



NSF: Supporting Research and
Education to Benefit the Nation

Denise M. Barnes, Head
NSF EPSCoR
April 4, 2017

NSF Core Mission: Fundamental Research

Strategic Goals

Strategic Plan for 2014 - 2018

Investing in Science,
Engineering, and
Education for the
Nation's Future

Transform the Frontiers
Innovate for Society

Perform as a Model Organization



National Science Foundation

NSF by the Numbers

\$8B FY 2017
budget request

93% funds research,
education and
related activities

50,000
proposals

12,000
awards funded

2,000
NSF-funded
institutions

350,000
NSF-supported
researchers

**Fund research in
all S&E
disciplines**

**Fund STEM
education &
workforce**

217
Nobel Prize
winners



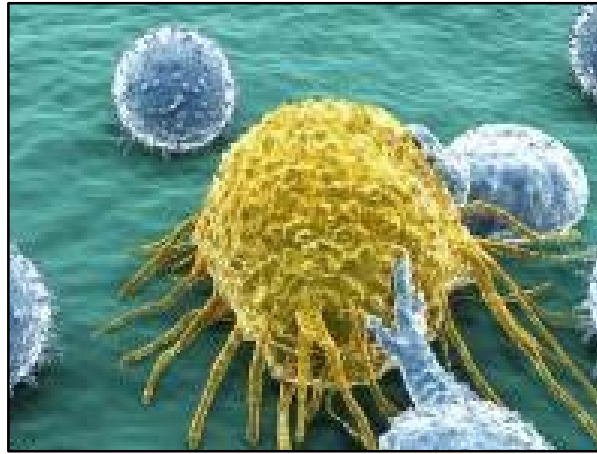
NSF Statistics

- **FY16 NSF Funding Rate (Budget: \$7.46 B*)**
 - Proposals received: 49,308
 - Proposals awarded: 11,895 (24%)
- **FY17 Appropriations Budget Request: \$7.96B***
 - \$6.43B for Research Support
 - \$952.9M for Education & Human Resources
 - \$193.1M for Major Research Equipment

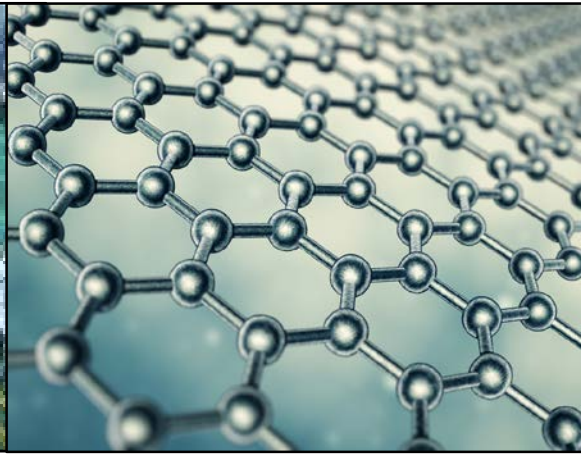
* Includes agency operations (~2100 staff in Arlington, VA)



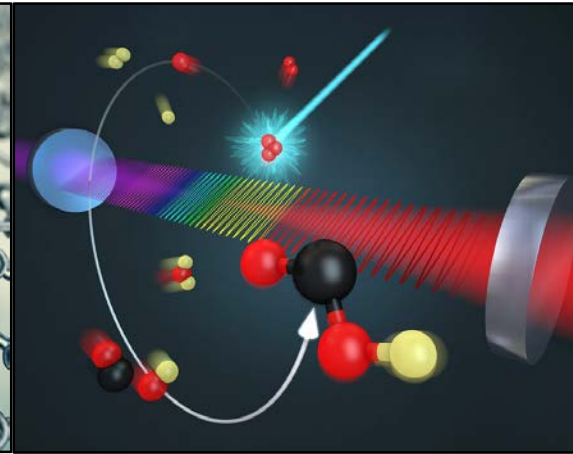
NSF Organization



Biological Sciences
(BIO)



Engineering
(ENG)



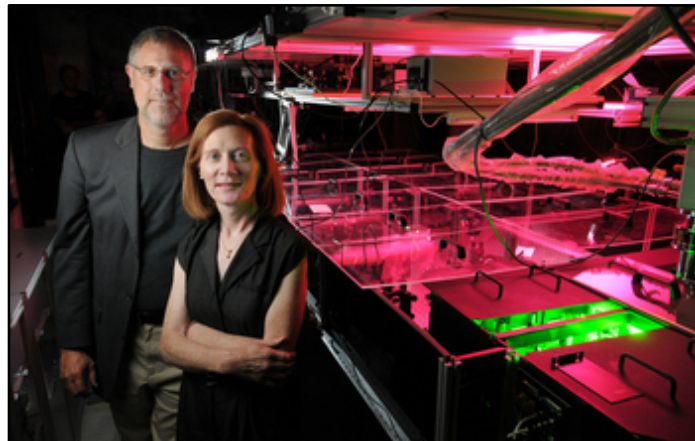
Mathematical &
Physical Sci. (MPS)



Geosciences,
incl. Polar (GEO)



Social, Behavioral &
Economic Sciences (SBE)



