

The Implementation Group/ MURC Resources

Company Background: The Implementation Group (TIG) is a proven research development and assessment and evaluation firm. TIG specializes in proposal review and development to increase client competitiveness for external funding. Founded in 1994, TIG assists educational institutions, coalitions, and nonprofit organizations to target, capture, and implement federal and private sector contracts and grants. Our expertise lies in matching client strengths and priorities with funding opportunities, teaming with clients to prepare competitive grant proposals, and successfully implementing and evaluating projects. A direct result of this work is increased research capacity and competitiveness for our clients. To date, TIG has helped its clients secure more than \$2 billion in competitive awards from federal sponsors, including the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Departments of Defense, Education and Energy.

Goal of MU/TIG Partnership: Our goal is to support WV's competitive research development enterprise principally by providing proposal development support for small-, medium-, and large-scale proposals. We seek to advance WV EPSCoR/IDeA programs, using them as a tool to build the state's research and education infrastructure and its capacity to better serve WV students, faculty and citizens.

Service Offerings: For the 2023-24 period, TIG is under contract to: (1) provide broad-based proposal development and review services; (2) support targeted assistance to early career investigators; (3) complete special competition reviews for limited submission opportunities; and (4) provide broad based consultation to WV EPSCoR.

Proposal Development

Provide individual investigators or faculty research teams with proposal development assistance, including internal and external pre-submission reviews.

- Proposal Review and Assessment (pre-submission review)
 - Provide external, pre-submission reviews:
 - disciplinary expert recruitment
 - critical SWOT examination and assessment of each proposal section
 - high-level recommendations and action items to improve competitiveness
 - detailed track feedback and comments
 - Provide internal reviews
 - non-technical review focused on idea presentation and development; proposal structure, integration, and clarity; 'one-voice'; and responsiveness to guidelines. This work also entails reviewing graphics and figures as well as ensuring attention to overall grantsmanship.
 - iterative "flags" and content assessment
- Augmentation
 - Assist in responding to internal and external feedback (as requested).
 - Provide direct technical assistance with editing, proofing, graphics, and formatting.
- Compliance Tracking
 - Conduct final cross check for full alignment with solicitation requirements.
- Post-Factum Review, Analysis and Resubmission
 - Prepare analysis of declined submissions (post-factum review).
 - Work with PIs to develop plan for resubmission.

Special Limited Submission Competitions

Review concept papers and mini-proposals being internally competed for limited submission opportunities.

- Assist with "special" reviews, such as those necessary to down-select applications to programs that limit the number of proposals per organization.
- Support proposal development and review for "advanced" applications. (See Proposal Development, above).

Junior Faculty CAREER Development

Support early career faculty to apply for targeted opportunities.

- Provide technical assistance and support to early career faculty applying for targeted opportunities at DOE, NIH, and NSF, in particular. This work may include virtual seminars; review of concept papers; 1:1 strategy meetings, proposal reviews; and post-factum/resubmission reviews.

Opportunity Identification and Strategic Consultation

Identify and alert HEPC and WV PIs to various federal funding and private sector opportunities.

- Provide programmatic and budgetary intelligence on key agency programs.
- Provide strategic guidance and direction to WV leadership and faculty, as needed and required.
- Analyze guidelines and provide checklist of required solicitation elements.

Timeline: TIG typically budgets 2-3 weeks for an external review. Internal reviews can be completed within 3-4 days. Depending on needs, reviews can be fast-tracked, with external reviews completed within 5 days (weekend included), and internal reviews completed within 24 hours of receipt. Faculty are asked to indicate the program/competition to which they are responding as well as requested return date.

