Please see the call for concept papers for a limited competition below and attached, with a **deadline of November 6, 2020**.

**EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Program: Track-2 Focused EPSCoR Collaborations (RII Track-2 FEC)**

Call for Concept Papers on the topic: "**Advancing research towards Industries of the Future to ensure economic growth for EPSCoR jurisdictions**.”

**Limit on Number of Proposals per Organization:** 1

Only one RII Track-2 FEC proposal may be submitted in response to this solicitation by an organization in a RII-eligible jurisdiction.

**Limit on Number of Proposals per PI or Co-PI:** 1

Investigators cannot be PI or co-PI on more than one RII Track-2 project, both currently awarded or in this competition, but may serve as senior personnel on any number of RII Track-2 proposals.

**Sponsor synopsis**: RII Track-2 FEC builds inter-jurisdictional collaborative teams of EPSCoR investigators in scientific focus areas consistent with NSF priorities. Projects are investigator-driven and must include researchers from at least two RII- eligible jurisdictions with complementary expertise and resources necessary to tackle those projects, which neither party could address as well or rapidly alone. The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) research and education activities should seek to broaden participation through the strategic inclusion and integration of different types of individuals, institutions, and sectors throughout the project. Proposals must describe a comprehensive and integrated vision to drive discovery and build sustainable STEM capacity that exemplifies diversity of all types (individual, institutional, geographic, and disciplinary). *The development of diverse early-career faculty is a critical component of this sustainable STEM capacity.* For FY 2021, RII Track-2 FEC proposals are invited on a single topic: “Advancing research towards Industries of the Future to ensure economic growth for EPSCoR jurisdictions.”

For a complete list of eligible jurisdictions and NSF requirements, see the solicitation: <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2021/nsf21518/nsf21518.htm>

Concept Papers must contain the following:

1.     Brief overview which describes the vision and goals of the collaboration, a statement of the objectives and methods, the expected impacts, and the plans for sustaining the collaboration.

2.     Describe the motivation for establishing the collaboration and how the proposed project fits with “Advancing research towards Industries of the Future to ensure economic growth for EPSCoR jurisdictions.”

3.     Describe the interjurisdictional collaboration and partnership that will be built, expanded, or sustained through this project. Clearly name the proposed partners and their location.

4.     Briefly characterize project goals and activities in the following domains: research, collaboration, workforce development and broader impacts.

Concept papers should be formatted in accordance with current [NSF style guidelines](https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg20_1/index.jsp) and **should** **not exceed three pages**. To submit a concept paper or review the complete guidelines please visit [InfoReady](https://umaine.infoready4.com/). For more information contact Saul Allen ([saul.allen@maine.edu](mailto:saul.allen@maine.edu)) at the Office of Research Development.

Concept Paper Deadline: **4:30 PM November 6, 2020**.

NSF Letter of Intent Deadline: **December 18, 2020**

NSF Full Proposal Deadline: **January 25, 2021**