What's New with S10 NOFOs ?

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NIH NOFO Streamlining

- NIH is streamlining the application process and working to reduce the overall number of Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs).
- This streamlining gives us the opportunity to expand the reach of our programs!
- Currently there are 3 S10 NOFOs (BIG,SIG, and HEI) that have a deadline of June 1. Going forward there will only be 2 NOFOS.



New S10 NOFOs

- June 1 Deadline to apply to current NOFOs (BIG,SIG,HEI).

- New (currently forecasted) NOFOs (SIG,SIS) – Due Date Pending NOFO Release.

SIG NOFO



SIS NOFO

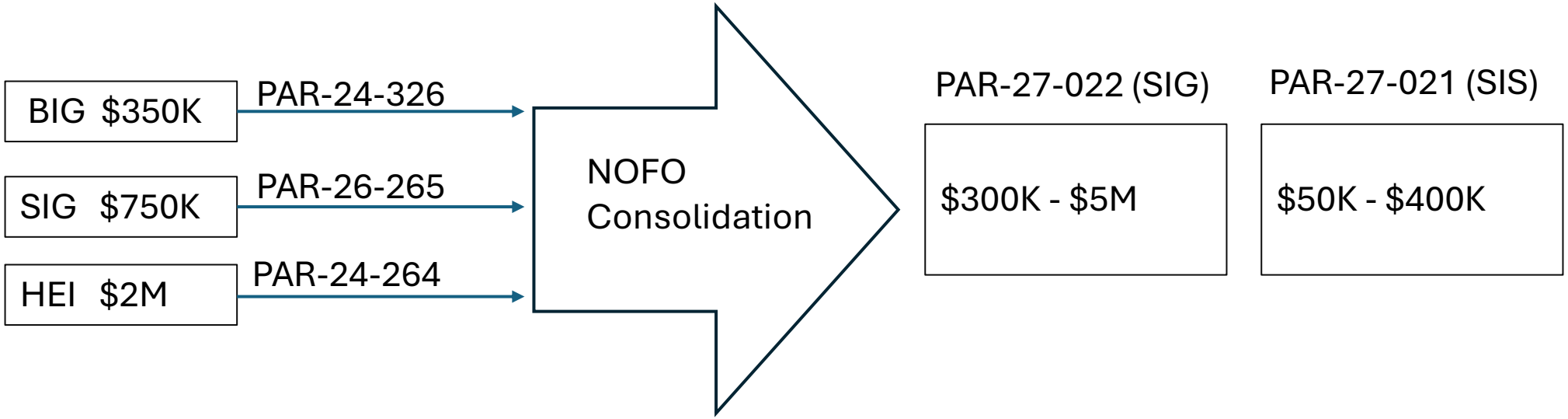


NOFO Consolidation

Purpose : Purchase or upgrade a single state-of-the-art commercially available instrument or an integrated instrumentation system. The instruments purchased through the SIG Program require to be optimally shared among the users to ensure efficient and cost-effective research operations, enable rigorous and reproducible measurements, and encourage collaborative research and benefit broad research communities at large.

Price Range: $300,000-$5,000,000 and $50K-$400K

Submission Deadline : TBD



New S10 SIG NOFO Information

User Requirements:

- At least 3 NIH funded projects

To justify the requested instrument, the projects supported by NIH research awards (i.e., grants or cooperative agreements) should together use the instrument at the 65% level of the Accessible Usage Time (AUT) or higher.

Cost Sharing :

- None if price is below $2M.
- If cost is $2M-$5M NIH encourages cost sharing for the amount over $2,000,000.
- If cost is above $5M NIH encourages a minimum of 60% in cost sharing. While there is no upper limit for the instrument cost, the maximal NIH support is $5,000,000.

Additional User Requirements :

- Applications requesting more than $2M should demonstrate they have a regional impact by including users from at least 3 different institutes/organizations.

New S10 SIG NOFO Advisory Committee

Advisory Committee

The PD/PI and the Advisory Committee should convene meetings and prepare annual reports on the instrument status. The reports will become part of the Final Research Performance Progress Report (Final RPPR) and the Annual Usage Reports (AUR). The chair of the advisory committee will need to sign off on all reports.

-The membership of this committee should represent interests of different users and should include non-user members to avoid conflicts of interest.
The AC can help resolve usage disputes if they arise.

-The membership of this Committee should include at least one senior institutional official who will represent the financial commitment of the institution.

-It is recommended that the Advisory Committee includes at least 4 members and can include users of the instrument, but the PI should only be included as a non-voting member.



New S10 SIG NOFO Application Structure

Application Structure

- SF424(R&R) Form - All instructions in the How to Apply - Application Guide must be followed.

- Project Summary/Abstract (no longer than 30 lines of text)
- Project Narrative (no more than 2 or 3 sentences)
- Bibliography & References
- Equipment:

  Describe the requested instrument by stating its manufacturer, model number, specific features, and accessories. Provide a detailed budget breakdown of the main instrument and requested accessories, including tax and import duties (tariffs), if applicable. An itemized quote from the vendor, with appropriate discounts and warranty terms, is required.