Office of Integrative
Activities (OIA)
- EPSCoR



Office of International
S&E (OISE)

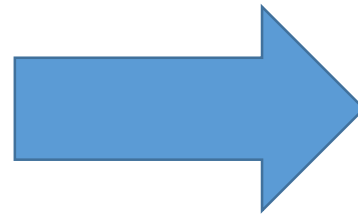


Computer & Informational
S&E (CISE)



Education & Human
Resources (EHR)

NSF Relocation, Visitor ID



2017



4201 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA

2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA

Visitors and Real ID Act : 28 states and territories will not be able to use their state/territory issued driver's license to access federal facilities. Please bring alternative ID (e.g., passport, Federal PIV card, Global Entry card, University ID with Photo and expiration dates, etc.,) or be escorted by an NSF employee. Note – South Carolina is compliant with the Real ID Act and residents from the state do not need an alternate form of ID.



NSF Ideas for Future Investment

RESEARCH IDEAS

- **Harnessing Data for 21st Century Science and Engineering**
- **Work at the Human–Technology Frontier: Shaping the Future**
- **The Quantum Leap: Leading the Next Quantum Revolution**
- **Understanding the Rules of Life: Predicting Phenotype**
- **Navigating the New Arctic**
- **Windows on the Universe: The Era of Multi-messenger Astrophysics**

PROCESS IDEAS

- **Growing Convergent Research at NSF**
- **Mid-scale Research Infrastructure**
- **NSF 2050: The Integrative Foundational Fund**
- **NSF INCLUDES: Enhancing Science and Engineering through Diversity**



Harnessing Data for 21st Century Science and Engineering



Pursue fundamental research in data science and engineering, the development of a cohesive, federated, national-scale approach to research data infrastructure, and the development of a 21st-century data-capable workforce.

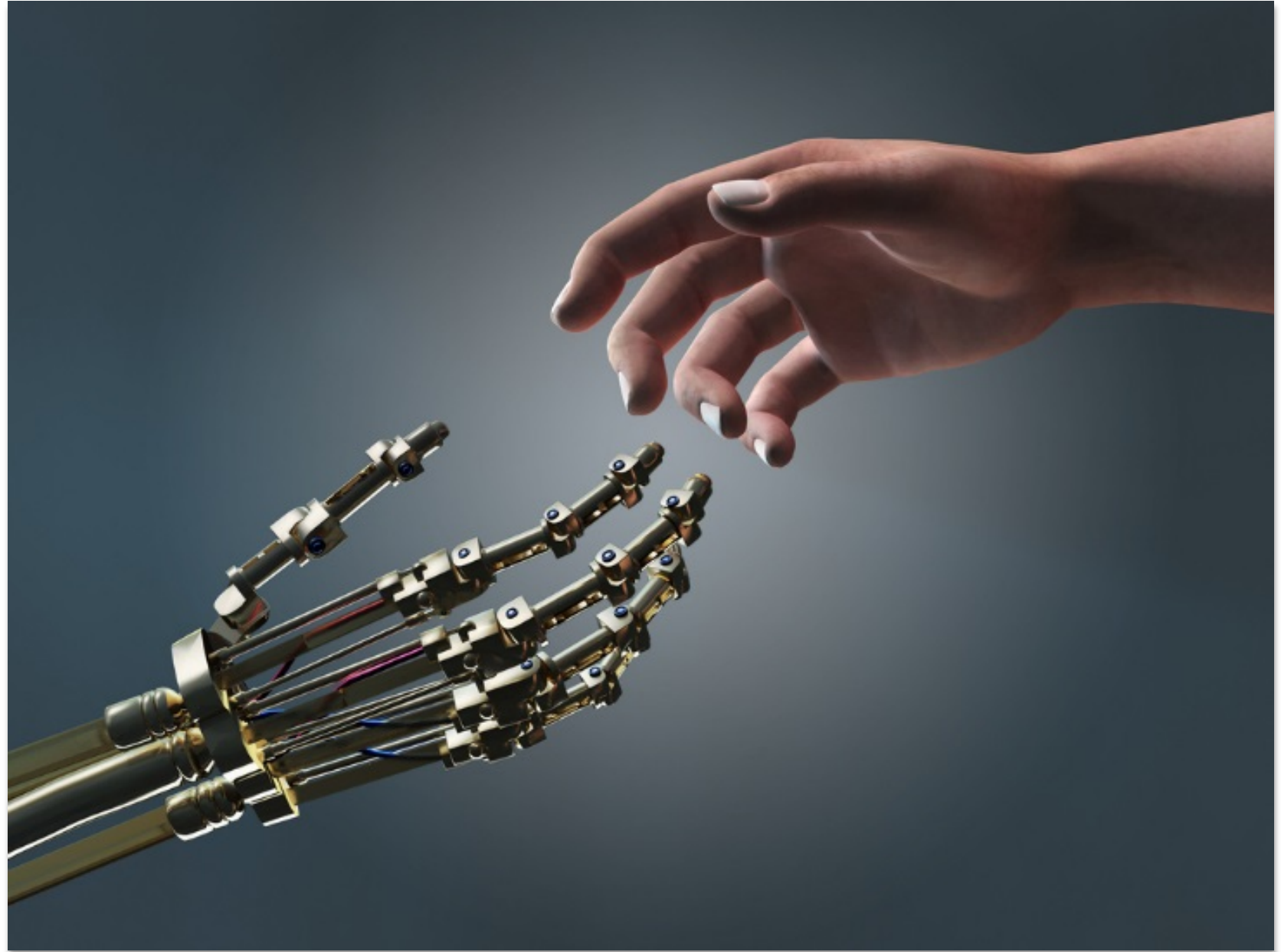
NSF can uniquely lead a bold initiative to create a data-enabled future for the Nation's science, engineering and educational enterprises, and for the country more broadly.



