

How to do Business through GAIN



Funding Opportunities

Funding Opportunities	Description	Timeframe	Funding*
Advanced Nuclear Technology Development (iFOA)	Provides funding to support innovative, domestic, nuclear industry-driven designs and technologies that have high potential to improve the overall economic outlook for nuclear power in the U.S. The iFOA is comprised of three tiers focused on first-of-a-kind demonstration, advanced reactor development, and regulatory support. gain.inl.gov	Continuously open Award: Quarterly Duration: up to 3 years	Tier 1: \$10-40M Tier 2: \$0.5-10M Tier 3: \$50K-0.5M (Tiered cost share)
Consolidated Innovative Nuclear Research (CINR)	Provides competitively awarded access to the Nuclear Science User Facilities (NSUF) by industry for non-proprietary nuclear materials and fuels research. CINR is the primary means to award irradiation and post-irradiation examination (PIE) access. It also supports DOE-NE mission and program directed work scopes primarily led by universities or national labs with the possibility of industry participation. gain.inl.gov	Call: August Award: July Duration: up to 3 years for R&D; up to 7 years for PIE and testing	Up to \$500K for R&D Up to \$4M for irradiation and PIE (NSUF) (0% cost share)
GAIN Nuclear Energy (NE) Vouchers	Provides competitively awarded access to DOE national labs for U.S. businesses to tap into the intellectual and technical resources needed to overcome critical technology challenges for their advanced energy products and gain a global competitive advantage. Awarded funds are sent directly to a national laboratory to perform work on behalf of an awardee. gain.inl.gov	Continuously open Award: Quarterly Duration: 12 months	\$50-500k (20% cost share)
NSUF Rapid Turnaround Experiments (RTE)	Offers an avenue for researchers to perform irradiation effects studies of limited scope on nuclear fuels and materials of interest utilizing NSUF facilities. R&D funding is not provided, and work is to be completed within 9 months. nsuf.inl.gov/Page/rte	3 times per year Duration: 9 months	Up to \$50K (0% cost share)
Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)	Offers competitively awarded funding to small businesses to encourage development and commercialization of their technologies. SBIR targets the entrepreneurial sector and seeks to offset the risk and expense of necessary R&D. SBIR is comprised of three phases, each contingent on building from the results of the previous phase. science.energy.gov/sbir/funding-opportunities/	Phase 1: 6 months Phase 2: 2 years Phase 3: Refer to website	Phase 1: up to \$150K Phase 2: up to \$1M Phase 3: \$0 SBIR Funds (Refer to website)
Technology Commercialization Fund (TCF)	Seeks commercialization of laboratory technology with industry partners. Leverages R&D funding in applied energy programs to mature promising energy technologies that are originally conceived at national laboratories with the potential for high impact. gain.inl.gov	Call: February Award: July Duration: 1-2 years	Topic 1: \$100 - 150K Topic 2: \$250 - 750K (Refer to website)

*Contingent upon Congressional appropriations.

Note: DOE National Laboratory (lab)

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Contract Mechanisms

Agreement	Description	Highlights
DOE Cooperative Agreement	A contract that is signed by DOE and an industry awardee to perform work at the Awardee's facilities and/or national lab. This is the mechanism used by DOE to fund awards made through the iFOA .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows DOE to fund competitively awarded research directly.
Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA)	DOE lab partnering with one or more non-federal entities (including industry) that facilitates private sector research utilizing, for example, lab technologies, facilities, R&D capabilities, or expertise. The CRADA participant must contribute in-kind resources (personnel, equipment, facilities, etc.), and/or cash. A funding source for the lab work must be identified before work can start; this may be either participant funds, federal funds, or a combination. Commonly used for GAIN NE Voucher awardees who are large businesses or foreign influenced. Terms and conditions are non-negotiable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 5 years of data protection. • Both parties may take title to their own inventions. • May negotiate exclusive license to inventions. • Advance payment required if participant is contributing funds to lab.
GAIN Small Business Voucher CRADA	Used exclusively for a GAIN NE Voucher awarded to a small business/non-profit voucher requester with NO foreign ownership/control/influence. Terms and conditions foster commercialization and are non-negotiable. This CRADA is intended to speed up the process of signing an agreement to complete awarded GAIN NE Voucher work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to standard CRADA terms, provides the participant a nonexclusive license, at a minimum, to inventions conceived or first reduced to practice under the CRADA.
Nondisclosure Agreement (NDA)	Establishes the obligations regarding the exchange of proprietary or confidential business information between a DOE lab and an industry entity in order to allow them to progress toward a specific objective, commonly a contract under which work may be performed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enables business relationships to develop work scope for joint projects.
Strategic Partnership Project (SPP) (Work for Others)	This is a fee-for-service contract that enables industry, non-profit institutions, and other non-federal entities to pay labs to perform a defined scope of work or tasks. Work must draw upon the unique facilities, equipment, or personnel intrinsic to the lab. The rights to the inventions and data (subject inventions) may vest in the sponsor if the sponsor is a U.S. entity and pays for the work with private funds; however, if the sponsor is providing federal funds to the lab to support the work (typically received through a competitive process) or if the sponsor is a non-U.S. entity or has foreign influence, then the rights of subject inventions will vest with the lab performing the work with no rights for protection of generated data.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generated data may be designated as proprietary. • Sponsor typically retains right to elect title to subject inventions. • Advance payment required.
User Facility Agreement	A User Facility Agreement provides access to facilities to conduct research. It may be possible to perform proprietary or non-proprietary (e.g., NSUF) research at the designated user facilities. In certain circumstances, access to facilities is available to U.S. companies on a full cost recovery basis. Access generally begins with an invitation from an employee or through submission and approval of a peer-reviewed proposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IP belongs to inventor/company. • No charge for users who are performing non-proprietary research. • Non-proprietary users are expected to publish results.