



**Maine NSF EPSCoR
Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative
announces**

Research and Educational Outreach Awards

For Year 3: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009
Award request range: \$500 - \$35,000

Proposals will be accepted beginning March 1, 2008 and can be submitted anytime throughout the award period. They will be reviewed by an FBRI panel and awards will be based on the merit of the project and its relevance to achieving Maine NSF EPSCoR & FBRI objectives. Awards will be on a first-come, first-served basis until funding is gone.

For more information: <http://www.umaine.edu/epscor/> OR www.forestbioproducts.umaine.edu



Maine's Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative:

Meeting society's needs for materials, chemicals, and fuels through research and development of bioproducts from Maine's forest resources.

Maine NSF EPSCoR
5717 Corbett Hall,
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(207)-581-3399
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RESEARCH & EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH AWARDS

Maine NSF EPSCoR Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative (FBRI)

General Information for all proposals

Purpose:

The goal of the Maine NSF EPSCoR FBRI Research and Educational Outreach program is to enhance the research, development, and education infrastructure for Maine researchers, students at all levels, small businesses, and K-12 teachers who are engaged in science, technology, engineering, or math activities that have relevance to the overall forest bioproducts theme and the project's objectives.

Eligibility to submit a proposal:

- Maine Universities or Colleges: any current faculty, research associate, professional staff, center personnel, postdoctoral associate, graduate student, or undergraduate student (students must have applicable research projects and be under the direct supervision of a faculty mentor). Individuals who are already receiving support under other FBRI mechanisms are not eligible to apply.
- Maine small businesses engaged in relevant research and development activities
- K-12 education: teachers or representatives from any Maine K-12 institution who are engaged in STEM educational activities.
- Maine non-profit organizations serving any of the above, or those engaged in relevant activities.

Scope of Project:

- Funds must be used during the award timeframe for research, development, and/or educational activities that have relevant connections to the use and health of Maine's forests, the use of woody biomass to create new bioproducts, or the overall forest bioproducts theme.
- Suggested fields where activities could be related to the FBRI theme would include: forestry, pulp & paper, engineering, chemistry, nanotechnology, wood science, biology, ecology, environmental studies, physics, materials science, math, earth/soil science, resource economics, business, and policy.
- K-12 educational activities can consist of STEM educational experiences that might get students interested in a field that could support future forest bioproducts research (see above).
- All activities must demonstrate relevance to the goals, objectives, and desired outcomes of the Maine NSF EPSCoR FBRI program. General activities are not eligible for support.
- Applicants are encouraged to propose activities that can establish connections with current members of the FBRI (see the listing at www.forestbioproducts.umaine.edu). For larger proposals, this is mandatory.

Award Information:

- Requests can be made for any amount from \$500-\$35,000. However, most awards will be in the \$500-\$10,000 range. Requests for larger amounts require consultation and planning with the Maine NSF EPSCoR office before submitting.
- Eligible expenses include items such as salary support, materials & supplies, small equipment, consulting services, travel or transportation expenses, space rental, exhibits, printing, curriculum development, student internships, training costs, activity fees or expenses, or other expenses as approved by the Maine NSF EPSCoR office. There is no support for Indirect costs.
- Funds cannot support any out-of-state institutions or personnel.
- For research proposals, the awardee will be appointed an Associate Member of the FBRI and will be asked to attend meetings and contribute to the overall project's scientific body of knowledge.
- There is a limit of one application per person.



RESEARCH & EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH AWARDS
Maine NSF EPSCoR Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative



Year 3: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009

APPLICATION

PART 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Contact name, title, department/school/organization:	Phone number: E-mail address:
Mailing address:	
Project Title:	
Please provide a brief summary description of your proposed activity or project:	

PART 2 – PROJECT CATEGORIES:

Please check which general categories apply to your project request. Your project can be in a single category or encompass several categories (i.e. a research proposal can also have educational and small equipment components).