Shaping the New Human-Technology Frontier

Designing, building and deploying the human-centered engineered systems with cognitive and adaptive capacities that are best matched to collaboration with humans, individually and in their smart-and-connected communities.

Seek to understand how technologies affect human behavior and social organizations and how technologies are and can be shaped through interactions with people and designers.



Mid-scale Research Infrastructure

MRI

MREFC

Rapidly changing patterns of research require a **new approach to research infrastructure** for NSF'S science and engineering activities.

The funding structure available at NSF ranges from relatively small research infrastructure projects through the **Major Research Instrumentation (MRI)** program, to larger projects through the **Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction (MREFC)** funding. Missing that mid-scale infrastructure leaves essential science undone.



NSF INCLUDES

WHY?

Increasingly, science and engineering advances drive the U.S. economy, so creating inclusive pathways for more people to become scientists and engineers is a national priority.



WHAT?

NSF INCLUDES aims to build on the proven success of a wide variety of programs across the U.S. in reaching populations traditionally underserved in STEM.



NSF wants to help create collaborative alliances of partner organizations with a shared goal in STEM inclusion and the potential to realize national impacts.



We're looking for novel approaches. Our 2016 call for proposals is open to diverse teams of stakeholders that may include:

- Academic institutions
- Industry
- Non-profits
- Government
- Professional organizations
- Science- and industry-focused organizations

HOW?

WHO?

