



(Invited) Solicitation and Call for Proposals

PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT AND INSTRUMENTATION TO AID MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY RESEARCH (AFCEQUIP26)

Background: Since its beginning in 2011, the Alpha Foundation has supported a portfolio of research that comprises 122 projects awarded to 35 institutions totaling 46.8 million dollars. There were 9 active grants in 2025. The Foundation expects to cease research operations following the completion of current active grants at the end of 2026. Without sufficient funding and time to fund new research projects, the Foundation is seeking to spend residual funds on the one-time purchase of equipment and instrumentation used to aid mine health and safety research. The Foundation is expecting to fund multiple quality proposals with this solicitation.

Eligibility Criteria and Proposal Limitations: Proposals in response to this solicitation will be accepted only from invited Principal Investigators from academic institutions and not-for-profit organizations who have been awarded previous grant(s) by the Foundation. The maximum allowable cost for the proposed purchase effort is set at \$100,000. Any marginal additional cost above this value, necessary to complete an equipment purchase order must be clearly articulated and justified. More than one proposal can be submitted per institution provided they have independent goals even if associated with a common equipment or instrumentation purchase.

Intent to Submit a Proposal: As the Foundation is nearing closure and is closely monitoring expenditures, we ask that you submit a Letter of Intent regarding your plan to submit a full proposal(s) within 30 days of the solicitation notification. While no specific format is required, please provide the general topic of your planned equipment purchase proposal, noting that this is not a binding commitment. The Letter of Intent can be submitted through the Alpha Foundation Grant Management System, which can be accessed at <https://glenmede.smartsimple.com/welcome/alpha>.

How to Submit a Proposal: Proposals must be prepared in Adobe pdf format and adhere to the format provided below. The proposals must be submitted through the Alpha Foundation Grant Management System, which can be accessed at <https://glenmede.smartsimple.com/welcome/alpha>.

The proposal submission deadline for this solicitation is 5 pm Eastern Time on September 11, 2026. Any proposal, modification, or revision received after the exact time specified is “late” and will not be considered. The intent of the Alpha Foundation is that proposers will be notified

of the funding decision pending review by the Foundation's Directors and staff within 30 days of this deadline.

Proposal Submission Format

COVER PAGE

A single cover page shall be labeled "*Proposal to the Alpha Foundation's Request for Proposals in response to Solicitation, AFCEQUIP26*". It shall include the following information and must be signed by an authorized officer.

Submitting Organization: *Name and address of organization.*

Principal Technical Person: *Name and contact information (phone and email)*

Administrative Contact: *Name and contact information (phone and email)*

Cost: *Proposed total cost*

PROPOSAL

Previous or Current Grants: Provide a listing of previous or current grants awarded by the Foundation.

Proposed Purchases and Justification: Provide a listing of proposed purchases and how they will be used to provide or enhance mine health and safety including linkage to previous Foundation grants when appropriate. The proposed purchases must be tangible assets that support mining research capabilities. This can include tools, instruments, apparatus, and machines designed for conducting, supporting, or advancing experimentation, measurement, and analysis. Information technology such as computers, ancillary equipment, software, firmware are also permitted provided they are justified. Office and general laboratory supplies are not permitted.

While there is no limit to the number of items proposed for purchase, you are encouraged to select items that are critical for sustaining or improving an indispensable research capability or proficiency. Special consideration will be given to proposals that will enhance the development of a new research capability or technology.

Cost: The estimated cost (including shipping) for each item proposed for purchase shall be provided. Quotes on specific significant items are recommended and should be included (if available) in the Appendix. Any administrative or other indirect cost associated with the planned procurement actions and/or execution of this grant shall be included in the proposed budget and shall not exceed 5% or contribute to a proposed cost above the allowable \$100,000 maximum.

Proposal Review Criteria: The selection of items for funding will be based upon the following evaluation criteria relative to the proposals received. Funding decisions and

awards will be based on the full proposal (collection of items), not individual items separately.

- Linkage of purchased items to mine health and safety research, previously funded research and/or potential new research.
- Strength of justification for sustaining or improving an existing indispensable research capability or expansion of a crucial research proficiency.
- Supplemental funding provided by the proposer.
- Development of a new or unique research capability or technology.

Reporting Requirements: If a grant is awarded, the Foundation will require submission of a Final Report within 120 days of the award documenting the purchased items and their application toward mine health and safety.

Appendix: Provide any quotes for items proposed for purchase.