



**KANSAS NSF ESTABLISHED PROGRAM  
TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH  
(EPSCoR)**

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***REQUEST FOR WHITE PAPERS:***

**RESEARCH &  
EDUCATION  
INNOVATION (REI)  
AWARDS**

**For Research in Microbiomes across  
Aquatic, Plant and Soil Systems**

**Submission Deadline: Monday, June 14, 2021**

## Research & Education Innovation (REI) Awards.

Kansas NSF EPSCoR is seeking White Papers for impactful initiatives for REI Awards.

### Project Director

Dr. Kristin Bowman-James, Kansas NSF EPSCoR, Foley Hall, University of Kansas, 2021 Constant Ave., Lawrence, KS 66047-3729. Telephone: 785-864-3096.

Email: [nsfepscor@ku.edu](mailto:nsfepscor@ku.edu) Web site: <http://www.nsfepscor.ku.edu>

### Source of Funds

The source of funding for REI Awards is Kansas NSF EPSCoR, which receives its funding from the current NSF EPSCoR RII Track-1 award (OIA-1656006).

### Focus Area

The focus for the awards is in the area of microbiomes, in accordance with the current RII Track-1 award titled *Microbiomes of Aquatic, Plant and Soil Systems (MAPS) across Kansas*.

### Purpose

REI awards are for MAPS research or education initiatives that:

- increases multidisciplinary, multi-institutional and multi-sector collaborations to promote synergy across MAPS thrust areas and lead to long term sustainable funding;
- improves the likelihood that the MAPS project can complete its proposed scope of work with the highest impact;
- results in increased MAPS outputs and outcomes (publications, proposals, curricula, broadened participation, etc.); and
- develops stronger linkages between research and education.

### Eligibility

Eligible to apply is any MAPS faculty member at Kansas State University (K-State), University of Kansas (KU), Wichita State University (WSU), and Fort Hays State University (FHSU).

### Award Amount and Duration of Award

An individual Principal Investigator may submit a total project budget of up to \$50,000 in direct costs for up to 12 months; however consideration will be given to highly meritorious projects with potentially highly significant impact that might require larger amounts. It is expected that Kansas NSF EPSCoR will fund two or more awards depending upon the funds available. The start date is expected to be July 1, 2021.

### Application Procedure

Prepare the REI Award White Paper as a single PDF containing the following components in the order listed:

- a. Cover sheet (1 page max) should include:
  - i. Proposal Title
  - ii. Name, affiliation and email for the PI and each co-PI

- iii. Project duration (in months) and proposed start date, e.g. 12 months starting July 1, 2021.
- b. Project summary (2 pages max) that follows the NSF Proposal Margin and Spacing Requirements (*PAPPG NSF 20-1*). The description should include the following:
  - i. Purpose and rationale for the initiative and its relation to MAPS research
  - ii. Specific goals and a timeline for expected outcomes
  - iii. Summary of proposed activities and how they will achieve the specific project goals and the purpose of REI Awards (see “**Purpose**,” page 2)
- c. Budget
  - i. Prepared on the KNE Budget form downloaded from <https://nsfepscor.ku.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/First-Award-RFP-Budget.xls>.
  - ii. Budget justification (1-2 pages).

To submit a White Paper the PDF described above must be sent as an email attachment to [nsfepscor@ku.edu](mailto:nsfepscor@ku.edu).

**White Papers must be submitted via this process by 5:00 pm Monday, June 14, 2021.**

#### **Review Criteria**

Kansas NSF EPSCoR, along with research officers at KU, K-State and WSU, will evaluate the initiative described in the White Paper. *Only research clearly related to the Track-1 MAPS project will be considered.* Projects deemed to have the highest impact and merit will receive awards (limited to funds available).

#### **Contact Information**

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#### **Questions**

Questions may be directed to Doug Byers, Assistant Director, at 785-864-3227 or [dbyers@ku.edu](mailto:dbyers@ku.edu).