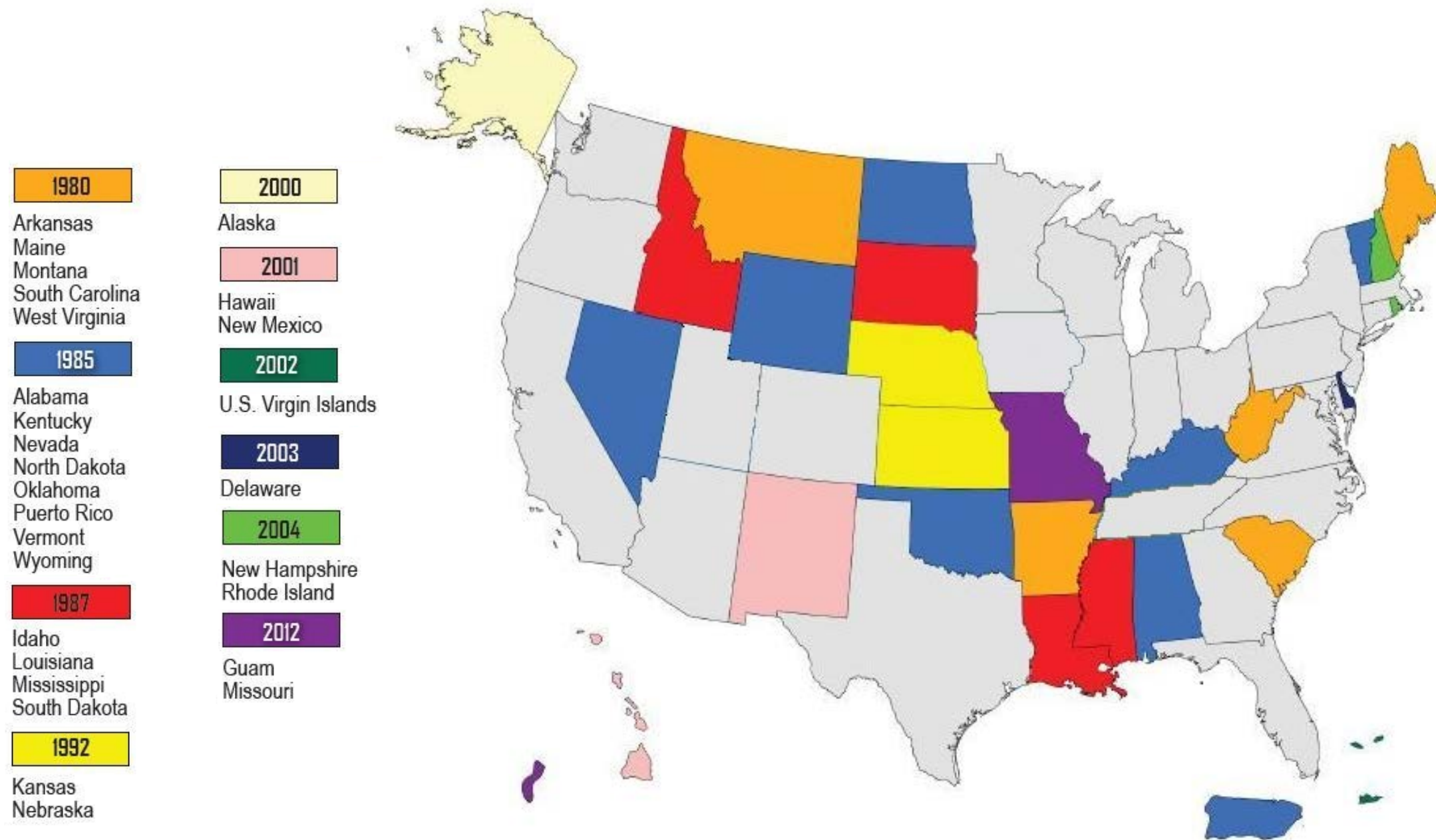


Building Research Infrastructure to Advance Science
and Engineering Research and Education Across America

EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH (EPSCoR)



Current EPSCoR Jurisdictions



* Missouri not eligible for new RII awards

EPSCoR

Enhances research competitiveness of targeted jurisdictions (states, territories, commonwealth) by strengthening STEM capacity and capability

Goals

- Catalyze jurisdiction-wide research capability
- Advance STEM training/workforce development
- Broaden participation of diverse groups and institutions in STEM
- Effect engagement in STEM at national and global levels
- Impact jurisdictional economic development



<https://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/programs/epscor/index.jsp>



EPSCoR Big Picture Overview

Jurisdiction-wide partnerships

- Federal, state, and private-sector
- Governance by steering committee
- Alignment with jurisdiction's S&T plan
