

HBnwvinURpiGJrKF6, by email to melissa.phillips@nist.gov, or via hardcopy to the Consortium Manager, Dr. Melissa Phillips, Chemical Sciences Division of NIST's Material Measurement Laboratory, 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 8390, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899. Organizations whose letters of interest are accepted in accordance with the process set forth in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice will be asked to sign a consortium CRADA with NIST. A consortium CRADA template will be made available to qualifying applicants.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

J'aime Maynard, Consortia Agreements Officer, National Institute of Standards and Technology's Technology Partnerships Office, by mail to 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 2200, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, by electronic mail agreements@nist.gov, or by phone (301) 975-8408.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The objective of the FNS Measurements and Methods Consortium is to develop and evaluate measurement methods and standards to support quality and safety in the food testing community. Food manufacturers rely on accurate analytical testing methods to ensure consistency in food production and accuracy in product labeling, and thus, compliance with food labeling laws. Additionally, testing is critical to understand potential contamination sources and levels to ensure food ingredients and food products are safe for human consumption and to reduce the need for product recalls.

The focus of this Consortium is to compare measurement methods to characterize and quantify nutrients and/or contaminants in food ingredients and food products, toward improving overall comparability within the community and enabling organizations that join the Consortium ("Consortium Members") to improve the accuracy and precision of their own, internal measurements. The Consortium will organize at least one interlaboratory study annually based on candidate reference materials and/or commercial products with the following goals:

- Evaluate the applicability of current reference materials for food ingredient and food product testing, and develop new reference materials to support advancement of the food testing industry.
- Compare the suitability of current published methods, including standard methods, to measure nutrients and/or contaminants in food ingredients and food products.

- Utilize common materials to collect reproducibility data in support of measurement assurance and standards development, and propose tests(s) that can be standardized through the AOAC International or similar consensus process, using outcomes from Consortium efforts as a foundation.

No proprietary information will be shared or accepted as part of the Consortium. Contributions of materials to be used as interlaboratory study samples, such as food ingredients or products, are highly encouraged.

Participation Process

Eligibility to participate in the Consortium will be determined by NIST based on the information provided by prospective participants in response to this notice. Prospective participants can submit a letter of interest by completing the letter of interest webform at <https://forms.gle/HBnwvinURpiGJrKF6>; alternatively, parties can answer the questions detailed in LETTER OF INTEREST, below, and send via email or hardcopy (for reference, see **ADDRESSES** section above). NIST will contact interested parties if there are questions regarding the responsiveness of the letters of interest to the project objective or requirements identified below.

Each responding organization's letter of interest should include the address, point of contact, and following information:

- (1) The contribution(s) the organization will make to the Consortium efforts. All Consortium members must contribute one or more of the following:

- a. Analytical Testing: Narrative of interest and experience in analytical testing of food ingredients and food products and description of the services and/or technical capabilities they will contribute to Consortium activities. Please describe thoroughly or attach information about available instrumentation, relevant accreditations, published methods, etc.

- b. Materials: Narrative of interest and description of the food ingredients or food products they will contribute to Consortium activities.

- c. Unique Industry or Community Perspective: Narrative of interest and description of other relevant expertise (e.g., trade associations, regulatory oversight, standards development) they will contribute to Consortium activities.

- (2) List of anticipated participating individuals (anyone contributing to Consortium activities, such as laboratory analysts, should be included).

Letters of interest must not include proprietary information, including proprietary business information. NIST will not treat any information provided in response to this notice as proprietary information. NIST will notify each organization of its eligibility to join the Consortium. In order to participate in this Consortium, each eligible organization must sign a CRADA. Entities that are legally prohibited or not legally authorized to enter into CRADAs may be allowed to participate in the Consortium, at NIST's discretion, under separate non-CRADA agreements with terms that may differ, as necessary, from the Consortium CRADA terms. NIST does not guarantee participation in the Consortium to any organization submitting a letter of interest.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 3710a.

Alicia Chambers,

NIST Executive Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 2026-10528 Filed 5-26-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket Number: 260507-0127]

Manufacturing USA Institute Competition: Technology Transition Roadmaps

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Intent (NOI).

