

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT**



National Nuclear Security Administration

Office of Inertial Confinement Fusion

National Laser Users' Facility Program

Funding Opportunity Number: DE-FOA-0000358

Announcement Type: Initial

CFDA Number: 81.112

Issue Date:	06/04/2010
Letter of Intent Due Date:	Not Applicable
Pre-Application Due Date:	Not Applicable
Application Due Date:	06/30/2010 at 11:59:59 PM Eastern Time

NOTE: NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTS.GOV

Registration Requirements

There are several one-time actions you must complete in order to submit an application in response to this Announcement (e.g., obtain a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, register with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR), and register with Grants.gov). Applicants who are not registered with CCR and Grants.gov, should allow at least 21 days to complete these requirements. It is suggested that the process be started as soon as possible.

Applicants must obtain a DUNS number. DUNS website: <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>.

Applicants must register with the CCR. CCR website: <http://www.ccr.gov/>

Applicants must register with Grants.gov. Grants.gov website: <http://www.grants.gov/>

Applicants must register with FedConnect to submit questions. FedConnect website: www.fedconnect.net

Questions

Questions relating to the **system requirements or how an application form works** must be directed to Grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov.

Questions regarding the **content** of the announcement must be submitted through the FedConnect portal. You must register with FedConnect to respond as an interested party to submit questions, and to view responses to questions. It is recommended that you register as soon after release of the FOA as possible to have the benefit of all responses. DOE/NSA will try to respond to a question within 3 business days, unless a similar question and answer have already been posted on the website.

Application Preparation and Submission

Applicants must download the application package, application forms and instructions, from Grants.gov. Grants.gov website: <http://www.grants.gov/>
(Additional instructions are provided in Section IV A of this FOA.)

Where to Submit

Applications must be submitted through Grants.gov to be considered for award. You cannot submit an application through Grants.gov unless you are registered. Please read the registration requirements carefully and start the process immediately. Remember you have to update your CCR registration annually. If you have any questions about your registration, you should contact the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 to verify that you are still registered in Grants.gov.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO POTENTIAL APPLICANTS: When you have completed the process, you should call the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 to verify that you have completed the final step (i.e. Grants.gov registration).

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PART I – FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. OVERVIEW

The Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE) at the University of Rochester (UR) was established in 1970 to investigate the interaction of high-power lasers with matter. It is the home of the OMEGA Laser System that includes OMEGA—a 60-beam, 30-kJUV system with a wavelength of 0.35 μm ; and OMEGA EP—a 4-beam system with 2 beams operating at energies up to 6.5 kJUV with 10-ns duration (0.35 μm), and 2 beams that can operate either at energies up to 6.5 kJUV with 10-ns duration (0.35 μm) or as petawatt laser beams with up to 2.6 kJIR (1.054 μm) with a 10-ps duration.

The National Laser Users' Facility (NLUF) program is part of the Joint Program in High Energy Density Laboratory Plasmas, which is sponsored jointly by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), Office of Defense Science, and the Office of Fusion Energy, Office of Science. The NLUF program is sponsored through the NNSA Service Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The NLUF provides access to the OMEGA Laser System for University and Industrial Scientists. The OMEGA Laser System is maintained and operated for NLUF participants by the UR/LLE for the DOE/NNSA.

Approximately 15% of the OMEGA and OMEGA EP operating time will be available for the NLUF in Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012. UR/LLE researchers are available for scientific collaboration and for assistance with user experiments. Principal Investigators are encouraged to collaborate with UR/LLE staff members.

The NLUF offers opportunities for University and Industrial Scientists to perform experiments in high-energy-density (HED) physics and inertial confinement fusion (ICF), including laser–matter interactions, such as laboratory astrophysics, properties of materials under HED conditions, laser–plasma instabilities, etc. For a broad review of HED physics, see the National Research Council report, “Frontiers in High Energy Density Physics: The X-Games of Contemporary Science” (copyright 2003, National Academy Press, Washington, DC). Many of the physics regimes outlined in this report are accessible using the OMEGA Laser System.

For information about the facilities and further information about the NLUF program, including a User's Guide, please visit www.lle.rochester.edu.

For further information and potential NLUF collaborations, contact:

Dr. John M. Soures
National Laser Users' Facility
Laboratory for Laser Energetics
250 E. River Rd.
Rochester, NY 14623

Telephone: (585)-275-3866
Fax: (585)-275-5960

For technical information specifically related to Target Fabrication support, contact:

Mike Farrell
Phone: 858-455-3975
Cell: 858-525-1546
Fax: 858-909-5949
farrell@fusion.gat.com

Abbas Nikroo
Phone: 858-455-2931
Cell: 858-735-5008
Fax: 858-909-5949
nikroo@fusion.gat.com

General Atomics
3550 General Atomics Court
San Diego, CA 92121-1122

B. NLUF PROGRAM PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the National Laser Users' Facility is to provide access to NNSA's OMEGA Laser System *for university and industry-led HED and ICF experiments*. The specific objectives of the NLUF program are to provide access to the OMEGA Laser System, within an educational research environment, to a broad community of academic and industrial research interests, for use:

- 1) as tools for conducting basic laser-matter interaction, ICF, and HED physics research, and
- 2) in providing research experience necessary to maintain a cadre of trained scientists to meet the Nation's future needs in these areas of science and technology.

C. TECHNICAL SCOPE AND TOPICAL RESEARCH AREAS

The research tools and resources of the NLUF are available to scientists for state-of-the-art basic research in laser-matter interactions, ICF, HED physics, and diagnostic and experimental platform development. This includes, but is not limited to, laser-plasma instabilities, hydrodynamics, properties of materials under extreme conditions, laboratory astrophysics, high-intensity laser-matter interactions, advanced ignition concepts, fundamental HED physics, biology, and chemistry.

Basic research is defined as research directed toward increasing knowledge in a particular field of science. The primary aim of basic research is a fuller knowledge or understanding of the subject matter under study, rather than an immediate application of that knowledge.

D. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The NLUF Program is managed by the National Security Programs Division (NSPD) of the NNSA Service Center for the NNSA HQ, Office of ICF and NIF Project (NA-123), as part of the Joint Program in High Energy Density Laboratory Plasmas.

PART II – AWARD INFORMATION

A. TYPE OF AWARD INSTRUMENT

DOE anticipates awarding both grants and cooperative agreements under this program announcement. If it is determined that a cooperative agreement is the appropriate award instrument, the nature of the Federal involvement will be included in a special award condition.

B. ESTIMATED FUNDING

The Administration has requested approximately \$1,600,000 in FY 2011 and in FY 2012 (Total 2 years - \$3.2M) for this program. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on the appropriations for this program.

C. MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM AWARD SIZE

Ceiling (i.e., the maximum amount for an individual award made under this announcement): \$400,000.

Floor (i.e., the minimum amount for an individual award made under this announcement): \$ 25,000.

D. EXPECTED NUMBER OF AWARDS

Estimated 8-14 awards.

E. ANTICIPATED AWARD SIZE

DOE anticipates that awards will be in the \$50,000 to \$400,000 range for the total project period

F. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

DOE anticipates making awards that will run for two years. Anticipate project period would be November 2010 through November 2012.

G. TYPE OF APPLICATION

DOE will accept new and renewal applications under this announcement. Renewal applications are requests for additional funding for a period subsequent to that provided by a current award. Renewal applications compete with all other applications and must be submitted by any established due date/deadline or at least six months before additional funding is required if there is no specified due date/deadline. In preparing a renewal application, applicants should assume that reviewers will not have access to previous applications. The application should be developed as fully as though the applicant were applying for the first time. The application must include all the information required for a new project, plus the project narrative section should discuss the results from prior work.

PART III - ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

The objective of this NLUF announcement is to make research grants or cooperative agreements available, on a competitive basis, to Principal Investigators (PIs) who are members of the teaching/research faculty of a U.S. university or academic institution or employees of U.S.-based companies, for experimental use of the unique resources of the OMEGA Laser Facility at UR/LLE, through the Joint Program in High Energy Density Laboratory Plasmas (JPHEDL) sponsored by the Office of Fusion Energy Sciences (OFES) in the Office of Science and NNSA, both in the DOE. Adjunct professors, visiting professors, and post-doctoral fellows are ineligible to be Principal Investigators. Non-U.S. citizens employed at U.S. University or academic institutions or U.S. based companies may act as Principal Investigators, while Investigators from foreign university or academic institutions or foreign-based companies, irrespective of citizenship, may not. The latter may receive funding under a Sub-award. NNSA must be notified of any foreign nationals supported by the funded work, and there may be some restrictions on their participation at certain facilities and conferences. Investigators from the five principal laboratories participating in the ICF program (LLNL, LANL, SNL, NRL, and UR/LLE) are precluded from applying for NLUF grants and having their scientists being the principal investigator (PI) on the proposed grants. Qualified applicants may, where desired and appropriate, collaborate with or otherwise take advantage of the intellectual and physical assets of these five principal laboratories. Any NLUF resources that might flow down from grant awardees to these laboratories should be limited to incidental support.

Recipients and sub-recipients of NNSA financial assistance shall comply with the applicable requirements of 10 CFR Part 600, Federal Statutes, the OMB Circulars, and other Government-wide guidance implementing 10 CFR Part 600; and the requirements identified in Appendix A of 10 CFR Part 600.

B. COST SHARING

Cost sharing is not required.

C. OTHER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) Contractors. FFRDC contractors are not eligible for an award under this announcement, but they may be proposed as a team member on another entity's application subject to the following guidelines:

Authorization for non-DOE/NNSA FFRDCs. The Federal agency sponsoring the FFRDC contractor must authorize in writing the use of the FFRDC contractor on the proposed project and this authorization must be submitted with the application. The use of a FFRDC contractor must be consistent with the contractor's authority under its award and must not place the FFRDC contractor in direct competition with the private sector.

Authorization for DOE/NNSA FFRDCs. The cognizant contracting officer for the FFRDC must authorize in writing the use of a DOE/NNSA FFRDC contractor on the proposed project and this authorization must be submitted with the application. The following wording is acceptable for this authorization.

“Authorization is granted for the _____ Laboratory to participate in the proposed project. The work proposed for the laboratory is consistent with or complimentary to the missions of the laboratory, will not adversely impact execution of the DOE/NNSA assigned programs at the laboratory, and will not place the laboratory in direct competition with the domestic private sector.”

Value/Funding. The value of, and funding for, the FFRDC contractor portion of the work will not normally be included in the award to a successful applicant. Usually, DOE/NNSA will fund a DOE/NNSA FFRDC contractor through the DOE field work proposal system and other FFRDC contractors through an interagency agreement with the sponsoring agency.

FFRDC Contractor Effort:

The scope of work to be performed by the FFRDC contractor may not be more significant than the scope of work to be performed by the applicant.

Responsibility. The applicant, if successful, will be the responsible authority 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 applicant and the FFRDC contractor.

PART IV – APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. ADDRESS TO REQUEST APPLICATION PACKAGE

Application forms and instructions are available at Grants.gov. To access these materials, go to <http://www.grants.gov>, select “Apply for Grants,” and then select “Download Application Package.” Enter the CFDA and/or the funding opportunity number located on the cover of this announcement and then follow the prompts to download the application package.

B. LETTER OF INTENT AND PRE-APPLICATION

1. Letter of Intent.

Letters of Intent are not required.

2. Pre-application

Pre-applications are not required.

C. CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION – SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance

You must complete the mandatory forms and any applicable optional forms (e.g., Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)) in accordance with the instructions on the forms and the additional instructions below. Files that are attached to the forms must be in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) unless otherwise specified in this announcement.