- Multi-faceted approach to infrastructure improvement, including physical, human, and cyber

Administratively complex

- Team-based
- Cross-sectors
- Cross-institutions



EPSCoR Investment Strategies

- **Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII)** (79% of EPSCoR budget)

Support physical, human, and cyber infrastructure within academic institutions across the state

- RII Track-1: State-based capacity building program, multi- discip & inst
- RII Track-2: Focused EPSCoR Collaborations, more than one state
- RII Track-3: Building Diverse Communities
- RII Track-4: EPSCoR Research Fellows

 **New in FY17**

- **Co-Funding with NSF Directorates and Offices** (20% of EPSCoR budget)

Meritorious proposals reviewed in other NSF programs

- **Outreach and Workshops** (1% of EPSCoR budget)

Interaction among EPSCoR Community and NSF; builds mutual awareness



EPSCoR Funding (\$M)

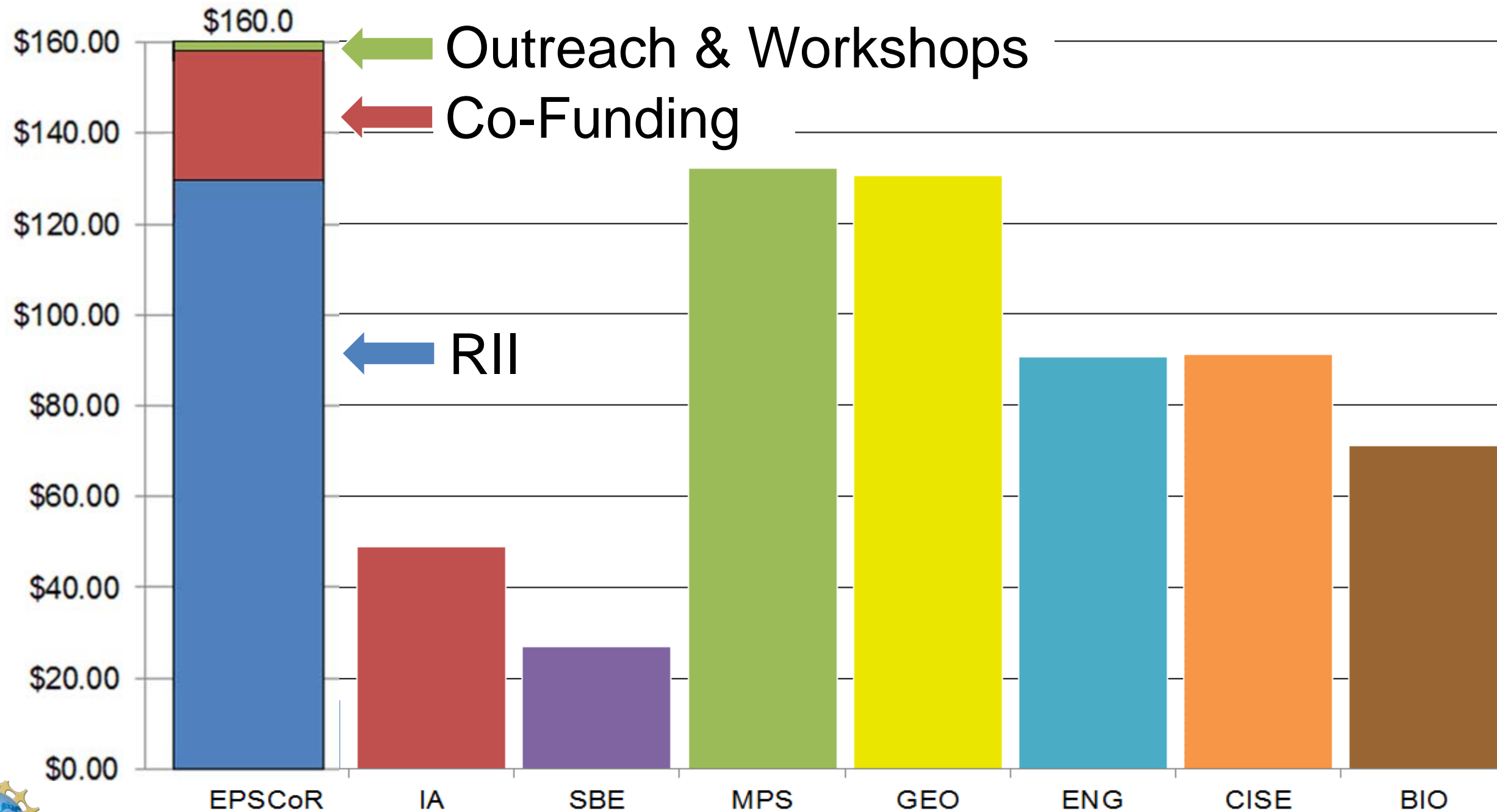
EPSCoR funding represents ~2.7% of NSF's overall research support

