



FY16 Call for LDRD Proposals

Total Funding Available \$900,000 (tentative, includes continuations)

Length of Project 1 October 2015 to 30 September 2016

Up to 3 years can be requested, but must be re-approved yearly.

Overview of LDRD

LDRD projects are compelling and mission-oriented (team) research whose objective is to stimulate R&D innovation directly supporting our Laboratory's *strategic initiatives*, *enhancing capabilities* to maintain our scientific and technological vitality, and *building capacity* to respond to rapidly emerging R&D opportunities of clear potential benefit to DOE's mission.

LDRD **cannot provide additional support** for a currently funded program (i.e., **no supplementing** with people, materials, or equipment) **nor support travel** except as needed for experiments. See *LDRD Overview and Documentation, including restrictions*, at <http://www.ameslab.gov/ldr>.

Areas Considered for Funding

- 1) **Novel Projects**
- 2) **Exceptional Opportunities** (helping acquire our future talent and leadership, e.g., *Spedding Post-Doctoral Fellow* – see appended sketch)
- 3) **Strategic Initiatives** –
 - a. Materials Discovery and Design (MaDD) Sciences
 - b. Green Advances for Catalysis and Energy (GrACE)
 - c. Solid-State NMR Sciences (PRIMROSE)

LDRD Focus FY16

While all areas remain open for exceptional proposals, support for the lab's strategic initiatives this year remains the program's highest priority.

With PRIMROSE receiving strong support for DNP-NMR in FY15, the focus in FY16 will be on **MaDD Science** (*in particular, caloric systems and similar materials at the edge of stability*) and **Computational Sciences** (*focused on building new capabilities*). A Spedding Fellowship may be included in the request, if appropriate and an exceptional candidate is identified before the submission. (Fellowship description and criteria is below on page 3.)

Highly Suggested: Discuss your proposed submission with program/division directors to establish program support and coordination.



✓ **Review and Selection Process (see also FAQs online)**

For FY16, a 4-page proposal for full year funding will be accepted **anytime in April 2015** (only one per PI). For proposed mid-year LDRD start, make request to submit full LDRD proposal for screening, and, if instructed (depending on available LDRD funds) submit full proposal in **January 2016**.

A *compliance screening* of the proposal will be made, and only the best and most relevant LDRD proposals will receive review, and, of those, only a select number will be funded commensurate with available funds and director's focus areas. Proposals not selected for review will be notified immediately. Upon receipt of the reviews, a ranking and down-selection recommendation will be made. The lab director (or designate) makes final project funding selection, and the Ames Lab site office makes final approval in official letter.

✓ **Project Datasheets* (required)**

A LDRD Project Datasheet* is required for all LDRD submissions – **no** proposal will be considered without it. The budget should be estimated using the LDRD Budget Excel spreadsheet. Self-assign a *Project Identifier* **FY2016-ID#-R#**, where **ID#** is *first letter of first name* plus *first three letters of PI last name* (i.e. 4 letters, which for, e.g., Bob Dylan are BDYL) and **R#** is the submission day given as a four-digit number with two-digit month and day (e.g., for Jan 03, R# is 0103), given Project ID of FY2016-BDYL-0103.

✓ **Full Proposal Requirements**

Items to be submitted as part of full proposal:

1. LDRD Project Datasheet* (*download from LDRD page*)
2. Completed and signed PPF form (*request a PPF number from Beth Ebert, 4-6486, ebert@ameslab.gov*)
3. Full proposal (*4-pages, references may be on 5th page*)
4. Budget from a Budget Office approved Worksheet, **with request for appropriate equipment and personnel to perform work.**

Consult your Division/Program Office to get an appropriate budget (people, materials, equipment, e-beam time,...). **Offices contact LDRD@ameslab.gov for up-to-date Budget Worksheet, if needed.**

Address all items stated in the LDRD Proposal Requirements reflected on the LDRD *Scoring Worksheet* (see <http://www.ameslab.gov/lldr>).

✓ **Proposal Submission**

PI or Program Office submits 4 PDF files (FY2016-ID#-R#-XXX, where XXX=Datasheet*, PPF, Budget, and Proposal) via email sent to LDRD@ameslab.gov with *Subject: LDRD submission FY2016-ID#-R#*.

***The datasheet is an interactive template and must remain so, requiring newer versions of Acrobat to maintain this.**



Spedding Fellowship at Ames Laboratory

Our Spedding Fellowship is the most prestigious fellowship at Ames Laboratory and honors Frank Spedding, the first Director of the Laboratory. The Spedding Fellowship attracts new scientific talent to Ames Laboratory, making it possible for these outstanding new scientists to continue on the path to excellence while substantially contributing to Ames Laboratory and U.S. Department of Energy scientific missions.

The Spedding Fellowship provides the opportunity for recent doctoral degree recipients of exceptional talent and ability to pursue their own research directions in support of our scientific initiatives in a collaborative, multidisciplinary, team environment under the guidance of a senior staff scientist who serves as a mentor. While not guaranteed, the intention of the program is to select individuals who will qualify for scientific staff positions at Ames Laboratory upon completion of the appointment.

Support for the fellowship is from our Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) Program, which requires a reviewed research proposal that aligns with the Laboratory's strategic initiatives and is submitted by the proposed senior staff scientist mentor, which requires early planning. The LDRD proposal process is announced each year on the laboratory's website (see <https://www.ameslab.gov/research/ldrd>) in March time frame with proposals due in April.

Key Selection Criteria: The statement of technical interests (a succinct research plan), letters of recommendation, and your scientific track record (publication record) are all very important. A Ph.D. in relevant field is required. Any finalist is invited for a two-day interview that includes a seminar about their current research work. The seminar and interview are important for demonstrating excellent communication skills, particularly the ability to explain successfully specialized topics to a broad, interdisciplinary audience.