

# EPSCoR Opportunities for Partnerships in Technology with Industry (OPT-IN)

Answers given by Board of Regents staff in response to questions in response to the Request for Proposals as of **April 26, 2013**.

The last day to answer questions is **April 26, 2013**.

## Proposals Due: May 3, 2013

Question:

I have worked with a company in (foreign country) that I believe is a good fit for the Category II of the OPT-IN program. Are foreign companies allowed?

Answer:

The OPT-IN RFP contains no restrictions on foreign vs. domestic industrial partners.

Question:

Can funds obtained from an internal institutional source be used as the required cash match for an OPT-IN proposal?

Answer:

The required match has to come from a business or industry; an internal institutional source would not qualify.

Question:

I am working on a proposal for the OPT-IN program in collaboration with <company>. This company is sponsoring a research project I am currently working on. Can I use a portion of the existing funds they are already providing me as a match for the OPT-IN proposal or does it have to be a completely separate cash match ?

Answer:

Industrial cash match that is committed for an OPT-IN proposal must not have been previously committed for another project; any cash match commitment is to be devoted to the particular OPT-IN project proposed, as set forth in the required letter of commitment from the industrial sponsor.

Question:

Are overhead charges acceptable for industry funds?

Answer:

While indirect charges are not allowed on the LA EPSCoR funds awarded, the OPT-IN RFP is silent on indirect charges on the industrial match portion of funding, so this decision is up to the institution.

Question:

I am working on an OPT-IN/FY1012-13 proposal. I have a start-up company which has attracted some Angel Funding. Can I use a portion of this as match funds for a Category II proposals?

Answer:

The RFP states in Section I.C. "Financial Considerations" that proposers may not have a substantial financial interest in the industry/business sponsor. That said, Category II OPT-IN awards do not require matching; only Category I proposals must be accompanied by a cash match commitment.