Activity	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16
RII	110.6	116.3	132.2	137.4	130.4
Co-funding	38.8	30.8	25.3	27.6	28.5
Outreach & Workshops	1.5	0.5	1.0	0.5	1.1
Total*	150.9	147.6	158.2	165.5	160.0

* May not add due to rounding



FY16 Research by Directorate/Office, \$M

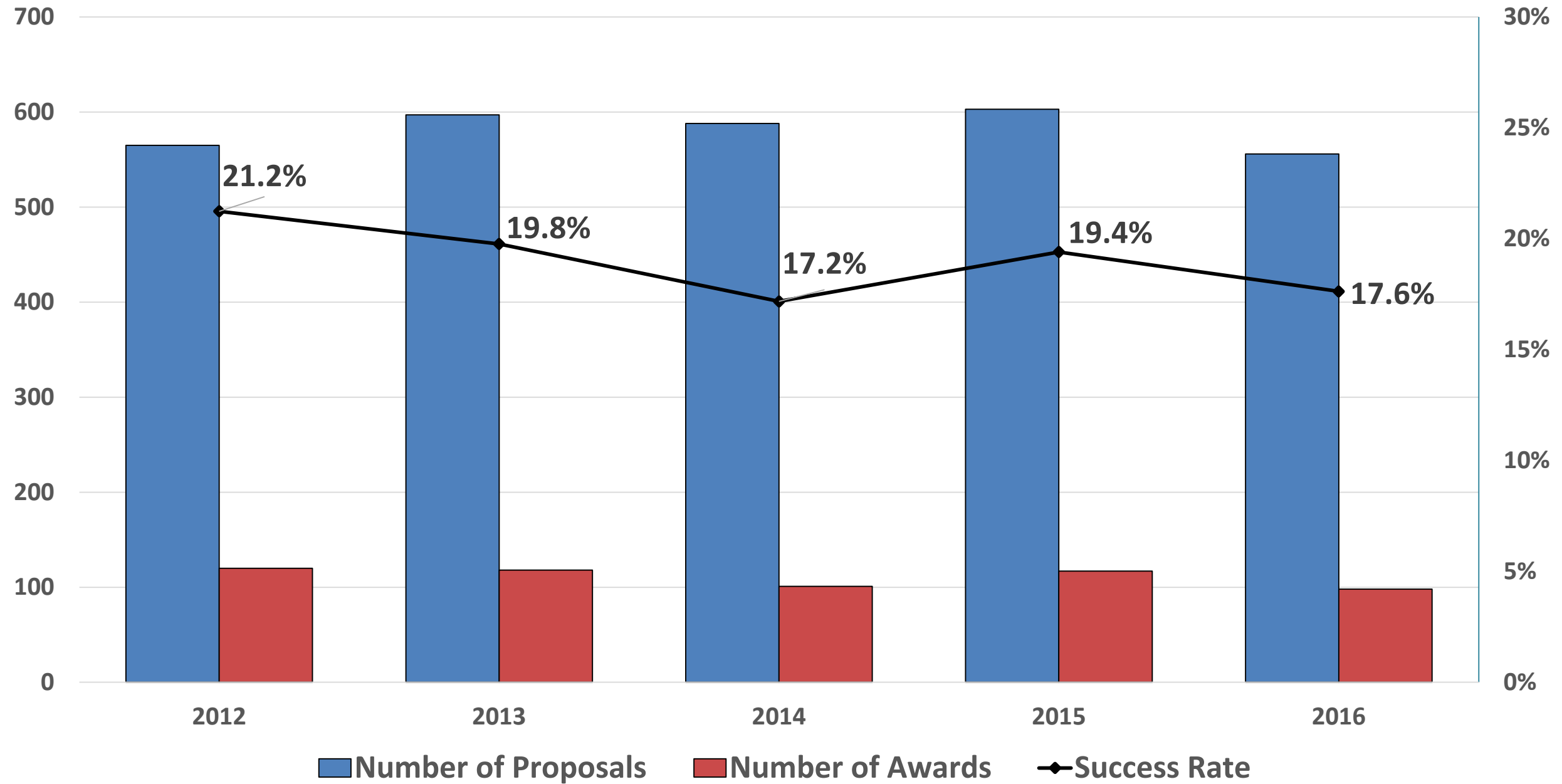


NSF Funding: South Carolina

Year	Total \$M	Research \$M	EHR \$M
FY16	60.16	55.88	4.28
FY15	58.60	47.15	11.45
FY14	53.81	47.81	6.00
FY13	45.30	35.07	10.23
FY12	64.56	58.90	5.66
Total	282.43	244.81	37.62
Average	56.49	48.96	7.52



NSF Proposal Success Rates in South Carolina



For more fine-scale data on funding rates: <http://dellweb.bfa.nsf.gov/awdfr3/default.asp>

NSF Funding: South Carolina (FY16)

FY16	Proposals Awarded	Success Rate
South Carolina	98	17.6%
All EPSCoR	1678	21.5%



EPSCoR Co-Funding: South Carolina

5 Fiscal Years

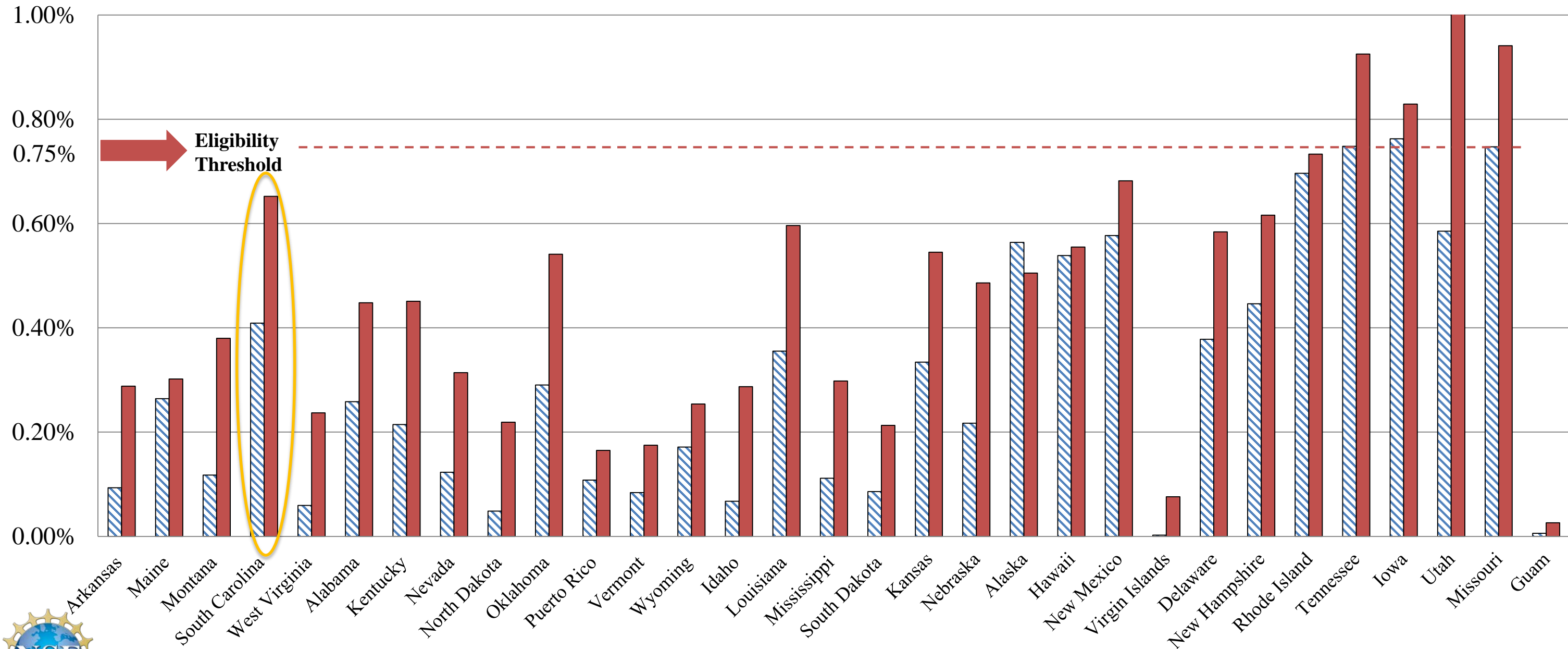
FY12 – FY16	Proposals Awarded	Project Total
South Carolina	55	\$18.08M
EPSCoR	961	\$404.31M



NSF Research Support Funding

▨ Initial 3 Years in EPSCoR

■ Most Recent 3 Year Period (FY14 - FY16)



University of South Carolina, Columbia

Success Rates, by DIR (FY12 – FY16)

