

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
Washington, D.C. 20550

Notice No. 72

March 29, 1978

**IMPORTANT NOTICE
TO INDUSTRIAL FIRMS,
UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES, AND OTHER^{PR} 1 7 1978
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
GRANTEE ORGANIZATIONS**

SUBJECT: Industry/University Cooperative Research Activity

This Important Notice announces the intention of the Foundation to provide funding for the encouragement of cooperative research between industry and universities and colleges.

There has been a growing concern voiced by the Congress, the National Science Board, and the scientific and technological community about the need for more effective communication and cooperation between scientists in colleges and universities and scientists in industry. The universities produce knowledge and trained manpower, and the industrial sector translates knowledge into socially and economically useful developments. The ties between these two segments of the Nation's scientific and technological resources need to be strengthened.

As a direct response to this situation, the National Science Foundation plans to increase funding for the support and encouragement of cooperative research between universities and industrial firms. To qualify for support, proposals must be prepared jointly by academic and industrial researchers and must be submitted jointly by their respective institutions. The research should focus on fundamental scientific questions rather than on technological development. The Foundation will make awards to either academic or industrial organizations depending on which is the more appropriate for a particular cooperative research effort.

Proposals are to be submitted to NSF in accordance with instructions contained in the NSF published document "Grants for Scientific Research (NSF 76-38)." Proposals are to be identified on the cover page as candidates for the industry/university cooperative competition.

Eligibility and Proposal Preparation

Universities and colleges and established profit-making industrial firms including small businesses (or groups of such firms) are eligible for the competition. A major consideration will be the extent to which the cooperating entities represent bona fide independent operations as evidenced by the absence of interlocking relationships. A further consideration will be the extent to which the proposed research may be expected to make a long-term contribution toward product and/or process innovation.

Criteria for Grant Awards

Proposals will be judged first on scientific excellence, using NSF criteria and established peer review procedures. The potential of the research to enhance cooperation

between academic and industrial organizations will be a factor in the award decision. In general, active participation by both academic and industrial researchers will be required.

Some cost sharing by academic and industrial organizations participating in the program is desirable. Cost-sharing may involve funds, laboratory space, and/or personnel services.

Inquiries

Inquiries concerning support for cooperative research efforts may be directed to the following NSF directorates and officers as most appropriate:

Dr. Ronald E. Kagarise
Deputy Assistant Director
Mathematical and Physical Sciences
and Engineering (202/632-4240)

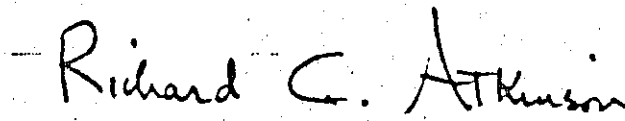
Dr. James H. Brown
Deputy Assistant Director
Biological, Behavioral, and Social
Sciences (202/634-1553)

Mr. Richard Green
Director of Operations
Applied Science and Research Applications
(202/632-7426)

Mr. Daniel Hunt
Deputy Assistant Director
Astronomical, Atmospheric, Earth,
and Ocean Sciences
(202/632-4166)

Publication and Patent Policy

Timely publication of research results will be required. Patent rights will be governed by the usual NSF policy as expressed in Section 650 of Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations.


Richard C. Atkinson
Director