1. **SF 424** - Complete this form first to populate data in other forms. Complete all the required fields in accordance with the pop-up instructions on the form. To activate the instructions, turn on the “Help Mode” (Icon with the pointer and question mark at the top of the form). The list of certifications and assurances referenced in Field 18 can be found on the DOE Financial Assistance Forms Page at http://management.energy.gov/business_doe/business_forms.htm under Certification and Assurances.

2. Other Project Information

Complete questions 1 through 5 and attach files. The files must comply with the following instructions:

Project Summary/Abstract (Field 6 on the Form)

The project summary/abstract must contain a summary of the proposed activity suitable for dissemination to the public. It should be a self-contained document that identifies the name of the applicant, the project director/principal investigator(s), the project title, the objectives of the project, a description of the project, including methods to be employed, the potential impact of the project (i.e., benefits, outcomes), and major participants (for collaborative projects). This document must not include any proprietary or sensitive business information as the Department may make it available to the public. The project summary must not exceed 1 page when printed using standard 8.5” by 11” paper with 1” margins (top, bottom, left and right) with font not smaller than 11 point. To attach a Project Summary/Abstract, click “Add Attachment.”

Project Narrative (Field 7 on the Form)

The project narrative must not exceed 25 pages, including cover page, table of contents, charts, graphs, maps, photographs, and other pictorial presentations, when printed using standard 8.5" by 11" paper with 1 inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right). **EVALUATORS WILL ONLY REVIEW THE NUMBER OF PAGES SPECIFIED IN THE PRECEDING SENTENCE.** The font must not be smaller than 11 point. Do not include any Internet addresses (URLs) that provide information necessary to review the application, because the information contained in these sites will not be reviewed. See Part VIII.D for instructions on how to mark proprietary application information. To attach a Project Narrative, click "Add Attachment."

The project narrative must include:

1. Narrative Cover Page must indicate:
 - (a) the name and type of organization;
 - (b) the announcement number;
 - (c) the project title;
 - (d) the technical and business points of contact for the applicant, denoting the names, titles, addresses, telephone and facsimile numbers, and electronic mail addresses;
 - (e) a statement that the document is an application, includes the Principal Investigator's name, telephone number, facsimile number, e-mail address, and academic institution;
 - (f) the DOE Grant identification number for projects currently funded under the previous NLUF program – Solicitation Number DE-PS52-08NA28649;
 - (g) specific area(s) of the technical scope of this solicitation relevant to the proposed project using the nomenclature indicated in Part I, Paragraph B (to be used in the evaluation/review process);
 - (h) clear indication whether the proposed technical activities described in the application are to be considered as a Center of Excellence for a Cooperative Agreement or a project for a Research Grant; and
2. Project Objectives: This section should provide a clear, concise statement of the specific objectives/aims of the proposed project.
3. Merit Review Criterion Discussion: This section should be formatted to address each of the merit review criterion and sub-criterion listed in Part V.A. Provide sufficient information so that reviewers will be able to evaluate the application in accordance with these merit review criteria. **DOE WILL EVALUATE AND CONSIDER ONLY THOSE APPLICATIONS THAT ADDRESS SEPARATELY EACH OF THE MERIT REVIEW CRITERION AND SUB-CRITERION.**
4. Relevance and Outcomes/Impacts: This section should explain the relevance of the effort to the objectives in the program announcement and the expected outcomes and/or impacts.
5. Project Management Plan: This section should identify the activities/tasks to be performed, a time schedule for the accomplishment of the activities/tasks, the spending plan associated with the activities/tasks, and the expected dates for the release of outcomes. Applicants may use their own project management system to provide this information. This plan should identify any decision points and go/no-go decision criteria. Successful applicants must use this project timetable format to report progress and budget variances. To reduce the number of files attached to your application, please provide the Project Management Plan as an appendix to your Project Narrative. This

appendix will not count in the Project Narrative page limitation.

6. **Bibliography and References Cited:** Provide a bibliography of any references cited in the Project Narrative. Each reference must include the names of all authors (in the same sequence in which they appear in the publication), the article and journal title, book title, volume number, page numbers, and year of publication. Include only bibliographic citations. Applicants should be especially careful to follow scholarly practices in providing citations for source materials relied upon when preparing any section of the application. In order to reduce the number of files attached to your application, please provide the Bibliography and References Cited information as an appendix to your Project Narrative. This appendix will not count in the Project Narrative page limitation.
7. **Facilities and Other Resources:** This information is used to assess the capability of the organizational resources, including sub-awardee resources, available to perform the effort proposed. Identify the facilities to be used (laboratory, office, laser, etc.) at each performance site listed. If appropriate, indicate their capacities—pertinent resources that are directly applicable to the proposed work. Describe other resources available to the project (such as machine shop, electronic shop) and the extent to which they would be available to the project. In order to reduce the number of files attached to your application, please provide the facility and other resource information as an appendix to your Project Narrative; this appendix will not count in the Project Narrative page limitation. Do not attach a file in Field 9.
8. **Equipment:** Information on the experimental equipment requirements of the proposal, including both standard equipment items, which maybe provided by the UR/LLE, and any special equipment to be purchased and/or provided by the applicant. In order to reduce the number of files attached to your application, please provide the Equipment information as an appendix to your project narrative. Do not attach a file in field 10. This appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation.
9. **OMEGA Laser, including OMEGA Extended Performance (EP) Laser:** Detailed information on the OMEGA Laser, diagnostics, and target requirements for the proposed work, including number of shots, number of OMEGA beamlines, total energy on target as well as a beam-to-beam energy variance, pulse shape, beam-smoothing plasma and laser diagnostics, target specifications, and other requirements that are important to the conduct of the proposed experiment (see http://www.lle.rochester.edu/02_visitors/02_nluf.html). Please provide the OMEGA laser detailed information as an appendix to your Project Narrative. This appendix will not count in the Project Narrative page limitation.
10. **Targets costs:** Information on target costs and method of obtaining targets must be provided. General Atomics (GA) is NNSA's target contractor and may provide targets for the proposed experiments. Several options are possible:
 - a. If the Principal Investigator requires that GA provide the targets, the Principal Investigator must contact GA in advance of submitting the NLUF proposal and discuss their target requirements with GA. GA will provide a cost estimate to Dr. John Soures at UR/LLE, for the required targets. The funding for targets would be provided as part of a separate ongoing contract between NNSA and GA, and would not be part of the NLUF proposal for funding. The target funding estimate will be considered as part of the

selection process. In this case, the PI must clearly state that he/she has been in communication with GA about target requirements and has requested an estimate of target costs be submitted to Dr. John Soures within two weeks of the close of the solicitation (June 15th, 2010).