	Proposals	Awards	Inst. Success Rate	NSF Success Rate
BIO	67	21	31.3%	24.9%
CISE	104	17	16.3%	22.7%
EHR	46	8	17.4%	19.2%
ENG	445	76	17.1%	19.9%
GEO	186	42	22.6%	27.5%
MPS	299	86	28.8%	26.8%
O/D	44	20	45.5%	44.8%
SBE	133	23	17.3%	22.4%
Total	1324	293	22.1%	23.5%





South Carolina EPSCoR

- Do you know how to contact SC EPSCoR?
- Do you know how RII Track-1 proposal topics are selected?
- What is the state Science and Technology (S&T) Plan?
<http://scepsscoridea.org/documents/Vision2025.pdf>
- Does your research align with the S&T plan?
- What are current SC EPSCoR awards, activities, and opportunities for research, education, outreach, and collaboration?
- Are seed funding and emerging opportunities possible?
- SC EPSCoR Website <https://www.epsscoridea.org>
 - speak to the Project Director and other members of SC EPSCoR Office



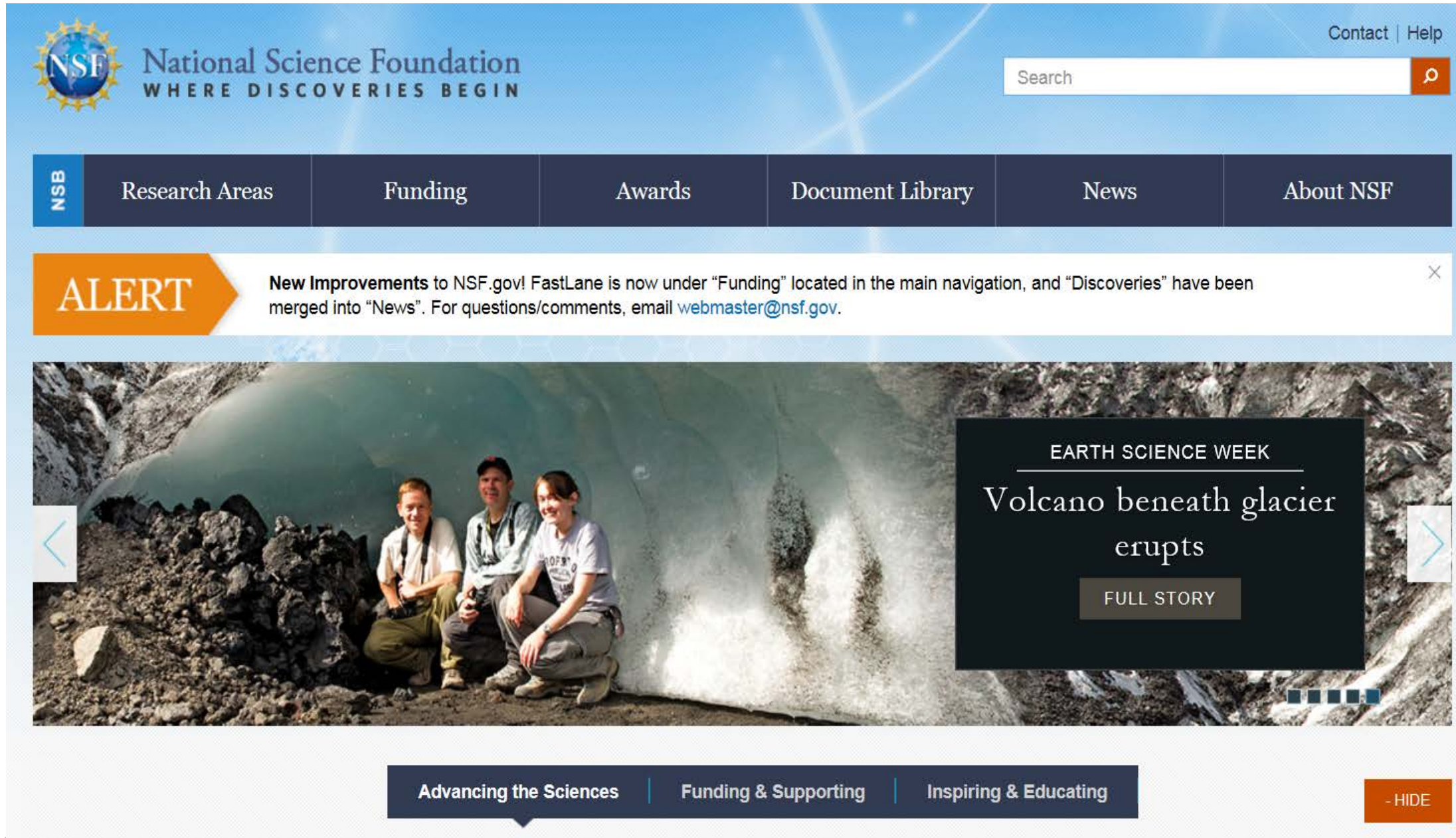


What can you do?

