DOE Laboratory Partnership Opportunities for Colleges and Universities

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Office of Technology Transitions

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) cultivates positive longstanding partnerships with academic institutions. This data sheet provides a summary of work performed between DOE's National Laboratories and Facilities and academic institutions from FY14-FY18. The work utilized the following contracting mechanisms which are available for use by Colleges/Universities:

- Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA)
- Strategic Partnership Projects (SPP)
- Agreements for Commercializing Technology (ACT)

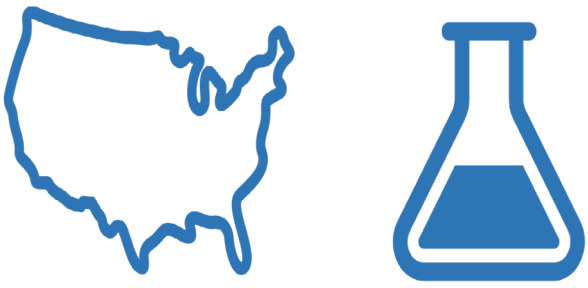
Agreements between National Labs and Academic Institutions from FY14-FY18

- Academic partners located in **all 50 states and the District of Columbia**
- **Over 1,400 agreements** with U.S. College/University partners
- **Over 190 agreements** with academic partners in **35** foreign countries

DOE's Laboratory partnership agreements allow academic institutions to take advantage of the facilities and expertise of the DOE National Labs to pursue R&D and educational activities in STEM. The most popular research areas for U.S. Colleges/Universities are given below on the right.

FY14-FY18 University Partners

237 U.S. Colleges/Universities represented



Top 5 Research Categories for U.S. Colleges/Universities

- **Earth and Environmental**
- **Bioscience Applications**
- **Medical**
- **Physics Applications**
- **Advanced Materials**

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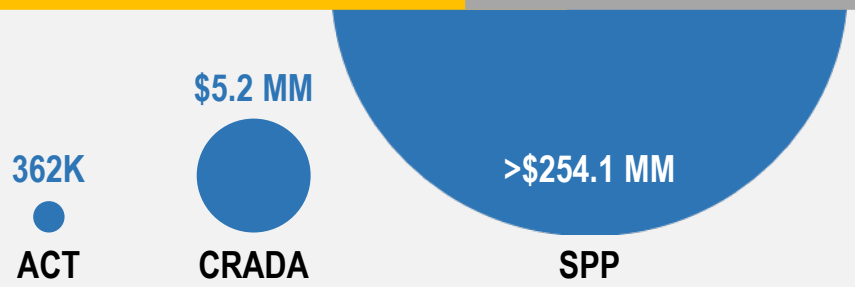
Ways to Partner with DOE's National Laboratories and Facilities

In addition to ACTs, CRADAs, and SPPs, Colleges/Universities can use Technical Services Agreements (TSAs) which are a type of SPP. All of these contracting mechanisms are described in greater detail below.

We look forward to working with you to address our nation's STEM education challenges!



U.S. Colleges/University FY14-FY18 Funds into Contract Types

Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA)

CRADAs provide a flexible way for non-federal entities to access the unique STEM expertise available at a national laboratory on a collaborative basis. Work under a CRADA may be performed at a national laboratory, at the location of the non-federal participants(s), or at both institutions, and work is usually supported by contributions from all participants in the CRADA. National laboratory contributions to the CRADA can take the form of personnel, state-of-the-art facilities, equipment, and other resources, but the national laboratory cannot provide funds to the other participant. Non-federal participant contributions can take the form of funds, personnel, facilities, equipment, and other in-kind resources. The benefits in establishing a CRADA with a federal lab are creating new intellectual property (IP) applicable to mission and providing a joint approach to solving specific problems by applying different cultural solutions.

CRADAs allow DOE to provide funding support to agreements between its National Labs and other entities. DOE's Program Offices contributed **over $7 million** to CRADAs between U.S. Colleges/Universities and National Labs from FY14-FY18.

The five DOE Program Offices that contributed the most funds to CRADAs between FY14-FY18 are: Office of Science, Advanced Manufacturing Office, Wind and Water Power Technology Offices, Bioenergy Technologies Office, and Office of Fossil Energy

Strategic Partnership Projects (SPP)

Initiatives sponsored by outside sources, such as colleges, are conducted through the DOE's SPP program. While most activity conducted at national laboratories is financially supported by DOE, funding from private partners and other Federal agencies in the form of interagency agreements or grants can also be beneficial and appropriate. The sponsor is able to access lab capabilities to solve the sponsor's technological problems. Agreements of this kind can also help advance the laboratory's goals and interests and enable world-leading scientists to engage in some of the important challenges currently faced by the nation, including research associated with homeland security, countering terrorism, medical challenges, and more.

The guiding principles of the SPP process seek to assure that the proposed sponsored work assignment will:

- ✓ Be consistent with or complementary to the missions of DOE and the partnering national laboratory.
- ✓ Not adversely impact execution of regularly assigned national laboratory programs.
- ✓ Not place national laboratory in direct competition with the domestic private sector.
- ✓ Not create a detrimental future burden on DOE resources.

Technical Services Agreements (TSA)[1]

A TSA is a type of SPP that is suitable for lower cost work, short in duration, and funded entirely by the sponsor for services which would not be expected to result in any inventions. A TSA cannot be used for agreements with federal agencies. The agreement template has been preapproved by DOE, which means that terms cannot be changed.

Agreement for Commercializing Technology (ACT)

The ACT was created to make negotiations between non-federal entities and the national laboratories more flexible and timely. With ACT, the laboratory's contract operator is authorized to take on risks that the U.S. Government cannot for a fee. This provides more flexible terms and conditions that are geared towards private industry practice, such as IP rights, payment arrangements, indemnification and development of multi-party research and development partnerships, just to name a few. With the flexibility that ACT provides, more organizations that are unable to do work under a CRADA or SPP agreement, now have an option to do work with the national laboratories under an ACT agreement.

[1] Please note that not all labs offer TSAs. Please check for availability.