b. If the Principal Investigator (PI) is funding the target production through the NLUF proposal, this must be stated in the proposal and the cost of targets included in the cost estimate for the NLUF proposal. The Principal Investigator would then procure targets from any qualified source (including General Atomics) using the NLUF funds, if their proposal is approved

c. If the Principal Investigator has external funding for targets and funding is not required from NLUF funds or from the ongoing contract between NNSA and GA, then the PI must clearly state in their proposal that no funding for target support is required.

11. Roles of Collaborators/Participants: Information on collaboration with scientists at UR/LLE or other institutions that are required for the conduct of the proposed work, including official institutional confirmation of the acceptance of such collaborations. For multi-organizational or multi-investigator projects, describe the roles and the work to be performed by each participant/investigator, business agreements between the applicant and participants, and how the various efforts will be integrated and managed. Please provide the Roles of Collaborators/Participants information as an appendix to your Project Narrative. This appendix will not count in the Project Narrative page limitation.
12. Evaluation Phase: This section must include a plan and metrics to be used to assess the success of the project. Please provide the Evaluation Phase information as an appendix to your Project Narrative. This appendix will not count in the Project Narrative page limitation.
13. Project Performance Site: Indicate the primary site where the work will be performed. If a portion of the work will be performed at any other sites, identify those sites, also. Please provide the Project Performance Site information as an appendix to your Project Narrative. This appendix will not count in the Project Narrative page limitation.

If you need to elaborate on your responses to questions 1-5 on the "Other Project Information" document, attach a file in field 11.

Other Attachments (Field 11 on the form):

Proposal Summary Sheet:

Complete the Proposal Summary Sheet in Appendix C. When completed, the Proposal Summary Sheet should not exceed two pages, with the font not smaller than 11 point. This file serves as a short summary of the proposal and more detailed information is provided in the narrative. Save the Proposal Summary file named "Summary.pdf" and click on "Add Optional Other Attachment" to attach.

Biographical Sketch Appendix:

Provide a biographical sketch for the project director/principal investigator (PD/PI) and each

senior/key person. Provide the biographical sketch information as an appendix to your project narrative. Do not attach a separate file. The biographical sketch appendix will not count in the project narrative page limitation. The biographical information for each person must not exceed 2 pages when printed on 8.5" by 11" paper with 1 inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) with font not smaller than 11 point and must include:

Education and Training:

Undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral training, provide institution, major/area, degree, and year.

Research and Professional Experience:

Beginning with the current position list, in chronological order, professional/academic positions with a brief description.

Publications:

Provide a list of up to 10 publications most closely related to the proposed project. For each publication, identify the names of all authors (in the same sequence in which they appear in the publication), the article title, book or journal title, volume number, page numbers, year of publication, and website address if available electronically.

Patents, copyrights, and software systems developed may be provided in addition to or substituted for publications.

Synergistic Activities: List no more than 5 professional and scholarly activities related to the effort proposed.

SF424 Excel Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs File

You must provide a separate budget for each year of support requested and a cumulative budget for the total project period. Use the SF 424A Excel, "Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs" form on the DOE Financial Assistance Forms Page at <http://management.energy.gov/documents/SF424Aexcel.xls>. (See Section IV-G)

You may request funds under any of the Object Class Categories as long as the item and amount are necessary to perform the proposed work, meet all the criteria for allowability under the applicable Federal cost principles, and are not prohibited by the funding restrictions in this announcement. Save the information in a single file named "Sf424A.xls", and click on "Add Optional Other Attachment" to attach.

Budget Justification File

You must justify the costs proposed in each Object Class Category/Cost Classification Category. Provide the following:

1. Key persons and personnel categories and the estimated costs for each person or category;
 - a) a list of equipment and the cost of each item;
 - b) proposed sub-award/consultant work and the cost of each sub-award/consultant;
 - c) description of the purposes of proposed travel, number of travelers and number of travel days;
 - d) a list of general categories of supplies and the amount for each category; and
 - e) any other information needed to support your proposed budget.

- f) Provide the name of your cognizant/oversight agency, if you have one, and the name and phone number of the individual responsible for negotiating your indirect rates.

Sub-Award Budget File(s)

You must provide a separate budget (i.e. budget for each budget year and a cumulative budget) for each sub-awardee expected to perform work estimated to be more than \$100,000 or 50 percent of the total work effort, whichever is less. Use the SF 424A Excel for Non-Construction Programs or the SF424C Excel for Construction Programs. These forms are found on the DOE Financial Assistance Forms Page at http://management.energy.gov/business_doe/business_forms.htm. Save each Sub-Award budget in a separate file. Use up to 10 letters of the sub-awardee's name (plus.xls) as the file name (e.g. ucla.xls or energyres.xls), and click on "Add Optional Other Attachment" to attach.

Elaboration on Questions One through Five

If you need to elaborate on your responses to Questions 1-5 on the "Other Project Information" document, provide the information in a single file named "projinfo.pdf". Click on "Add Optional Other Attachment" to attach.

SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

If applicable, complete SF-LLL. Applicability: If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the grant/cooperative agreement, you must complete and submit Standard Form – LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying." The applicant should complete the form for the SF-LLL. This requirement is applicable to sub-recipients of financial assistance as well as recipients. Provide the sub-recipient information in a single file named "SFLLLsubs.pdf" and click on "Add Optional Other Attachment" to attach to the Other Attachments form.

Name of Document	Format	Attach to
SF 424 Application	Form	N/A
Other Project Information	Form	N/A
Project Summary/Abstract	PDF	Field 6
Project Narrative, including required appendices	PDF	Field 7
SENIOR/KEY PERSON (Optional)	Form	N/A
Biographical Sketch	PDF	Attach to appropriate block
Current and Pending Support	PDF	Attach to appropriate block
BUDGET SF-424A- (Excel Format)	Form	N/A
Budget Justification	PDF	Field K

SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities , if applicable	Form	N/A
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D. SUBMISSIONS FROM SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

If selected for award, DOE/NNSA reserves the right to request additional or clarifying information for any reason deemed necessary, including, but not limited to:

- Indirect cost information
- Other budget information
- Name and phone number of the Designated Responsible Employee for complying with national policies prohibiting discrimination (See 10 CFR 1040.5)
- Representation of Limited Rights Data and Restricted Software, if applicable

E. SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES

1. Pre-application Due Date
Pre-applications are not required.
2. Application Due Date

Applications should be received by June 30, 2010, not later than 11:59:59 PM Eastern Time. You are encouraged to transmit your application well before the deadline. The Grants.gov Helpdesk is not available after 9:00 PM Eastern Time. APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE REVIEWED OR CONSIDERED FOR AWARD.

F. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372 – Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

G. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

Cost Principles Costs must be allowable in accordance with the applicable Federal cost principles referenced in 10 CFR part 600. The cost principles for commercial organization are in FAR Part 31.

Pre-award Costs Recipients may charge to an award resulting from this announcement pre-award costs that were incurred within the ninety (90) calendar day period immediately preceding the effective date of the award, if the costs are allowable in accordance with the applicable Federal cost principles referenced in 10 CFR part 600. Recipients must obtain the prior approval of the Contracting Officer for any pre-award costs that are for periods greater than this 90 day calendar period.

Pre-award costs are incurred at the applicant's risk. DOE is under no obligation to reimburse such costs if for any reason the applicant does not receive an award or if the award is made for a lesser amount than the applicant expected.

H. OTHER SUBMISSION AND REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Where to Submit

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH GRANTS.GOV TO BE CONSIDERED FOR AWARD. Submit electronic applications through the "Apply for Grants" function at www.Grants.gov. If you have problems completing the registration process or submitting your application, call Grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or send an email to support@grants.gov.

2. Registration Process

You must COMPLETE the one-time registration process (all steps) before you can submit your first application through Grants.gov (See www.grants.gov/GetStarted). **We recommend that you start this process at least three weeks before the application due date.** It may take 21 days or more to complete the entire process. Use the Grants.gov Organizational Registration Checklists at <http://www.grants.gov/assets/OrganizationRegCheck.pdf> to guide you through the process. **IMPORTANT:** During the CCR registration process, you will be asked to designate an E-Business Point of Contact (EBIZ POC). The EBIZ POC must obtain a special password called "Marketing Partner identification Number" (MPIN). When you have completed the process, you should call the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 to verify that you have completed the final step (i.e., Grants.gov registration).

Part V - APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. CRITERIA

1. Initial Review Criteria

Prior to a comprehensive merit evaluation, DOE will perform an initial review to determine that (1) the applicant is eligible for an award; (2) the information required by the announcement has been submitted; (3) all mandatory requirements are satisfied; and (4) the proposed project is responsive to the objectives of the funding opportunity announcement.

2. Merit Review Criteria

All applications meeting the requirements of the announcement will be evaluated. Applications will be technically evaluated based on the four general scientific/technical criteria listed below in descending order of importance with a relative weighting in the approximate ratio of 4:3:2:1:

1. Scientific and technical soundness and quality of the proposed method/approach, and the feasibility/likelihood of accomplishment of the stated objective;
2. The overall scientific/technical merit of the project and its relevance and prospective contribution to its field of research;
3. The competence, experience, and past performance of the applicant, principal investigator and/or key personnel; and
4. The demands of the project in terms of resource requirements (equipment, beam time, etc.) and/or other requirements (facility hardware modifications, component development, etc.) vis-à-vis competing demands.

3. Other Selection Factors

1. All applications will be evaluated by Laboratory for Laser Energetics' staff to determine the capability of the OMEGA laser to perform the proposed experiments and to assess potential system damage. This information will be provided to the Merit Review Chair and will be considered in the technical evaluation.
2. Prior to the meeting of the Merit Review Panel, NNSA's target contractor for NLUF, General Atomics, will provide input to the Merit Review Chair on any concerns about fabrication feasibility or cost of targets requested by the applicants through their contact with General Atomics in the application preparation process.
3. The scientific and technical merit of the project and its appropriateness will be judged based on what is written in the application. Judgment of the competency, adequacy, and feasibility of the application will involve technical opinion by the evaluator based on publications, citations, and general status of the technical field. Evaluators are expected to use their best judgment and evaluate the application accordingly.

B. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

1. Merit Review

Applications that pass the initial review will be subjected to a merit review in accordance with the guidance provided in the "Department of Energy Merit Review Guide for Financial Assistance and Unsolicited Proposals." This guide is available under Financial Assistance, Regulations and Guidance at <http://www.management.energy.gov/documents/meritrev.pdf>.

2. Selection

The Selection Official will consider the merit review recommendation, other selection factors, and the amount of funds available.

3. Discussions and Award

The Government may enter into discussions with a selected applicant for any reason deemed necessary, including but not limited to: (1) the budget is not appropriate or reasonable for the requirement; (2) only a portion of the application is selected for award; (3) the Government needs additional information to determine that the recipient is capable of complying with the requirements in 10 CFR part 600; and/or (4) special terms and conditions are required. Failure to resolve satisfactorily the issues identified by the Government will preclude award to the applicant.

