

NEWS

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Announcements

FMCSA Opens FY25 Grant Application Cycle

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has opened its (FY) 2025 application cycle for multiple grant opportunities, which are linked below by program.

High Priority Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety (HP-CMV) Grant

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: [FM-MHP-25-004](#)

Submission Deadline: June 20, 2025, 5:00 pm ET

The **HP-CMV** grant program seeks to provide funding for projects supporting educational development in commercial motor vehicle safety, such as those that consider risk averse driving practices in hazardous crash corridors and improve safety through advancing technologies. Learn more about the HP-CMV grant [here](#).

Commercial Motor Vehicle Operator Safety Training (CMVOST) Grant

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: [FM-DTG-25-002](#)

Submission Deadline: June 20, 2025, 5:00 pm ET

CMVOST is a grant opportunity providing funding for organizations that contribute to CMV safety via the training of individuals, especially those programs supporting members of the US Armed Forces and their families. Learn more about the CMVOST grant [here](#).

Reach out to FMCSA [here](#) with questions or concerns.

NSF Pauses Implementation of 15% Indirect Cost Rate

NSF is temporarily pausing implementation of the NSF Policy Notice: Implementation of Standard 15% Indirect Cost Rate, NSF 250-34, through **June 13**, when a hearing is scheduled to occur in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

New NSF awards issued during this pause will not implement NSF 25-034, but will include a term applying

Funding Opportunities

BIRD Energy

US Department of Energy, Binational Industrial Research and Development (BIRD) Foundation, and the Israel Ministry of Energy

Executive Summary Due: June 26, 2025

Full Proposal Due: September 4, 2025

Award Amount: up to \$1,500,000

Areas of Interest: clean energy, advanced vehicle technologies, alternative fuels, smart grid, advanced manufacturing, AI for energy management

BIRD Energy is soliciting collaborative proposals between the US and Israel on a range of clean energy technologies. These include renewable energy, energy efficiency, natural gas, and energy-water technologies.

Project proposals should demonstrate the following:

- R&D cooperation between a US-based university or research institution and an Israeli company
- Innovations in renewable energy and energy efficiency, advanced vehicle technologies and alternative fuels, smart grids, the water-energy nexus, advanced manufacturing, or the application of AI in energy management
- Innovations that support the deployment of carbon-free technologies and reduced carbon emissions
- Development of natural gas technologies with reduced climate impacts
- Significant potential for commercialization

Read more about this funding opportunity [here](#).

Ecosystem for Leading Innovation is Plasma Science and Engineering (ECLIPSE)

National Science Foundation and Directorate for Engineering

Full Proposal Due: August 12, 2025

Areas of Interest: materials processing, chemical reactions, dusty plasmas, nanomaterials

The NSF is requesting proposals with a focus toward interdisciplinary research in plasma science innovation, particularly addressing societal and technological needs. The ECLIPSE program supports research on diverse plasma-related topics, including plasma surface interactions, atmospheric and dusty plasmas, advanced sensors, computational modeling, chemical measurement science, and plasma chemistry.

Project proposals should demonstrate the following:

- Provides a clear description of a primary challenge in plasma science and engineering in regard to more than one NSF program
- Introduces and concludes how solving its specified scientific challenge will meet certain societal/technological needs identified by stakeholders
- Focuses on topics related to the ECLIPSE Program
- Addresses technological development outside of projects already supported by US government funding agencies

Read more about this funding opportunity [here](#).

Mind, Machine and Motor Nexus (M3X)

National Science Foundation, Directorate for Engineering, and Division of Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation

Full Proposal Due: Accepted Anytime

Areas of Interest: data analytics, AI/Machine learning, networks/IoT, cybersecurity

NSF is requesting proposals that support human engagement with intelligently designed engineering systems which respond in mutual communication or in bidirectional interactions with their physical environment. An intelligently designed engineering system will collaborate with humans or work autonomously to make decisions based on physical and/or virtual input.

Project proposals should demonstrate the following:

- Defines how the proposed interaction presents a technological advancement in intelligently designed engineering systems
- Contributes to at least one to three of following categories: Conceptual Frameworks and Theoretical Modeling, Dynamic Interaction Analysis and Simulation, and Innovative Technologies for Enhanced Interaction
- Establishes an implementation of novel mathematical, computational, and conceptual systems to achieve a demonstration of bidirectional interactivities between humans and machines

Read more about this funding opportunity [here](#).

Data Sharing for Federally Funded Research

Expert Q&A with Ali Krzton, AU Research Data Management Librarian

Federal agencies including the [USDA](#), [NSF](#), and [NIH](#) require researchers to make their data publicly accessible. These policies encourage broader participation in research, strengthen public trust, and ensure that researchers outside of academic institutions—including citizen scientists and policy analysts—can access data without facing barriers such as paywalls or limited access to professional networks.

Complying with data management and sharing (DMS) policies can be challenging, particularly when it comes to organizing data, providing thorough documentation, and ensuring long-term preservation. To support researchers in navigating these requirements and adopting best practices, Assistant Professor and Research Data Management Librarian **Ali Krzton** shares the following key insights.

Q: What should faculty be aware of regarding data sharing and public access requirements?

A: "It's important to **check your grant agreement carefully** when you receive funding to ensure you understand any public access requirements to publications and data that may apply. For example, is there a specific repository you will be expected to use or register with?"

"Pay particular attention to **timelines**, as sponsors vary considerably in when they expect publications and data to be shared. For example, some grants allow two years beyond the project closeout to comply, whereas others require that sharing occur within one year of any grant-supported publication. Know

whether not-yet-published data is subject to public access requirements after closeout, because typically it is."

Q: What are the drawbacks of only providing data as supplemental material in publications?

A: "Common problems are [a] **lack of discoverability** (i.e., [the] ability to search for the data itself, independent of the publication), **unclear licensing [or] terms of reuse, and difficulty with citation**. [And,] if data is subject to a public sharing requirement but can only be accessed as part of an article with a subscription paywall, that does not meet the standard of being freely available to the public."

Q: What resources are available to AU faculty to support public data sharing?

A: "As the Research Data Management Librarian, I am always available for **one-on-one consultations** with researchers, and I regularly assist in **identifying suitable repositories and facilitating data deposit**."

"AU Libraries also creates **online guides** [that answer] common questions about aspects of data management and public access (including to publications), and our institutional repository, the **Auburn University Scholarly Repository**. Anyone affiliated with Auburn can make their data, publications, or conference presentations openly available in the repository."

Q: How would you guide researchers in choosing an appropriate data repository?

The best repositories are often **discipline-specific, widely known**, and have adequate support for **long-term preservation**. In the absence of a recognized disciplinary repository for data, researchers can choose among several **generalist repositories** such as those taking part in the [NIH Generalist Repository Ecosystem Initiative](#) or our own AU Scholarly Repository.

Q: What are the benefits to establishing an OIT-provisioned archive for non-public data?

"Researchers often leave data from dormant or completed projects in cloud storage such as Box or on OIT-managed networked storage, but these are not ideal places to archive data. If data cannot be made public at the completion of a project, it would be ideal to place it in a **secure internal archive** where it is described and documented. The researcher would be assured that their records would be retained long-term, protecting them in case of audit by the sponsor, while freeing up space in their network drives and helping them focus on the data they regularly access."

Ali Krzton is available to assist faculty by offering educational resources and training on data archiving and choosing appropriate repositories. She can also assist with migrating at-risk data. For questions or assistance, please contact her via [email](#).

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