- Stay abreast of NSF funding priorities and opportunities; familiarize and take part in SC EPSCoR activities
- Participate in grant-writing workshops
- APPLY!!! And respond to the solicitation and review criteria
- Revise and resubmit; Manage awards efficiently – follow guidelines
- Serve as a reviewer
- Serve as a NSF Rotating Program Officer <https://www.nsf.gov/careers/>
- Communicate with NSF Program Officers, SC EPSCoR Leadership



Navigating <https://www.nsf.gov>



The screenshot shows the NSF.gov homepage with a blue header. The NSF logo is on the left, followed by the text "National Science Foundation WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN". On the right, there are links for "Contact" and "Help", and a search bar. Below the header is a dark blue navigation bar with the NSF logo and links for "Research Areas", "Funding", "Awards", "Document Library", "News", and "About NSF". An orange "ALERT" banner is below the navigation bar, containing text about "New Improvements to NSF.gov! FastLane is now under 'Funding' located in the main navigation, and 'Discoveries' have been merged into 'News'. For questions/comments, email webmaster@nsf.gov." Below the alert is a large image of three people sitting in front of a glacier. Overlaid on the image is a dark box with the text "EARTH SCIENCE WEEK", "Volcano beneath glacier erupts", and a "FULL STORY" button. At the bottom, there is a dark blue bar with the text "Advancing the Sciences", "Funding & Supporting", and "Inspiring & Educating", followed by a "- HIDE" button.

NSF National Science Foundation WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

Contact | Help

Search

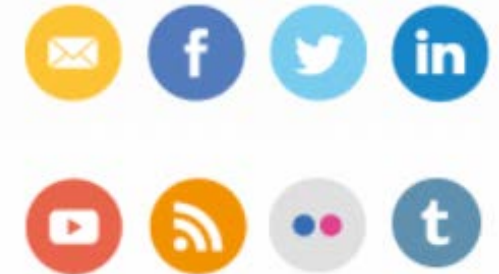
NSB Research Areas Funding Awards Document Library News About NSF

ALERT New Improvements to NSF.gov! FastLane is now under "Funding" located in the main navigation, and "Discoveries" have been merged into "News". For questions/comments, email webmaster@nsf.gov.

EARTH SCIENCE WEEK
Volcano beneath glacier erupts
FULL STORY

Advancing the Sciences | Funding & Supporting | Inspiring & Educating - HIDE

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Useful Resources on nsf.gov

- Find Funding, Award Search at <http://www.nsf.gov>
Directorate/Divisions/Program; cross-cutting, students, postdocs, and international opportunities
- Proposal Preparation and Merit Review
Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG)
https://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf17001
effective for proposals submitted on or after Jan. 30, 2017
- Merit Review Process Video
http://www.nsf.gov/news/mmg/mmg_disp.jsp?med_id=76467
- NSF Outreach – Grants Conference Presentations
<https://nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/outreach.jsp#present>
- NSF Days – Presentation Slides
<https://www.nsf.gov/about/congress/nsfdays/index.jsp>



NSF Program Officer (Rotator) Opportunities

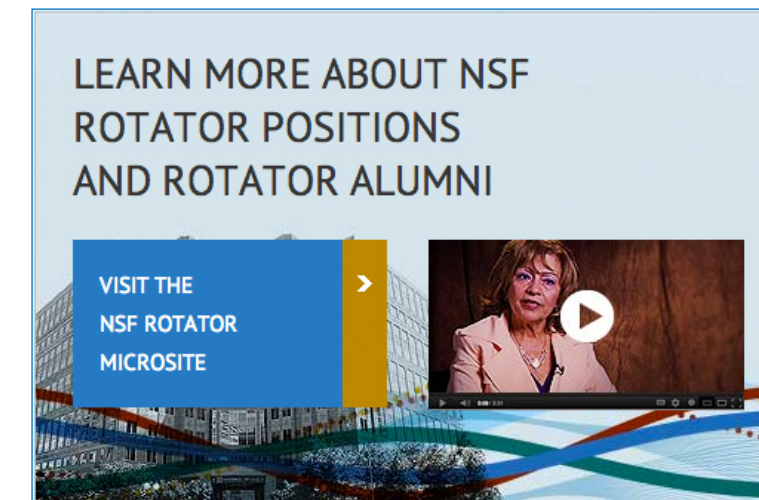
<http://www.nsf.gov>

- About NSF: Career Opp → Temporary/Rotator Programs
- About NSF: Career Opp → Job Openings: Science/Engineering/Education
- (All or specific NSF Unit)

Temporary/Rotator Programs

Take advantage of a rare opportunity to have an impact on science research and funding in a temporary or rotator position at NSF.

NSF offers a chance for scientists, engineers, and educators to join us as temporary program directors - called rotators. Rotators make recommendations about which proposals to fund; influence new directions in the fields of science, engineering, and education; support cutting-edge interdisciplinary research; and mentor junior research members. As a rotator, you will be in a prime position to collaborate with others and increase your visibility as you survey the entire breadth of U.S. and international science, engineering, and education in real time. In addition, as a temporary program director, you can retain your ties to your current institution and return to it with new insights and experience for your team.



You can become a rotator either as a Visiting Scientist, Engineer, and Educator (VSEE) or as an Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) assignee. While rotators can come on temporary assignment under the IPA program for up to four years, most rotating assignments last one to two years.

What are my main responsibilities as a program director?

Program directors oversee the National Science Foundation's "gold standard" merit review process and may help define new funding opportunities. Key responsibilities include

interaction with external academic investigators, funding and facilitating merit review process



Thank You