C. ANTICIPATED NOTICE OF SELECTION AND AWARD DATES

DOE anticipates notifying applicants selected for award by August 1, 2010 and making awards by November 15, 2010.

Part VI - AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. AWARD NOTICES

1. Notice of Selection

DOE will notify applicants selected for award. This notice of selection is not an authorization to begin performance.

Organizations whose applications have not been selected will be advised as promptly as possible. This notice will explain why the application was not selected.

2. Notice of Award

A Notice of Financial Assistance Award issued by the Contracting Officer is the authorizing award document. It normally includes either as an attachment or by reference: (1) Special Terms and Conditions; (2) Applicable program regulations, if any; (3) Application as approved by DOE/NNSA.; (4) DOE assistance regulations at 10 CFR part 600, (5) National Policy Assurances To Be Incorporated As Award Terms; (6) Budget Summary; and (7) Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist, which identifies the reporting requirements.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

1. Administrative Requirements

The administrative requirements for DOE grants and cooperative agreements are contained in 10 CFR part 600 (See: <http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov>).

2. Special Terms and Conditions and National Policy Requirements

Special Terms and Conditions and National Policy Requirements

The DOE Special Terms and Conditions for Use in Most Grants and Cooperative Agreements are located at http://management.energy.gov/business_doe/business_forms.htm.

The National Policy Assurances To Be Incorporated As Award Terms are located at DOE http://management.energy.gov/business_doe/business_forms.htm.

Intellectual Property Provisions

The standard DOE financial assistance intellectual property provisions applicable to the various types of recipients are located at http://www.gc.doe.gov/financial_assistance_awards.htm.

Statement of Substantial Involvement

Either a grant or cooperative agreement may be awarded under this program announcement. If the award is a cooperative agreement, the DOE Specialist and DOE Project Officer will negotiate a Statement of Substantial Involvement prior to award.

C. REPORTING

Reporting requirements are identified on the Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist, DOE F 4600.2, attached to the award agreement.

PART VII - QUESTIONS/AGENCY CONTACTS

A. QUESTIONS

Questions regarding the content of the announcement must be submitted through the FedConnect portal. You must register with FedConnect as an interested party to submit questions and to receive responses to questions. It is recommended that you register as soon after release of the FOA as possible to have the benefit of all responses. More information is available at

https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/PublicPages/FedConnect_Ready_Set_Go.pdf. DOE will try to respond to a question within 3 business days, unless a similar question and answer have already been distributed.

Questions pertaining to the **submission** of applications through FedConnect should be directed by e-mail to support@FedConnect.net or by phone to FedConnect Support at 1-800-899-6665, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. PM Eastern Time.

B. Agency Contact(s)

Delmeria Pacheco
dpacheco@doeal.gov

NOTE: This is a competitive funding opportunity announcement, and DOE/NNSA representatives are barred from directly answering questions or responding to comments from applicants. All questions or comments should be submitted through the FedConnect portal, so they can be answered publicly.

PART VIII - OTHER INFORMATION

A. MODIFICATIONS

Notices of any modifications to this announcement will be distributed through the FedConnect portal. You can receive an email when a modification or an announcement message is posted by registering with FedConnect as an interested party for this FOA. It is recommended that you register as soon as possible after the release of the FOA, to ensure you receive timely notice of any modifications or other announcements.

B. GOVERNMENT RIGHT TO REJECT OR NEGOTIATE

DOE reserves the right, without qualification, to reject any or all applications received in response to this announcement and to select any application, in whole or in part, as a basis for negotiation and/or award.

C. COMMITMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The Contracting Officer is the only individual who can make awards or commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds. A commitment by other than the Contracting Officer, either explicit or implied, is invalid.

D. PROPRIETARY APPLICATION INFORMATION

Patentable ideas, trade secrets, proprietary or confidential commercial or financial information, disclosure of which may harm the applicant, should be included in an application only when such information is necessary to convey an understanding of the proposed project. The use and disclosure of such data may be restricted, provided the applicant includes the following legend on the first page of the project narrative and specifies the pages of the application which are to be restricted:

"The data contained in pages _____ of this application have been submitted in confidence and contain trade secrets or proprietary information, and such data shall be used or disclosed only for evaluation purposes, provided that if this applicant receives an award as a result of or in connection with the submission of this application, DOE shall have the right to use or disclose the data herein to the extent provided in the award. This restriction does not limit the government's right to use or disclose data obtained without restriction from any source, including the applicant."

To protect such data, each line or paragraph on the pages containing such data must be specifically identified and marked with a legend similar to the following:

"The following contains proprietary information that (name of applicant) requests not be released to persons outside the Government, except for purposes of review and evaluation."

E. EVALUATION AND ADMINISTRATION BY NON-FEDERAL PERSONNEL

In conducting the merit review evaluation, the Government will seek the advice of qualified non-Federal personnel as reviewers. The Government will use non-Federal personnel to conduct routine, nondiscretionary administrative activities. The applicant, by submitting its application, consents to the use of non-Federal reviewers/administrators. Non-Federal reviewers must sign

conflict of interest and non-disclosure agreements prior to reviewing an application. Non-Federal personnel conducting administrative activities must sign a non-disclosure agreement.

F. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEVELOPED UNDER THIS PROGRAM

Patent Rights. The government will have certain statutory rights in an invention that is conceived or first actually reduced to practice under a DOE award. 42 U.S.C. 5908 provides that title to such inventions vests in the United States, except where 35 U.S.C. 202 provides otherwise for nonprofit organizations or small business firms. However, the Secretary of Energy may waive all or any part of the rights of the United States subject to certain conditions. (See “Notice of Right to Request Patent Waiver” in paragraph G below.)

