(dollars in thousands)

	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000
and other spectroscopies, scanning tunneling and atomic force microscopies, nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), and x-ray and neutron reflectometry. The activity also supports the development of new experimental techniques such as double rotation NMR, neutron reflectometry, and atomic force microscopy of liquids. Workshops on self-organized materials, electrode-electrolyte interfaces, catalysis, surface science and synchrotron x-ray micro-characterization have stimulated increased emphasis for these areas. Capital equipment is provided for such items as chambers to synthesize and grow new materials, nuclear magnetic resonance and electron spin resonance spectrometers, lasers, neutron reflectometers, x-ray beamlines, and atomic force microscopes.	23,547	24,715	24,458
■ **Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research:** This activity supports basic research spanning the entire range of research supported by the Department in states that have historically received relatively less Federal research funding. The EPSCoR program supports research cluster activities at nine EPSCoR states through block grants and to individual investigator projects in all EPSCoR states and Puerto Rico. The EPSCoR states include Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The work supported by the EPSCoR program includes research in organic semiconductors, membranes, photochemistry, synchrotron radiation and ion beams, tribology, thin film optoelectronics, catalysis, high energy particle physics, experimental nuclear physics, human genome research, desert vegetation, characterization of petroleum reservoirs, and wind and electrochemical power sources. In FY 2000, this program will include new work that will make use of the DOE National Laboratories and the world-class facilities at these labs. This program will be science-driven and will support the most meritorious proposals based on peer review. Workshops and discussions have been held with representative scientists from EPSCoR states to acquaint them with the facilities and personnel at the DOE Laboratories.	6,815	6,815	6,815

EPSCoR Distribution of Funds by State

(dollars in thousands)

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Estimate	FY 2000 Estimate
Alabama	800	825 [a]	75
Arkansas	50	100	100
Idaho	50	100	100
Kansas	50	91	95
Kentucky	800	650 [a]	200
Louisiana	814 [a]	152	146
Maine	150	750 [a]	0
Mississippi	0	50	50
Montana	800 [a]	75	75
Nevada	850	855 [a]	96
North Dakota	0	47	46
Oklahoma	0	100	100
Puerto Rico	800	800 [a]	50
South Carolina	250	800	800
South Dakota	50	50	50
Vermont	25	25	25
West Virginia	100	100	100
Wyoming	800	800	800
Other	426 [b]	445 [b]	3,907 [b]
Totals	6,815	6,815	6,815

[a] In FY 1998 the funding commitments for awards to the States of Louisiana and Montana expire. In FY 1999, the funding commitments to the States of Alabama, Kentucky, Maine, Nevada, and Puerto Rico will expire.

[b] Includes technical support for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). Uncommitted funds in FY 2000 will be competed among all EPSCoR states that do not have active Research Implementation Awards to begin new Research Implementation Awards.