SUMMARY: The Office of Advanced Manufacturing (OAM) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) intends to announce a competition for eligible Manufacturing USA Institutes to develop actionable roadmaps for transitioning technologies to market. NIST intends that through this competition, institutes will identify and document the capabilities and resources needed to de-risk the scale-up of advanced manufacturing technologies from pilot to full commercial integration in the U.S. industrial base. The expected competition will seek to enable applicants to work with critical stakeholders to envision how a Manufacturing USA institute can achieve full adoption readiness and industry uptake of institute-developed technology platforms. This NOI is provided to allow potential applicants sufficient time to develop proposals and collaborations among critical stakeholders.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: All inquiries may be directed to Ms. Cheryl Leonard via email to ManufacturingUSA@nist.gov or by phone at (301) 975-4350, with a subject line stating: “Technology Transition Roadmaps.” NIST will respond to questions received with answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) posted on the NIST competition website at <https://www.nist.gov/oam/funding-opportunities>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose

This notice serves to announce that the U.S. Department of Commerce, through NIST, intends to open a competition to develop industry-focused, actionable technology transition roadmaps to move from pilot-scale to commercial-scale manufacturing.

The competition will seek to enable eligible Manufacturing USA institutes to identify existing gaps and solutions needed to encourage private-sector investments for scaling institute-developed manufacturing technologies for commercial adoption. NIST intends that the applications must identify specific market drivers, demand signals, or critical manufacturing needs with potential to strengthen the global competitiveness of the U.S. industrial base. NIST anticipates that potential applicants will detail how scaling and commercializing technology developed by the Manufacturing USA institute will achieve meaningful and quantifiable impacts on domestic manufacturing efficiency and productivity. NIST expects that the competition will ask applicants to outline essential infrastructure, resources, capabilities, and partnerships necessary for institutes to act as effective navigators for scale-up and deployment of advanced manufacturing innovations, accelerating impacts. NIST intends that this competition will encourage applicants to envision how NIST laboratories and programs can work with institutes to demonstrate and validate new technologies, create effective commercialization pathways, and assist vendors, suppliers, and manufacturers of all sizes in implementing advanced manufacturing at scale.

Award Amount

NIST intends to provide federal funding of up to \$10,000,000. Multiple awards are expected, with each award not exceeding \$550,000 for a period of 18-months through a cooperative agreement. No cost-share requirement is anticipated for this competition.

Eligibility

Eligibility for this competition is limited to existing Manufacturing USA institutes.

The competition is expected to be announced in Summer 2026, with a formal announcement on *Grants.gov* and the NIST Office of Advanced Manufacturing website (www.nist.gov/oam). NIST expects to post and update answers to frequently asked questions in support of this NOI and the future competition. Interested applicants should monitor <https://NIST.gov/oam> for updates.

Background

Program Background

The Manufacturing USA program exists to secure U.S. global leadership in advanced manufacturing (<https://www.manufacturingusa.com/>). The nine Federal agencies participating in Manufacturing USA bring a whole-of-government approach to innovation, one that springboards U.S.-based inventions to the forefront of advanced manufacturing technologies, created and utilized by a skilled American workforce.

Each Manufacturing USA institute is a public-private partnership that brings together manufacturers of all sizes, universities and community colleges, Federal agencies, and state organizations to accelerate innovation by investing in industrially relevant pre-competitive advanced manufacturing technologies to advance specific technology sectors and develop the current and future workforce in those technologies. Manufacturing USA institutes are tasked to mature advanced manufacturing technologies from laboratory prototypes to industrial readiness, focusing on major industry challenges that can be addressed collaboratively, but are generally beyond the reach of individual organizations. Institutes bridge the gap between basic research and commercial product development, provide shared assets allowing access to cutting-edge capabilities and equipment, and create accessible training resources to ensure that students and workers have the skills needed for careers in advanced manufacturing. Each Manufacturing USA institute also serves as a regional hub of manufacturing innovation, providing the infrastructure to reinforce the competitiveness of the U.S. industrial base and strengthen our national and economic security.

Competition Information

Once the competition has been announced, further information may be

found at <https://www.nist.gov/oam/funding-opportunities/>.

Disclaimers

This NOI does not constitute a solicitation. No applications may be submitted in response to this NOI. NIST will post a future announcement on *Grants.gov* that will provide the full requirements for applying for an assistance award. When published, information within the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will supersede in its entirety any information provided by this NOI. Any inconsistency between information within this NOI and the expected NOFO announcing NIST’s Technology Transition Roadmaps competition shall be resolved in favor of the NOFO.

The roadmaps that will result from this competition are intended to identify actionable mechanisms to drive the adoption of advanced manufacturing innovation. Applicants should not expect any follow-up funding from NIST as a result of outcomes from this competition.

Authority

The statutory authorities for the Technology Transition Roadmaps competition are 15 U.S.C. 278s(g) (Manufacturing USA), 15 U.S.C. 272(b) (Functions of Secretary and Institute), and 42 U.S.C. 18972 (Promoting domestic production of technologies developed under the Manufacturing USA Program).

Alicia Chambers,

NIST Executive Secretariat.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DOD-2026-OS-1157]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, (OUSD(P&R)), Department of Defense.

ACTION: 60-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the OUSD(P&R) announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the