Rights in Technical Data. Normally, the government has unlimited rights in technical data created under a DOE agreement. Delivery or third party licensing of proprietary software or data developed solely at private expense will not normally be required except as specifically negotiated in a particular agreement to satisfy DOE’s own needs or to insure the commercialization of technology developed under a DOE agreement.

Special Protected Data Statutes. This program is covered by a special protected data statute. The provisions of the statute provide for the protection from public disclosure, for a period of up to 5 years from the development of the information, of data that would be trade secret, or commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential, if the information had been obtained from a non-Federal party. Generally, the provision entitled, Rights in Data – Programs Covered Under Special Protected Data Statutes (10 CFR 600 Appendix A to Subpart D), would apply to an award made under this announcement. This provision will identify data or categories of data first produced in the performance of the award that will be made available to the public, notwithstanding the statutory authority to withhold data from public dissemination, and will also identify data that will be recognized by the parties as protected data.

G. NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REQUEST PATENT WAIVER

Applicants may request a waiver <http://www.gc.energy.gov/documents/advancedwaiverpetition.pdf> of all or any part of the rights of the United States in inventions conceived or first actually reduced to practice in performance of an agreement as a result of this announcement, in advance of or within 30 days after the effective date of the award. Even if such advance waiver is not requested or the request is denied, the recipient will have a continuing right under the award to request a waiver of the rights of the United States in identified inventions, i.e., individual inventions conceived or first actually reduced to practice in performance of the award. Any patent waiver that may be granted is subject to certain terms and conditions in 10 CFR 784 <http://www.gc.doe.gov/documents/patwaivclau.pdf>.

Domestic small businesses and domestic nonprofit organizations will receive the patent rights clause at 37 CFR 401.14, i.e., the implementation of the Bayh-Dole Act. This clause permits domestic small business and domestic nonprofit organizations to retain title to subject inventions. Therefore, small businesses and nonprofit organizations do not need to request a waiver.

H. NOTICE REGARDING ELIGIBLE/INELIGIBLE

Eligible activities under this program include those which describe and promote the understanding of scientific and technical aspects of specific energy technologies, but not those which encourage or

support political activities such as the collection and dissemination of information related to potential, planned or pending legislation.

APPENDICES/REFERENCE MATERIAL

Appendix A – Definitions

“Amendment” means a revision to a Funding Opportunity Announcement

"Applicant" means the legal entity or individual signing the Application. This entity or individual may be one organization or a single entity representing a group of organizations (such as a Consortium) that has chosen to submit a single Application in response to a Funding Opportunity Announcement.

"Application" means the documentation submitted in response to a Funding Opportunity Announcement.

“Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)” is the person with assigned privileges who is authorized to submit grant applications through Grants.gov on behalf of an organization. The privileges are assigned by the organization’s E-Business Point of Contact designated in the CCR.

"Award" means the written documentation executed by a DOE Contracting Officer, after an Applicant is selected, which contains the negotiated terms and conditions for providing Financial Assistance to the Applicant. A Financial Assistance Award may be either a Grant or a Cooperative Agreement.

"Budget" means the cost expenditure plan submitted in the Application, including both the DOE contribution and the Applicant Cost Share.

“Central Contractor Registration (CCR)” is the primary database which collects, validates, stores and disseminates data in support of agency missions. Funding Opportunity Announcements which require application submission through FedConnect or Grants.gov require that the organization first be registered in the CCR at <http://www.grants.gov/CCRRegister>.

"Consortium (plural consortia)" means the group of organizations or individuals that have chosen to submit a single Application in response to a Funding Opportunity Announcement.

"Cooperative Agreement" means a Financial Assistance instrument used by DOE to transfer money or property when the principal purpose of the transaction is to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by Federal statute, and Substantial Involvement (see definition below) is anticipated between DOE and the Applicant during the performance of the contemplated activity.

"Cost Sharing" means the respective share of Total Project Costs to be contributed by the Applicant and by DOE. The percentage of Applicant Cost Share is to be applied to the Total Project Cost (i.e., the sum of Applicant plus DOE Cost Shares) rather than to the DOE contribution alone.

"Credential Provider" is an organization that validates the electronic identity of an individual through electronic credentials, PINS, and passwords for Grants.gov. Funding Opportunity Announcements which require application submission through Grants.gov require that the individual applying on behalf of an organization first be registered with the Credential Provider at <https://apply.grants.gov/OrcRegister>.

"Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number" is a unique nine-character identification number issued by Dun and Bradstreet (D&B). Organizations must have a DUNS number prior to registering in the CCR. Call 1-866-705-5711 to receive one free of charge.
http://www.grants.gov/applicants/request_duns_number.jsp

"E-Business Point of Contact (POC)" is the individual who is designated as the Electronic Business Point of Contact in the CCR registration. This person is the sole authority of the organization with the capability of designating or revoking an individual's ability to conduct CCR transactions.

"E-Find" is a Grants.gov webpage where you can search for Federal Funding Opportunities in FedGrants. <http://www.grants.gov/search/searchHome.do>

"Financial Assistance" means the transfer of money or property to an Applicant or Participant to accomplish a public purpose of support authorized by Federal statute through Grants or Cooperative Agreements and sub awards. For DOE, it does not include direct loans, loan guarantees, price guarantees, purchase agreements, Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs), or any other type of financial incentive instrument.

"FedConnect" is where federal agencies post opportunities and make awards via the web. Any Applicant can view public postings without registering. However, registered users have numerous added benefits including the ability to electronically submit Applications / Responses to the government directly through this site. <https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/>

"Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC)" means a research laboratory as defined by Federal Acquisition Regulation 35.017.

"Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)" is a publicly available document by which a Federal agency makes known its intentions to award discretionary grants or cooperative agreements, usually as a result of competition for funds. Funding opportunity announcements may be known as program announcements, notices of funding availability, FOAs, or other names depending on the agency and type of program.

"Grant" means a Financial Assistance instrument used by DOE to transfer money or property when the principal purpose of the transaction is to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by Federal statute, and no Substantial Involvement is anticipated between DOE and the Applicant during the performance of the contemplated activity.