- 1) scientific research (support of research and related personnel and expenses)
- 2) educational activities (K-12, graduate, undergraduate, general, and/or teacher training)
- 3) travel support (i.e. conference, workshops, collaborative activities, training)
- 4) small equipment purchase support
- 5) small business development
- Other (consult with Maine NSF EPSCoR Office): _____

PART 3 – RELEVANCE TO FBRI OBJECTIVES:

Please indicate which FBRI objectives would be addressed by your proposed project: (you must select at least one)

- Advance cutting-edge science and engineering capabilities** for discovery and innovation in this focus area in order for Maine’s academic, non-profit, and for-profit R&D community to: a) increase research capabilities; b) increase competitiveness & federal funding; c) acquire new technical skills & knowledge; and/or d) develop new collaborations.
- Enhance human resource development** in this focus area by providing training and opportunities 1) for current researchers to increase their capabilities; 2) to foster the next generation of leaders and researchers; and/or 3) to provide opportunities for related K-12 teacher & student STEM activities.
- Improve the state’s physical infrastructure** in this focus area by providing for new research, development, or educational capabilities and enhanced levels of relevant equipment available in the state.
- Show a positive economic impact** for the state by providing a solid scientific platform for the effective transfer of technology in this focus area from Maine’s research institutions to the private sector, and by creating linkages throughout the state, region, nation, and world.
- Increase the participation** of women & underrepresented groups in STEM activities.

PART 4 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Please provide a description of your proposed project, and address the requirements for each type of project category that you checked in Part 2 above. This description should be 1-4 pages (maximum). If you have multiple categories, do not submit a separate description for each category. Your proposal should be viewed as an integrated project, so just make sure that you have addressed any additional requirements for information that might be specific to each category.

1) Scientific Research Category – please address the following in your description:

- a. a description of your proposed research project and how it will contribute to your science and education goals
- b. a description of the rationale, significance, objectives, and specific plans for your proposed work
- c. how the research contributes to the science and education goals of Maine NSF EPSCoR FBRI (relevant impact on the use and health of Maine’s forests, or the use of woody biomass to create new products, or the overall forest bioproducts theme)
- d. connections/collaborations with FBRI faculty
- e. personnel & student(s) that will be involved in the project
- f. any inclusion of women or members of underrepresented groups
- g. a short timeline describing the project implementation during the award time period
- h. any relevant literature citations as desired

2) Educational Activities Category – please address the following in your description:

- a. a description of your proposed educational outreach project and how it will contribute to your organization’s science and/or educational goals
- b. how the project will contribute to the science and/or educational goals of the Maine NSF EPSCoR FBRI (relevant connections to the use and health of Maine’s forests, or

- the overall forest bioproducts theme, or to an educational experience that might get students interested in a field that could support future forest bioproducts research)
- c. personnel that will be implementing the project
 - d. description and #'s of proposed participants
 - e. any connections to FBRI faculty (i.e. presenters or speakers)
 - f. any inclusion of women or members of underrepresented groups
 - g. a short timeline describing the project implementation during the award time period

3) Travel Support Category – please address the following in your description:

- a. a detailed description of your proposed travel activity and how it will contribute to your science, development, and/or educational goals
- b. a description of the rationale, significance, objectives, and specific plans for your proposed travel activity
- c. how the activity contributes to the science and education goals of Maine NSF EPSCoR FBRI
- d. personnel & student(s) that will be involved in the travel activity
- e. any connections/collaborations with FBRI faculty
- f. any inclusion of women or members of underrepresented groups

4) Small Equipment Category – please address the following in your description:

- a. a description of the proposed equipment and how it will contribute to your science and education goals
- b. a description of the rationale, significance, objectives, and specific plans for how the proposed equipment will be used
- c. how the equipment contributes to the science and education goals of Maine NSF EPSCoR FBRI (relevant impact on the use and health of Maine's forests, or the use of woody biomass to create new products, or the overall forest bioproducts theme, or to an educational experience that might get students interested in a field that could support future forest bioproducts research)
- d. description and numbers of personnel & student(s) that will utilize the equipment
- e. any connections/collaborations with FBRI faculty
- f. any inclusion of women or members of underrepresented groups
- g. a short timeline describing how the equipment will be used during the award time period

5) Small Business Development Category - please address the following in your description:

- a. a description of your proposed development project and how it will contribute to your research and development goals
- b. a description of the rationale, significance, objectives, and specific plans for your proposed activity
- c. how the activity contributes to the science, development, or education goals of Maine NSF EPSCoR FBRI (relevant impact on the use and health of Maine's forests, or the use of woody biomass to create new products, or the overall forest bioproducts theme)
- d. any connections/collaborations with FBRI faculty
- e. personnel & student(s) that will be involved in the project
- f. any inclusion of women or members of underrepresented groups
- g. a short timeline describing the project implementation during the award time period
- h. any relevant literature citations as desired

PART 5 – BUDGET: (matching or in-kind support is not required, but can be included as evidence of the scope of the project)				
Summary of proposed expenses:	Requested Maine NSF EPSCoR support:	Other matching funds:	Other matching in-kind support: (non-cash)	Total project amount:
Personnel support – faculty				
Personnel support – postdoc				
Personnel support – graduate student				
Personnel support - undergraduate				
Personnel support - professional				
Personnel support - administrative				
Personnel support – K-12 teacher				
Personnel support –high school student				
Materials & supplies				
Small equipment (<\$5,000)				
Travel (provide detail in justification)				
Printing				
Exhibits				
Consulting services				
Space rental				
Commercialization activities				
Other activity fees				
Other:				
Other:				
Other:				
Other:				
TOTAL:				

Notes on budget items:

- all purchases must comply with University of Maine and NSF policies.
- Awards will be on a reimbursable basis, requiring invoices and receipts to be submitted periodically to the Maine NSF EPSCoR FBRI office throughout the award time period.
- For small equipment: requested funds must cover the entire cost of the equipment (i.e. funds cannot be used as a match to purchase higher cost equipment); general use equipment such as computers are not eligible; attach quotes and additional information showing equipment when available.
- For travel: travel must take place during the award timeframe; airfare must be coach/economy class on a U.S. Carrier; mileage reimbursements or per diem rates will be at the current University levels; allowable expenses include registration fees, transportation, lodging, per diem, etc.
- Eligible expenses include items such as salary support, materials & supplies, small equipment, consulting services, travel or transportation expenses, space rental, exhibits, printing, curriculum development, student internships, training costs, activity fees or expenses, or other expenses as approved by the Maine NSF EPSCoR office. There is no support for Indirect costs.
- For any student support, arrangements may potentially be made to extend them through May 2009.

PART 6 – ATTACHMENTS: (check which attachments are included)

- Attach a budget justification that details what each expense is for and why it will be incurred. This includes listing names, positions, and salary amounts for any personnel; a list of equipment and purpose; a breakdown of travel costs; etc.
- For non-profit organizations and small businesses, attach additional documentation about your organization's mission and programs (i.e. brochure, website link).
- For scientific research proposals, attach a current 1-2 page CV for the investigators involved.
- For proposals submitted by graduate or undergraduate students, attach a letter of recommendation from your faculty mentor.
- For travel awards, attach information on conferences/workshops such as an agenda or website.

PART 7 – SIGNATURES:

If I receive a Maine NSF EPSCoR FBRI Research and Educational Outreach Award, I agree to:

- 1) Only request reimbursement from Maine NSF EPSCoR for the approved expenses & activities.
- 2) Submit to the Maine NSF EPSCoR office any interim or final reports as requested.
- 3) Work with the Maine NSF EPSCoR office on any publicity information for this project.
- 4) Notify the Maine NSF EPSCoR office immediately if the proposed project will not be implemented as agreed upon.
- 5) As applicable (UMaine System), I will immediately notify my institution's sponsored research office of this award and work with them on the reimbursement process.

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Submit the completed application packet and attachments by e-mail to:

Vicki L. Nemeth, Director
Maine NSF EPSCoR Office at the University of Maine
vicki.nemeth@umit.maine.edu
(electronic submission is preferred)

If necessary, send signed application page to:
Maine NSF EPSCoR Office
5717 Corbett Hall, Room 406
University of Maine
Orono, ME 04469-5717
(207)-581-2285