  Do not describe the need for the instrument or accessories in this section

- Other Attachments

New S10 SIG NOFO Instrumentation Plan

Application Structure – Other Attachments - Instrumentation Plan

- Introduction to Resubmission (if applicable) : 2 pages
- Justification of Need : 3 pages
- Technical Expertise : 2 pages
- Research Projects : 12 pages
- Summary Tables : 3 pages
- Administration : 3 pages
- Institutional Commitment : 2 pages
- Overall Impact/Benefit : 2 pages

The entire Instrumentation Plan must be saved as a single PDF file - named *Instrumentation Plan* - and attached via Other Attachments.

Letters of Support and Bibliography & References Cited Section are not included in the page limitations.

New S10 NOFO Other Attachments

Application Structure : Other Attachments - Letters of Support

- Letters from institutional officials.
- Institutional commitment for the proposed financial plan for maintenance and operation.
- Letters about inventory of instruments at the institution which are unavailable to the PD/PI (as noted in the Justification of Need Section), as applicable.
- The institution (i.e., the entity with the same UEI number as the applicant's institution) must also provide a table that includes information about performance of all previous S10-awarded instruments within the past five years.

S10 grant #	Year	Installation Date	PD/PI	Name of Instrument	Instrument Status	AUT	Maintenance Agreement	Publications
1S10OD123456	2020	1/1/2021	Dr. Parker	Microscope	Active	900	Active	10
1S10OD123457	2023	1/1/2024	Dr. Kent	Cell Sorter	Active	500	In-House	3
1S10OD123458	2025	2/3/2026	Dr. Allen	NMR console	Pending	~300	Active	0

- Letter from biosafety official.

New S10 SIG NOFO Scoreable Criteria

Scoreable Criteria

Justification of Need

Is the need for the instrument clearly and adequately justified? Is the instrument essential and appropriate? Are all specific features, special accessories, and the software configuration of the requested instrument well justified by their need of Major Users? Is Accessible Usage Time (AUT) well defined and explained? Is AUT reasonable for the requested technology/instrument type? Is AUT reasonable in the context of the managerial plan? Justification of selection of the proposed instrument may include, but is not limited to, comparison with other commercially available instruments of similar function. Is a user community that will benefit from the instrument well described? Is the use of the instrument on a shared basis assured?

Technical Expertise

Does the institution have the technical expertise to make effective use of the requested instrument? How well-qualified are the participating investigators or other assigned personnel to operate and maintain the instrument, conduct the projects, and evaluate the research results, including analysis and interpretation of data? Are the plans for new users training well developed? Are the proposed biosafety procedures well described and appropriate? If the application requests leading-edge innovative technology that would introduce novel capabilities to a field of biomedical research, how qualified are the assembled experts in supporting the operations and leading the adoption of such a commercially available instrument?

Research Projects

Will research with the requested instrument advance the knowledge and understanding of the proposed projects? How will the research projects of individual Users be enhanced? Do Users adequately justify the requested instrument, and accessories for the needs of their specific projects? If accessories are requested for the instrument do at least three Major Users require each of the accessories for their research projects? If the application requests leading-edge innovative technology, how will the adoption of these novel capabilities benefit research projects?

New S10 SIG NOFO Scoreable Criteria

Scoreable Criteria

Administration

Is the plan for the management and maintenance of the requested instrument appropriate? Are the plans for the use of the instrument on a shared basis well-documented? Are the plans for time allocation of the instrument to different projects well developed? Are the sharing arrangements equitable? If needed, are the policies to manage projects which have human subjects, animals, or biohazards adequate? Is the membership of the Advisory Committee broadly based to oversee the use of the instrument for the appropriate range of biomedical investigators, to balance interests of different users, and to resolve disputes, if they arise? Is the financial plan for the instrument for five years or the expected lifetime of the instrument reasonable and secured, balancing anticipated expenditures and anticipated income? Is the expected usable lifetime of the instrument reasonable? Are adequate plans in place to document the use and scientific benefits of the instrument by citations and acknowledgments of the S10 grant in scientific publications?

Institutional Commitment

Does the institutional commitment letter provide support in the event of a shortfall of income? Is the institutional commitment to the financial plan for maintenance and operations provided for a period consistent with the expected effective lifetime of the requested instrument? Is the management of awarded S10 instruments adequate (based on the data in the table of Previously Awarded S10 Instruments in the institutional Letter of Support)? Does the Institution provide adequate infrastructure support for the requested instrument including space to house the instrument and site for sample preparation, if needed?

New S10 SIS Program



New S10 SIS NOFO

Q: We are trying to develop a research program in a new field. We do not have a large userbase and/or a large pool of NIH funded investigators. How do we get funding for an instrument we do not have?

A: The new S10 Seed Instrument Support (SIS) program !

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) aims to build new research capacity by supporting the purchase of a single commercially available biomedical research instrument currently unavailable at the institution. Instruments funded through this program must be shared among the users to create new research opportunities, enable reproducible data generation, encourage collaborative research and training, and strengthen long-term research capabilities.