"Grants.gov" is the "storefront" web portal which allows organizations to electronically find grant opportunities from all Federal grant-making agencies. Grants.gov is THE single access point for over 900 grant programs offered by the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. <http://www.grants.gov>

"Key Personnel" individuals who will have significant roles in planning and implementing the proposed Project on the part of the Applicant and Participants, including FFRDCs.

"Marketing Partner Identification Number (MPIN)" is a very important password designated by your organization when registering in CCR. The E-Business Point of Contact will need the MPIN to assign privileges to the individual(s) authorized to perform CCR transactions on behalf of your organization. The MPIN must have 9 digits containing at least one alpha character (must be in capital letters) and one number (no spaces or special characters permitted).

"Participant" for purposes of this Funding Opportunity Announcement only, means any entity, except the Applicant substantially involved in a Consortium, or other business arrangement (including all parties to the Application at any tier), responding to the Funding Opportunity Announcement.

"Principal Investigator" refers to the technical point of contact/Project Manager for a specific project award.

"Project" means the set of activities described in an Application, State plan, or other document that is approved by DOE for Financial Assistance (whether such Financial Assistance represents all or only a portion of the support necessary to carry out those activities).

"Recipient" means the organization, individual, or other entity that receives a Financial Assistance Award from DOE, is financially accountable for the use of any DOE funds or property provided for the performance of the Project, and is legally responsible for carrying out the terms and condition of the award.

"Selection" means the determination by the DOE Selection Official that negotiations take place for certain Projects with the intent of awarding a Financial Assistance instrument.

"Selection Official" means the DOE official designated to select Applications for negotiation toward Award under a subject Funding Opportunity Announcement.

"Substantial Involvement" means involvement on the part of the Government. DOE's involvement may include shared responsibility for the performance of the Project; providing technical assistance or guidance which the Applicant is to follow; and the right to intervene in the conduct or performance of the Project. Such involvement will be negotiated with each Applicant prior to signing any agreement.

"Total Project Cost" means all the funds to complete the effort proposed by the Applicant, including DOE funds (including direct funding of any FFRDC) plus all other funds that will be committed by the Applicant as Cost Sharing.

Personally Identifiable Information

Appendix B

In responding to this Announcement, Applicants must ensure that Protected Personally Identifiable Information (PII) is not included in the following documents: Project Abstract, Project Narrative, Biographical Sketches, Budget or Budget Justification. These documents will be used by the Merit Review Committee in the review process to evaluate each application. PII is defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and DOE as:

Any information about an individual maintained by an agency, including but not limited to, education, financial transactions, medical history, and criminal or employment history and information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity, such as their name, social security number, date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, biometric records, etc., including any other personal information that is linked or linkable to an individual.

This definition of PII can be further defined as: (1) Public PII and (2) Protected PII.

- a. Public PII: PII found in public sources such as telephone books, public websites, business cards, university listing, etc. Public PII includes first and last name, address, work telephone number, email address, home telephone number, and general education credentials.
- b. Protected PII: PII that requires enhanced protection. This information includes data that if compromised could cause harm to an individual such as identity theft.

Listed below are examples of Protected PII that Applicants must not include in the files listed above to be evaluated by the Merit Review Committee.

- Social Security Numbers in any form
- Place of Birth associated with an individual
- Date of Birth associated with an individual
- Mother's maiden name associated with an individual
- Biometric record associated with an individual
- Fingerprint
- Iris scan
- DNA
- Medical history information associated with an individual
- Medical conditions, including history of disease
- Metric information, e.g. weight, height, blood pressure
- Criminal history associated with an individual
- Employment history and other employment information associated with an individual
- Ratings
- Disciplinary actions
- Performance elements and standards (or work expectations) are PII when they are so intertwined with performance appraisals that their disclosure would reveal an individual's performance appraisal
- Financial information associated with an individual
- Credit card numbers
- Bank account numbers
- Security clearance history or related information (not including actual clearances held)

Listed below are examples of Public PII that Applicants may include in the files listed above to be evaluated by the Merit Review Committee:

- Phone numbers (work, home, cell)
- Street addresses (work and personal)
- Email addresses (work and personal)
- Digital pictures
- Medical information included in a health or safety report
- Employment information that is not PII even when associated with a name
- Resumes, unless they include a Social Security Number
- Present and past position titles and occupational series
- Present and past grades
- Present and past annual salary rates (including performance awards or bonuses, incentive awards, merit pay amount, Meritorious or Distinguished Executive Ranks, and allowances and differentials)
- Present and past duty stations and organization of assignment (includes room and phone numbers, organization designations, work email address, or other identifying information regarding buildings, room numbers, or places of employment)
- Position descriptions, identification of job elements, and those performance standards (but not actual performance appraisals) that the release of which would not interfere with law enforcement programs or severely inhibit agency effectiveness
- Security clearances held
- Written biographies (e.g. to be used in a program describing a speaker)
- Academic credentials
- Schools attended
- Major or area of study
- Personal information stored by individuals about themselves on their assigned workstation or laptop unless it contains a Social Security Number

APPENDIX C

NATIONAL LASER USERS' FACILITY PROGRAM Proposal Summary Sheet

Principal Investigator: (Name, Institution, Address)	
Title of Proposed Project:	
Proposed Project Objectives:	
Approach:	
Number of Students Involved <div style="text-align: right;">Graduate(s):</div> <div style="text-align: right;">Undergraduate(s):</div>	
Facility Requirements: (OMEGA/OMEGA EP)	
Target Fabrication Summary 1. Funds proposed within this proposal, or 2. Statement that discussions with GA have been held for GA supplied targets, or 3. Targets will be provided by non-NLUF and non-GA support	
Target Types:	
Number of Shots:	

Diagnostic Development Required:	
Equipment Required:	
User Provided Equipment:	

Comments: