

**Alaska University Transportation Center  
Request for Phase I Proposals  
Deadline: Monday, October 26, 2009; 5:00 PM Alaska Time**

All Phase I Proposals must be received by AUTC by courier, email or fax no later than the date and time indicated above. Late proposals will be rejected. The proposers are responsible to ensure the delivery of the proposal by the deadline.

**Synopsis:**

The Alaska University Transportation Center (AUTC) has a five year grant totaling up to \$15 million. Next year's grant is anticipated to be about \$3 million, of which approximately \$1.5 million in transportation research and transportation education activities will be awarded. New awards are expected to be on or about August 1, 2010. The date and amount of the grant is subject to Congressional commitment of funding and USDOT timelines.

The grant requires a 1:1 match according to the enabling legislation. The match must conform to OMB Circulars A-21 and A-110. An outline of the AUTC project selection process is shown in Figure 1 within the strategic plan. The AUTC Strategic Plan available at:

[http://www.alaska.edu/uaf/cem/ine/autc/AUTCStrategicPlan\\_FINAL\\_accepted31oct06.pdf](http://www.alaska.edu/uaf/cem/ine/autc/AUTCStrategicPlan_FINAL_accepted31oct06.pdf)

This is NOT an equipment grant. Any equipment purchased on this grant must be purchased for the purpose of performing the project. All equipment purchases in excess of \$5,000 must be approved by USDOT prior to purchase. All equipment must be disposed of in accordance with federal regulations upon completion of the project.

Projects may be research, education, workforce development, technology transfer or a combination of these.

National and international cooperation is encouraged as long as the requirements of this request are met. Funds meeting federal guidelines from international governments may be used as match. Collaboration between campuses and disciplines is highly encouraged.

All proposals must be consistent with the AUTC Strategic Plan, theme and the 2009 AUTC Governing Board Five Year Roadmap. Failure to meet this requirement will be grounds for rejection of the proposal.

Climate change, energy efficiency and financial stewardship have been established as priorities by the Governing Board in its 2009 Five Year Roadmap.

**Match Requirement:**

The applicant must provide a minimum of a 1:1 match.

Identify all potential Match Cost Share sources.

The proposer is responsible for coordination and communication with the funding sources.

AUTC reserves the right to contact the funding organization to confirm interest. If the funding organization listed for potential match informs AUTC that it has no interest in funding the

proposal, AUTC may remove the proposal from consideration without further review. Consequently, proposers are encouraged to seek partnerships from more than one match source.

### **Selection Process:**

Grants are selected for funding through AUTC by a two-part process as described below. The first part (identified as Phase I) consists of the proposer submitting a four-page proposal describing the research and its benefits to transportation in the state of Alaska. The proposer must use the AUTC template for submitting this proposal.

Applications will be reviewed by AK DOT&PF and the AUTC selection committee for ranking. Successful applicants will be given the opportunity to submit full proposals under Phase II to the selection committee for funding. Based on recommendations of technical reviewers and the selection committee, the Executive Board will make the final selection for Phase II invitations.

Selection under Phase I or Phase II does not guarantee funding. The process for selecting projects for funding by the AUTC is also described in Figure 1 in the Strategic Plan. AUTC reserves the right to invite Phase II proposals in excess of the available funding. This ensures there are enough projects to obligate available funding in the event that a higher-ranking Phase II proposal fails.

### **Members of the Executive Board:**

- Billy Connor, Director AUTC
- Leroy Hulseley, Associate Director, UAF
- Jang Ra, Associate Director, UAA
- Sonya Nagorski, Associate Director, UAS

All projects must be consistent with the Strategic Plan and the Five Year Goals established by the Governing Board. Applicants should read the Strategic Plan and the Five Year Goals, which are available on the AUTC website: <http://www.alaska.edu/uaf/cem/ine/autc/>. See section 3b of the Strategic Plan. Recommended activities for topics such as climate change, energy efficiency and financial stewardship are encouraged.

If a board member or selection committee member has submitted a proposal for funding consideration, that member will be asked to notify the board that he or she is submitting a proposal for consideration. A selection committee member will not be allowed to vote on his/her project. Instead, the average of the votes cast by the other board members will be used to determine his/her score.

### **Preparing the Phase I Proposal:**

The Phase I Proposal must be prepared using the attached template and cannot be more than four pages, including the required title page information.

If a proposal is submitted with more than four pages it will be immediately rejected.

- Margins must be 1 inch
- Font must be no smaller than 10 pt.
- Headings must be no smaller than 12 pt. and in bold.

The applicant is cautioned to carefully develop this proposal in a clear and concise manner. The intent of the Phase I Proposal is to sell the value of the project, not the team. Phase I proposal selection will be based on merit.

All proposals are due by 5:00 pm Alaska Time, October 26, 2009. Proposals may be submitted to Jill Dewey-Davidson, Program Asst., by email at [AUTC@uaf.edu](mailto:AUTC@uaf.edu), mail or courier to:

The Alaska University Transportation Center  
Room 245 Duckering, PO Box 755900  
University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-5900  
Attn: Jill Dewey-Davidson

Additional Requirements for Phase I proposals:

- Include overview of Literature Search in the Phase I proposal (see template).
- Submissions limited to 3 proposals per Principal Investigator or Co-PI.
- The applicant must identify and document a minimum of a 1:1 match.
- Identify all possible Match Cost Share sources; secondary match sources are encouraged.
- The Principal Investigator or Co-PI must be a faculty member of a recognized university.
- If your Phase I Proposal is selected, you will be invited to submit a Phase II proposal for consideration. Submittal of the Phase II proposal does not guarantee funding.
- The Executive Board will accept or reject the proposal based on recommendations of the selection committee and technical peer reviews.
- No proposal revisions will be accepted after the deadline.
- **New Requirement:** All work under this RFP must be completed no later than December 31, 2011 due to AUTC's source funding requirements.

The following items will be considered in both Phase I and II project selection:

- Project value to the transportation community
- AUTC funding available
- Reviewers will consider the project team's ability to complete the work in a timely manner and within the budget
- The technical merits of the proposal are acceptable to the peer reviewers and the Executive Board
- Funding for match is sufficient and allowable
- All projects are subject to approval from USDOT

Instructions for preparing the Phase II proposals will be provided to successful Phase I proposers.

Any questions concerning this Request for Proposals should be directed to Billy Connor, Director AUTC, at [ffbhc@uaf.edu](mailto:ffbhc@uaf.edu) or at 907-474-5552 or Jill Dewey-Davidson, Program Asst. at 474-7330 or emailed to [autc@uaf.edu](mailto:autc@uaf.edu) .