, industry, other research organizations in the Iowa jurisdiction.

PDTGs up to \$7,650 each will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis, until funding is expended per year. Proposed travel objective should utilize NASA relevant themes or emerging NASA developed technology. Examples of activities that will be supported through this program include, but are not limited to, organizing or attending a NASA-relevant meeting, conference, or workshop. Recipients of this grant will be expected to submit proposals in the next round of Iowa NASA EPSCoR and/or NASA EPSCoR competitions.

The research agenda of Iowa NASA EPSCoR also supports the goals and objectives as determined by the Iowa Economic Development Authority. The relevant economy sectors for the PTDG include [Advanced Manufacturing](#) and [Biosciences](#).

This grant will support faculty from academia, as well as researchers from industry and government agencies in Iowa. The PTDG proposal should include plans for establishing or strengthening links with NASA researchers and fellow Iowa researchers.

#### **Funding Information**

- Funds may be used to support a Partnership Development Travel Grant *up to \$7,650*, which includes required indirect charges at ISU. Grants awarded to other institutions will be allowed to charge institutional rates as determined by the awardee's institution's policy. Grant amount may not exceed \$7,650 total, including all IDC amounts.
- PDTGs require a 25% cost share match.
- Funds may be used to travel to NASA Centers to allow in-person collaborative engagement, host or attend meetings within Iowa to network with fellow researchers, or other forms of collaboration that promote the establishment of a new or ongoing research collaboration

building long-term relationships with NASA and other in-state colleagues. It is also an effective way to bring NASA experience to the university for use in future proposals, collaborations, Annual Research Development Symposium, and the classroom.

- NASA Collaboration Requests - Click [here](#) to complete.
- Opportunity released August 14, 2025, funded on a rolling basis until funds are depleted.
- Period of Performance: September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2026
- Final Report Due: September 30, 2026
- Funds may be used for faculty salary support and travel.
- If your institution allows, waived indirect costs may be used as cost share.
- PDTG awards are intended to initiate **new** research collaborations in Iowa or with NASA, and to prepare researchers to propose to the much larger NASA research grants. To be eligible, the proposed research collaboration should be new, not be a continuation of existing or past collaborations.

### **Eligibility**

PIs from any of Iowa's higher educational institutions, industry, or governmental agencies are eligible to apply. This grant will promote junior faculty from academia, as well as researchers from industry and government agencies in Iowa, who do not yet have strong connections to NASA collaborators. This program encourages participation by PIs who are women, underrepresented minorities/populations, or persons with disabilities.

### **Cost-Sharing**

The Iowa NASA EPSCoR Research Building Seed Grant requires a **25% cost share match** in non-federal cash or in-kind cost-share. Salary and contributed F&A costs are the most common form of cost-share. Contact your Sponsored Programs or Business Office for assistance in determining what is allowed at your institution.

### **F&A Costs**

F&A (a.k.a. Indirect Costs) should be included in the budget calculations and charged as appropriate for the home institution.

### **Proposal Submission**

One PDF document consisting of the following items should be submitted to: [PDTG Submission](#)

#### **Proposal Preparation**

Required Section	Page Limit
Scientific/Technical/Management Plan: Research proposal that describes the technical and scientific merit, NASA connections to NASA and STEM strategic plans, and links to the NASA Mission Directorates.	3
Budget and Narrative*	As needed
Curriculum Vitae of PI	2
Letter(s) of support from NASA collaborator(s) – email format is okay	As needed

Submission questions or problems can be directed to: [nasaepscor@iastate.edu](mailto:nasaepscor@iastate.edu).

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### **Unallowable Expenses and Award Restrictions**

- Foreign travel

\*Budget format please use the appropriate (ISU vs Non-ISU) template provided [here](#), with a justification for each line item. For projects that contain support for graduate students, salary and fringe rates must mirror current guidelines set by the institution.

- Permanent equipment (>\$5,000) or general-purpose equipment may NOT be included.
- Civil-service personnel labor or travel
- Promotional materials
- Proposals shall not include bilateral participation, collaboration, or coordination with China or any Chinese-owned company or entity.
- NASA EPSCoR has no citizenship requirements, but it should be noted that foreign nationals (individuals who are neither U.S. citizens nor permanent residents) are not normally allowed access to NASA facilities.