PEER Transportation Systems Research Program
Request for Proposal 20-02
Proposal Submission Deadline: November 2, 2020

Questions submitted by 5PM, September 30, 2020, with Responses
(Posted on 10/2/2020)

1. Is it possible for one of the PIs of the proposed project to be a postdoctoral researcher? This seems to be unclear in the solicitation announcement.

Answer:
• PI should be limited to those researchers who have the PI status in a PEER core institution.
• Co-PI should be limited to those researchers who have a PI status in their respective institutes (not necessarily PEER core institutions).
• Collaborators can be anyone including postdocs without PI status or members of BIP, industry, government agencies, etc.

2. Can you clarify the following text in the RFP: “Each investigator is limited to be the PI or co-PI on one proposal only.” Does this mean that an investigator can be a PI on one proposal and a co-PI on another proposal? Or does this mean that an investigator can only contribute to one proposal?

Answer:
An investigator can contribute to ONE (and only ONE) proposal in response to this RFP. PI on one proposal and co-PI on another proposal will make both the proposals noncompliant. The reason for limitation this year is because we have several 2-year projects from last year that have reduced the available funding from this year's TSRP fund.

3. The call says: "Each investigator is limited to be the PI or co-PI on one proposal only." Does this mean you cannot be the PI on one proposal AND co-PI on one proposal? Can someone be a collaborator on more than one proposal?

Answer:
You are allowed to be listed on one proposal in total where you are a PI or a co-PI in this RFP. The reason for limitation this year is because we have several 2-year projects from last year that have reduced the available funding from this year's TSRP fund. To clarify further, here are the three cases:
• You are not allowed to be listed in one proposal as a PI and on another proposal as a co-PI. If so, both proposals are not compliant and neither will be reviewed.

• You are not allowed to be listed in one proposal as a PI and on another proposal as a PI. If so, both proposals are not compliant and neither will be reviewed.

• You are not allowed to be listed in one proposal as a co-PI and on another proposal as a co-PI. If so, both proposals are not compliant and neither will be reviewed.

• The three cases above also naturally apply to more than 2 proposals.

• Collaborators are researchers without PI status in an academic institution, such as members of BIP, industry, government agencies, etc. In this RFP, there are no restrictions on a collaborator (someone without a PI status) being on multiple proposals.

4. **Is there an interest in environmental impacts of earthquakes with regards to transportation systems?**

**Answer:**

PEER is interested in life cycle costs (please see Topic S1), which environmental impact can be a part of. The Research Committee will evaluate this for possible inclusion in future RFPs.