NDSU | NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Research and education network resources $3,201,100

NDSU is requesting ongoing base funding for continued access to high-speed research and education network resources with connectivity, maintain cybersecurity control standards, computational research tools and methods to support cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and quantum computing programming efforts.

- Northern Tier Network-Internet2 Connectivity $650,000

   An independent network that serves research and educational institutions. This network provides direct, and high-speed access to collaborators and government laboratories across the nation that is essential to successful research operations within the state. Through NDSU this network is available for all ND university system institutions and K-12. NDSU is a member institution of the Northern Tier Network.

   If this is not funded: NDSU would have to further reduce operations to continue the critical access to the network. As an R1 institution (Doctoral University with very high research activity) continued connectivity is necessary for researchers to share and obtain data.

- Computational Research $1,551,100

   Hiring experts to support faculty research on existing cutting-edge computational resources, so that most research disciplines can effectively utilize resources available. A small portion of the base funding will be used to support regular maintenance operations on the equipment.

   If this is not funded: NDSU will not be able to provide researchers with the critical training and tools to increase accuracy and efficiently apply data science techniques to contracts. This is especially important in Agriculture; data science analytics for individual growers and commodity groups have increased dramatically.

- Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) $1,000,000

   CMMC is a set of security standards issued by the Department of Defense (DoD) intended to protect Controlled Unclassified Information, which constitutes most information associated with or produced by DoD grants and contracts. The vast majority of DoD grants and contracts in the future will require CMMC level 2 certification. To meet this requirement, NDSU will be required to implement new infrastructure for desktops, servers, networks, and other information services. Funds will cover additional staffing (as necessary), equipment, and licensing.

   If this is not funded: NDSU will not be able to apply for the majority of Dept of Defense (DoD) grants and contracts beginning in 2025. All security infrastructure systems need to be in place and CMMC certified by 2025.

   This is a joint funding request between NDSU ($3,201,100) and UND ($3,201,100).