New S10 SIS NOFO Information

The SIS grants are for an instrument type that your institute does not already have. The requirements are different than the SIG grants.

- A minimum of two NIH funded users must be identified, with at least one of the NIH funded users must be from the applicant institution.
- NIH funded users from other institutions are highly encouraged.
- Users with funding from sources such as other Federal agencies, private foundations, or academic institutions are eligible to use the instrument.
- The projects supported by NIH research awards should together have a majority use of the instrument. While training, curricular instructions, or other non-biomedical research activities may be supported by the instrument, for-profit activities or billable clinical care are not allowed to use the instrument.
- Institutions that focus primarily on development rather than research or short- term awards, such as an SBIR/STTR grant, do not directly align with the goal of developing a sustainable research program and may be incompatible or less competitive for this program
- No minimum requirements for %NIH AUT.

An applicant organization may submit only one application.

NEW S10 SIS NOFO Budget

SIS Minimum : $50,000

SIS Maximum : $400,000



The SIS program will provide up to $400,000 for the purchase of the instrument.

New S10 SIS NOFO Application

Application Structure

- SF424(R&R) Form - All instructions in the How to Apply - Application Guide must be followed.

- Project Summary/Abstract (no longer than 30 lines of text)
- Project Narrative (no more than 2 or 3 sentences)
- Bibliography & References
- Equipment:

  Describe the requested instrument by stating its manufacturer, model number, specific features, and accessories. Provide a detailed budget breakdown of the main instrument and requested accessories, including tax and import duties (tariffs), if applicable. An itemized quote from the vendor, with appropriate discounts and warranty terms, is required.

  Do not describe the need for the instrument or accessories in this section

- Other Attachments

New S10 SIS NOFO Instrumentation Plan

Application Structure – Other Attachments – Instrumentation Plan

Introduction to resubmission (if applicable) : 1 page

Justification of Need: 2 pages

Technical Expertise: 1 page

Research Projects (Including Summary Tables): 3 pages

Admin/Organizational Management Plan : 2 pages

Institutional Commitment : 1 pages

Overall Impact/Benefit : 1 pages

Letters of Support and Bibliography & References Cited Section are not included in the page limitations.

S10 SIS Letters of Support

- Letters from institutional officials, confirming the requested instrument type is not available to the institution and describing how the seed instrument will be used to grow your research programs.

- Institutional commitment to the proposed financial plan for maintenance and operations.

- Letter from Biosafety Official. If human, animal, or infectious materials, which could create a potential biohazard, are to be analyzed, a signed letter from the institutional biosafety officer is required. The letter should state that the proposed containment plan has been reviewed and adheres to documented biosafety regulations.

S10 SIS Scoreable Criteria

SIS Scoreable criteria are the same 5 as other S10 grants :

(but there is an emphasis on growing your research program!)

- Justification of Need
- Technical Expertise
- Research Projects
- Administration
- Institutional Commitment

S10 NOFO Comparison

	BIG	SIG	HEI	NEW SIG	NEW SIS
Introduction to Resubmission	2	2	2	2	1
Justification of Need	6	6	6	3	2
Technical Expertise	2	2	2	2	1
Research Projects	15	20	20	12	3 (including summary table)
Summary Tables	2	6	6	3	Included with research projects
Admin Plan	4	6	6	3	2
Institutional Commitment	2	3	3	2	1
Overall Impact/Benefit	2	3	3	2	1

Which NOFO Should I Use?

Q: I am preparing an application for an S10. Which NOFO should I use?

A: Plan on submitting on June 1,2026 using the existing NOFOs (BIG/SIG/HEI)

If new SIG NOFO (PAR-27-022) is released with enough time for applications to be properly reviewed this cycle you have the option to submit to this NOFO instead (You CAN NOT submit the same application to both NOFOs)

For the SIS NOFO once it is released, we will accept applications.







S10 NOFOs Other Information

Applications Not Responsive to This NOFO: The following types of requests are not responsive to this NOFO:

- Instruments or integrated systems that are not commercially available or lack a manufacturer warranty.
- Multiple Instruments unless they are justified as an integrated system in the application.
- More than one stand-alone workstation for data processing, multiple software licenses, and duplicate software items.
- Software, unless it is integrated in the operation of the instrument and/or necessary for generation of high-quality experimental data from the instrument.
- Research equipment to furnish a research facility (such as autoclaves, hoods, equipment to upgrade research facilities) or general-purpose equipment (such as standard machine shop equipment), equipment for routine sustaining infrastructure (such as standard computer networks or general-purpose data storage systems).
- Instructional equipment used solely for teaching purposes.
- Disposable devices, office furniture, and supplies.
- Alteration or renovation of space to house the instruments.

Applications proposing such requests will be considered non-responsive and will not be reviewed or considered for funding.

Applications without a valid quote will be deemed incomplete and will be withdrawn from review.

Thank you for your attention!

Post your Questions in Q&A

