

# Clean Energy Supercluster RFA

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## **Announcement Clean Energy Supercluster Internal Grant Request for Applications (RFA)**

The Clean Energy Supercluster (CES) is issuing an RFA to enhance CSU activities and programs related to clean energy. Activities funded through this RFA must contribute to one of the major technology or cross-cutting areas identified by the CES. The CES website contains additional details on the mission, major areas of emphasis, and organization of the CES. One-time proposals will be funded in two general categories:

- Capacity Building –funding for workshops, retreats, outreach projects, speakers, etc.
  - Duration – 1 year
  - Funding – \$15,000 max
- Research Project – start-up projects focused on one of the CES major themes
  - Duration – 1 year
  - Funding - \$15,000 max for single investigator; \$35,000 for multi-discipline

For both Capacity Building and Research Project grants, successful proposals will typically be multidisciplinary, will address specific needs and opportunities of the major thrust areas in the CES (e.g., biofuels, solar, wind, energy efficiency, policy, etc), will enhance the clean-energy capabilities at Colorado State University, and will be coordinated through the CES Steering Committee. Proposals will be reviewed and funding decisions will be made by the same committee.

An anticipated outcome of this RFA is the funding of ideas that support product development potential, both directly and indirectly. Examples could include projects that create intellectual property, validate commercial utility, or establish research or training programs that clarify CES product development opportunities.

## **Request for Applications (RFA) Clean Energy Capacity Building and Research Proposals**

Application receipt date: March 28, 2008

### PURPOSE OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING AND CLEAN ENERGY RESEARCH RFA

The mission of the CSU Clean Energy Supercluster is to promote an institution-wide effort to develop and disseminate market-driven clean energy solutions – on a sufficient scale to significantly reduce the accumulation of greenhouse gases that are forcing global climate change.

The CES will strive to integrate CSU capacity and programs and increase national and international recognition of CSU as a world leader in clean energy research and its application. Information on the CES, its mission, programs, activities, and funding opportunities is available on the website: <http://energy.colostate.edu/>

### RFA DESCRIPTION AND FUNDS AVAILABLE

This RFA is for Clean Energy Capacity Building and Clean Energy Research proposals to develop and enhance CES programs at CSU, to build and strengthen CES thematic areas of emphasis, and to promote CES program coherence, growth, and recognition. RFAs for Capacity Building and Clean Energy Research proposals will be issued annually. We anticipate requesting proposals in March and October of 2008 and then an annual call in February of each year for Research Projects and in February and September for Capacity Building activities.

Successful proposals will typically be multidisciplinary, will address specific needs and opportunities of the respective CES themes (eg, biofuels, solar, wind energy efficiency, policy, etc), and will build overall CES capacity and promote program enhancement. Discussing a proposal with one or more

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members of the CES Steering Committee prior to submission is encouraged. The current Steering Committee membership is listed below.

## WHO CAN APPLY

Submission of proposals in response to the RFA is restricted to employees of Colorado State University.

## SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

The proposals must be submitted by March 28, 2008 and must follow the instructions provided below. To facilitate submission, use the proposal template provided below. The completed proposal must be submitted electronically as a pdf document to: [energy@colostate.edu](mailto:energy@colostate.edu)

## CES CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITY

Capacity Building – funding for workshops, retreats, outreach projects, speakers, etc.

- Duration – 1 year
- Funding – \$15,000 max

## Proposal Format

1. Cover page
2. List of PI's
3. Proposal text – three page limit (include the following)
  - Objectives of Activity
  - Background and Significance
  - Program Design and Approach
    - Include Proposed Milestones and Outputs
  - Value added to pertinent CES theme and the overall CES effort
4. Budget and budget justification (internal CSU funds – no Indirect Costs)

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## CES RESEARCH PROJECT

Research Project – start-up projects focused on one of the CES major themes

- Duration – 1 year
- Funding - \$15,000 max for single investigator; \$35,000 for multi-discipline

### Proposal Format

1. Cover page

2. Curriculum vitae – 2 pages for each PI

3. Proposal text – three page limit (include the following)

#### Specific Aims

- Background and Significance
- Preliminary Studies/Evidence of Multidisciplinary Approach
- Research/Program Design and Methods
  - Include Proposed Milestones
  - Include Plan for Securing additional funding/support
- Awareness of literature
- Value added to pertinent CES theme and the overall CES effort

4. Budget and budget justification (internal CSU funds – no Indirect Costs)

- Personnel
- Materials and supplies
- Travel
- Equipment

### REVIEW CRITERIA AND SCHEDULE

The Capacity Building and Clean Energy Activity proposals will be reviewed by the CES Steering Committee for the potential to enhance CES goals as well as by ad hoc reviewers to assess technical and programmatic merit. Principal investigators of proposals selected for funding will be notified and accounts established expeditiously (by May 1, 2008) in the respective departments.

The criteria for selection used by the CES Steering Committee will include the following areas:

- Responsive to CES mission, strategic plan, needs, and opportunities for IP and commercialization support\*
- Quality of the proposed research
- Evidence of multidisciplinary research or potential, value added by the collaboration, etc.
- Principal Investigator (s) demonstrated expertise and productivity

\*Information on CES mission and goals is available on the website (<http://energy.colostate.edu>) and through the CES Steering Committee.

### FUNDS AVAILABLE

Based on the two RFAs in calendar year 2008, we anticipate funding 3-5 Capacity Building proposals and 5-8 Research proposals, depending upon funds available.

### WHERE TO SEND INQUIRIES

Direct questions about scientific/research issues to:

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Phone: (970) 491-4783, e-mail: [energy@colostate.edu](mailto:energy@colostate.edu)

Steering Committee for Clean Energy Supercluster:

Jim Sites, Natural Sciences	Dan Bush, Biology
Lee Sommers, Ag Sciences	Ken Reardon, Chemical Eng
Wade Troxell, Engineering	Peter Young, Elec & Comp Eng
Tom Dean, Business	Kyle Saunders, Political Science
Stephan Weiler, Liberal Arts/Economics	Keith Paustian, Soil & Crop Science
Tony Rappe, Chemistry	Paul Hudnut, Business