Table 1: Timeline	
Pre-Submission Reviews	Response Time
• Technical (by disciplinary experts)	12 – 20 days
• Internal (TIG staff)	72 – 96 hours
Proposal Augmentation	
• Editing/Formatting	72 – 96 hours
Compliance Check	24 hours

Agencies: TIG works across all agencies and private sector sponsors as well as all fields – STEM and otherwise. Select examples of awards are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Select Examples of Federal Awards Won by TIG Clients	
Department of Agriculture	
NIFA ANNH	Alaska Native-Serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Education Competitive Grants Program
NIFA NEXTGEN	From Learning to Leading: Cultivating the Next Generation of Diverse Food and Agriculture Professionals (NEXTGEN)
Department of Defense	
NNMI	<i>Manufacturing USA</i> Institute*
Department of Education	
I-3	Investing in Innovation
GAANN	Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need
GEAR UP	Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs
IES	Institute of Education Sciences
OESE	Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
OPE	Office of Postsecondary Education
Department of Energy	
BETHE	Breakthroughs Enabling Thermonuclear - Fusion Energy / ARPA-E
Early Career	Early Career Research Program
EERE AMO	Advanced Manufacturing Office Multi-Topic
EFRC	Energy Frontier Research Centers
EPSCoR	Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research
ESS	Environmental Systems Science
HEP	High Energy Physics
NNMI	<i>Manufacturing USA</i> Institute*
QIS	Quantum Information Science (QIS) Research Institutes
SSAA	Stewardship Science Academic Alliances Centers of Excellence
SBIR/STTR	Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)
	Solar Decathlon
Department of Homeland Security	
COE	DHS Center of Excellence
Department of Labor	
	Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grants (Employment and Training Administration)
	American Apprenticeship Initiative (Employment and Training Administration)
Department of Transportation	
UTC	University Transportation Center
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	
EPSCoR CAN	Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research
NASA DRIVE	NASA DRIVE Science Center
R3	Rapid Response Research

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National Endowment for the Humanities	
Fellowship	NEH Summer Fellowship
National Institutes of Health	
K99/R00	NIH Pathway to Independence (PI) Award (K99/R00)
P01	Research Program Project Grant
P20	Exploratory Grants
P30	Center Core Grants
P42	Multi-project Center Grants
P50	Full-Scale Specialized Center Grants
R01	NIH Research Project Grant Program (R01)
R03	NIH Small Grant Program (R03)
R15	NIH Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA)
R21	NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Award (R21)
R25	Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) program (R25)
R35	Maximizing Investigators' Research Award (MIRA) (R35)
S10	Shared Instrumentation Grant (S10)
S21	Research and Institutional Resources Health Disparities Endowment Grants -Capacity Building
T32	Ruth L. Kirschstein Institutional National Research Service Award
U-24	Resource-Related Research Projects--Cooperative Agreements
U-54	Specialized Center--Cooperative Agreements
UM-1	Research Project with Complex Structure Cooperative Agreement
National Institute of Standards and Technology	
	<i>Manufacturing USA</i> Institute*
MEP	Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program
National Science Foundation	
ADVANCE	Increasing Participation and Advancement of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Centers
AGEP	Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate
AI	AI Research Institutes
ART	Accelerating Research Translation
ATE	Advanced Technological Education
ATOL	Assembling the Tree of Life
BPC	Broadening Participation in Computing Alliance Program
BPE	Broadening Participation in Engineering
CAREER	Faculty Early Career Development Program
CCI	Centers for Chemical Innovation
CBET	Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental and Transport
	Convergence Accelerator (Phase I and Phase II)
EPSCoR	Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (Track-1, Track-2 FEC, Track-3, Track-4)
CoPe	Coastlines and People (CoPe)
CREST	Centers for Research Excellence in Science and Technology
ENGINE	Regional Innovation Engines (Type 1)
EPSCoR	Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (Track-1, Track-2 FEC, Track-3, Track-4)
ERC	Engineering Research Centers
GK-12	Graduate STEM Fellows in K-12 Education
GRFP	Graduate Research Fellowships Program

Table 2: Select Examples of Federal Awards Won by TIG Clients	
IGERT	Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship
INCLUDES	Inclusion Across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science
INFEWS	Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy and Water Systems (INFEWS)
ITEST	Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers
IUCRC	Industry–University Cooperative Research Centers
IUSE	Improving Undergraduate STEM Education
LSAMP	Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation
MRI	Major Research Instrumentation
MRSEC	Materials Research Science and Engineering Centers
NRT	National Science Foundation Research Traineeship Program
PEEC	Pre-Engineering Education Collaboratives
PFI	Partnerships for Innovation
PIRE	Partnerships for International Research and Education
REU	Research Experiences for Undergraduates
STC	Science and Technology Centers
S-STEM	Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
STEP	STEM Talent Expansion Program
TCUP	Tribal Colleges and Universities Program

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