

Notice of Intent No. DE-FOA-0001656**Notice of Intent to Issue
Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0001640**

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) intends to issue, on behalf of the Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO), a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled “SunShot Technology to Market: Incubator Round 12, SolarMat Round 5”.

This FOA will enable the widespread market penetration of new solar technologies and solutions through research, development, and demonstration to overcome technical, institutional and market challenges. The FOA is expected to be divided into 6 Tiers that are based on the technology type, hardware or software, as well as its stage in the development cycle, e.g. prototype refinement, manufacturing tooling, beta testing, etc. The total federal funding is expected to be approximately \$30M with a 20% to 50% awardee cost share required depending on the project Tier. Maximum award levels per project will range from \$500,000 to \$5M depending on Tier. In addition to achieving rigorous technical milestones, awardees will be expected to deliver on business development and commercial metrics that de-risk the technology/solution and enable its progression to the next phase of commercial development. Successful awardees will be well positioned for investment from the private sector and have a path to market impact. Due to the commercial nature of the projects, only for-profit businesses will be eligible to apply to this FOA.

It is anticipated that the FOA Areas of Interest may include products or solutions which directly and significantly impact at least one of the following SETO goals:

1. Achieve the SunShot Initiative goal ahead of the 2020 cost targets of \$0.06/kWh, \$0.07/kWh or \$0.09/kWh for utility-scale, commercial and residential systems, respectively (levelized cost of energy), or reduce costs below these targets beyond 2020.
2. Expand domestic solar manufacturing and supply chain value to be commensurate with the level of domestic deployment.
3. Expand the domestic market for solar to be a significant fraction (>10%) of our nation's electricity generating capacity.
4. Enable the integration of hundreds of GW of solar on the nation's grid.

EERE envisions awarding multiple financial assistance awards in the form of cooperative agreements. The estimated period of performance for each award will be one to two years.

This Notice is issued so that interested parties are aware of the EERE’s intention to issue this FOA in the near term. All of the information contained in this Notice is subject to change. EERE will not respond to questions concerning this Notice. Once the FOA has been released, EERE will provide an avenue for potential Applicants to submit questions.

This is a Notice of Intent (NOI) only. EERE may issue a FOA as described herein, may issue a FOA that is significantly different than the FOA described herein, or EERE may not issue a FOA at all.

EERE plans to issue the FOA on or after October 17, 2016 via the EERE Exchange website (<https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>). If Applicants wish to receive official notifications and information from EERE regarding this FOA, they should register in EERE Exchange. When the FOA is released, applications will be accepted only through EERE Exchange. If Applicants wish they may also sign up for the SunShot Newsletter which will contain funding release announcements (<http://energy.gov/eere/sunshot/sunshot-initiative>).

In anticipation of the FOA being released, Applicants are advised to complete the following steps, which are **required** for application submission:

- Register and create an account in EERE Exchange at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>. This account will allow the user to register for any open EERE FOAs that are currently in EERE Exchange. It is recommended that each organization or business unit, whether acting as a team or a single entity, use only one account as the contact point for each submission. Questions related to the registration process and use of the EERE Exchange website should be submitted to: EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov
- Obtain a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number (including the plus 4 extension, if applicable) at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>
- Register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov>. Designating an Electronic Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) and obtaining a special password called an MPIN are important steps in SAM registration. Please update your SAM registration annually.
- Register in FedConnect at <https://www.fedconnect.net/>. To create an organization account, your organization's SAM MPIN is required. For more information about the SAM MPIN or other registration requirements, review the FedConnect Ready, Set, Go! Guide at https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/PublicPages/FedConnect_Ready_Set_Go.pdf
- Register in Grants.gov to receive automatic updates when Amendments to a FOA are posted. However, please note that applications will not be accepted through Grants.gov. <http://www.grants.gov/>. All applications must be submitted through EERE Exchange.

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