

# Caltech | Funding Memo

**Title:** 2023 Call for President's and Director's Research and Development Fund (PDRDF) Pre-proposals

**Funding Agency:** JPL

**External Deadline(s):**

11/02/2022 04:00 PM PDT (Pre-Proposal)

**Cognizant Office:** JPL

**Description:**

This Call solicits one-page Pre-Proposals from Caltech/JPL research teams to the President's and Director's Research and Development Fund (PDRDF) program. The PDRDF builds and strengthens relationships between Caltech and JPL through funding research in innovative science and breakthrough technology. The goal of the PDRDF is to stimulate joint Caltech-JPL research that has long-term impact and focuses on areas relevant to JPL in the fields of Earth and Space Science, and Technology.

**New this year: You may propose projects with up to 3 years duration (change from the previous 2 year maximum). The longer project duration is designed to give the collaboration more of a chance to mature to the stage of being competitive and self-sustaining through outside funding sources by the end of the three years.**

**Frequency:** Typically annual

**Total Award:** \$750,000

- Proposals submitted to the PDRDF program should have up to a three-year duration and should not exceed \$250K each year, for a maximum total of \$750K over three years. Note that this is an increase over previous years' total funding level and period of performance.
- Budget split between JPL and Campus should be as close to 50-50% as possible.
  - If deviating by more than 5% from this split, please request permission from the PDRDF Program Manager.
- Caltech faculty must charge at least 6% of their salary to the PDRDF project.
  - If there is more than one Caltech faculty member on the project, the 6% salary requirement can be split among them.

**Indirect Costs:**

- Standard indirect cost rates at Campus and full burden rates (except MPS) at JPL apply.

**Duration:** 3 years

- The PDRDF program is not tied to the fiscal year schedule. It is anticipated that selected tasks would start in July 2023 with a duration of up to 36 months.
  - Second year funds are contingent upon a successful 9-month review during the first year; third year funds are contingent upon another successful 9-month review during the second year.

**Discipline(s):** Biology and Biological Engineering; Chemistry and Chemical Engineering; Engineering and Applied Science; Geological and Planetary Sciences; Physics, Mathematics, and Astronomy

**Eligibility:** Tenure-Track Faculty, Tenured Faculty

- Each project team will have two co-principal investigators: one Caltech tenured or tenure-track faculty member i.e., Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor, and one full-time JPL staff member.
  - The JPL Co-PI will serve as the single point of contact for communication with the PDRDF program.
- Each Campus and JPL investigator may serve as the co-PI of only one pre-proposal.
- Co-PIs are not eligible to respond to this call if they have an active PDRDF task that will overlap in time with the new proposed task.

**Research Areas of Interest:**

- Projects should be relevant to the PDRDF focus areas of earth and space science, and technology.

**Post-Award Obligations:**

TBD

**Guidelines & Other Information:**

Call, Guidelines, and Downloadable Pre-Proposal Template: <https://pdrdf.ext.jpl.net>

- Please note that the PDRDF website will require either a JPL or Caltech login.

Submission Site: <https://pdf.ext.jpl.net/SitePages/PrePropSubmissions.aspx>

- The submission site is estimated to be available by end of day, October, 19, 2022. Please note: there is a 60-minute timeout on the submission site.

Any questions or requests for clarification should be sent in writing to [Jordana.Blacksberg@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Jordana.Blacksberg@jpl.nasa.gov) at JPL or [David.Mayo@caltech.edu](mailto:David.Mayo@caltech.edu) at Campus.

Opportunity ID: 1286