

This document will be continuously updated with anonymized questions and their answers regarding LAB 21-2495. Please check back frequently for updates.

Question-1: “I have a question regarding allowed partnering for LAB 21-2495. The Announcement describes the two mechanisms that can support teams of multiple institutions, but we wanted to confirm with you, are universities and/or industry allowable institutions for the lead National Labs to partner with?”

Answer-1: Yes, National Labs can partner with industry and universities.

Question-2: “The lab announcement LAB 21-2495 states ‘This is a DOE National Laboratory-only Announcement. FFRDCs from other Federal agencies are not eligible to submit in response to this Program Announcement’. Are FFRDCs from other Federal agencies allowable institutions for the lead National Labs to partner with?”

Answer-2: Yes, National Labs can partner with FFRDCs from other Federal agencies.

Question-3: “If the lead National Laboratory is partnering with several universities, but would like to use the Multi-Institutional Team Model, can the universities submit their own application as a collaborator or do they have to be a subaward to the lead National Laboratory?”

Answer-3: The university partners cannot submit a collaborative application, instead the universities would have to be listed as a consortia/sub on the lead National Laboratory application.

Question-4: “Is there a preferred balance of hardware vs effort?”

Answer-4: The balance of hardware vs. effort is at the discretion of the Applicant, and will be assessed in accordance with the merit review criteria published in the lab announcement.

Question-5: “Is it appropriate to get letters of participation from research organizations funded by other Federal agencies?”

Answer-5: Yes. Please ensure that letters of participation do not become letters of recommendation or endorsement.

Question-6: “Is it appropriate to connect scope with research activities in other organizations or should those be clearly factorizable?”

Answer-6: The Background/Introduction should explain the importance and relevance of the proposed work as well as review the relevant literature. The proposed research plan is at the discretion of the Applicant, and will be assessed in accordance with the merit review criteria published in the lab announcement.

Question-7: “Is it appropriate to include stretch goals and longer-term vision for the evolution of the project beyond the five years?”

Answer-7: DOE anticipates making awards with a project period of five years. The content of the application is at the discretion of the Applicant. DOE makes no commitments beyond the scope of any authorizations that may be issued through the Field Work System.