

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

PLEASE REFER TO THE GENERAL FAQs SECTION OF ARPA-E'S WEBSITE ([HTTP://ARPA-E.ENERGY.GOV/?Q=FAQ/GENERAL-QUESTIONS](http://arpa-e.energy.gov/?q=faq/general-questions)) FOR ANSWERS TO MANY GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT ARPA-E AND ARPA-E'S FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS FOA ONLY ARE INCLUDED BELOW. PLEASE REVIEW ALL EXISTING GENERAL FAQs AND FOA-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS BEFORE SUBMITTING NEW QUESTIONS TO ARPA-E.

I. Concept Paper Phase Questions:

Q1. I HAVE A QUESTION ON THE ELIGIBILITY, THE FOA SAID 'PI MUST BE A U.S. CITIZEN, U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT, OR HAVE APPLIED FOR A U.S. GREEN CARD BY THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THEIR PROPOSAL.' REGARDING 'HAVE APPLIED FOR A U.S. GREEN CARD BY THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THEIR PROPOSAL', DOES THIS MEAN THE TIME OF CONCEPT PAPER SUBMISSION OR FULL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION? SINCE THE GREEN CARD APPLICATION INVOLVES TWO STEPS (I-140 FORM AND I-485 FORM), AT WHAT STEP SHOULD I HAVE TO SATISFY THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT? IF I JUST HAVE SUBMITTED THE I-140 PETITION BY THE TIME OF PROPOSAL DEADLINE, WILL I BE ELIGIBLE?

ANSWER: The Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status (Form I-485) must be filed with the US Citizenship and Immigration Services before submitting the Concept Paper.

Q2. I AM WRITING TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT FOR THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED IGNITE 2024 FOA (DE-FOA-0003224), SPECIFICALLY THE NOTE ON LEAVE OF ABSENCES IN SECTION III.A.III. I AM A FOUNDER OF A FOR-PROFIT STARTUP, AND I AM CURRENTLY ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM A DOCTORAL PROGRAM FOR THIS WORK. DOES THIS QUALIFY AS ELIGIBLE?

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, eligibility is restricted to PIs who have graduated with a doctoral degree (Ph.D.) within eight years preceding the concept paper deadline. Those with reasonable periods of extended leave may be eligible if they have received a Ph.D. within eight years + extended leave preceding the concept paper deadline.

Q3. THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THIS GRANT IS:

"MUST BE A U.S. CITIZEN, U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT, OR HAVE APPLIED FOR A U.S. GREEN CARD BY THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THEIR PROPOSAL." GREEN CARD APPLICATION HAS 3 STEPS: PERM LABOR CERTIFICATION, I-140 AND I-485. IF MY APPLICATION IS IN THE 1ST STEP (LABOR CERTIFICATION), AM I ELIGIBLE FOR APPLYING TO THIS GRANT?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q1 above.

Q4. THE FOA, "INSPIRING GENERATIONS OF NEW INNOVATORS TO IMPACT TECHNOLOGIES IN ENERGY 2024 (IGNIITE 2024)", SEEMS LIKE A YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD. MAY I MAKE SURE IF IT ALLOWS COLLABORATIVE PROPOSALS, WHICH CONTAIN MULTIPLE PIS?

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, eligibility is restricted to individual Principal Investigators (single PIs).

Q5. MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT I CAN COUNT ONE YEAR OF PARENTAL LEAVE WHEN CALCULATING MY ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, AND THEREFORE, I COULD BE 8+1=9 YEARS PAST MY PHD DEGREE.

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, reasonable periods of extended leave may be added to the requirements set forth in Section III.A.ii and III.A.iii.

Q6. MY INQUIRY REVOLVES AROUND ELIGIBILITY FOR THE IGNITE 2024 PROGRAM.

DURING MY GRADUATE EDUCATION I DEVELOPED AN INNOVATIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF OCEAN THERMAL ENERGY CONVERSION. I MADE THE DIFFICULT DECISION TO MASTERS OUT AND GO THE STARTUP ROUTE TO BUILD A COMPANY AROUND THIS INNOVATION. MY COMPANY HAS NOW SCALED TO 6 INCLUDING NAVAL ARCHITECTS, MARINE ENGINEERS, OFFSHORE & ONSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY FINANCE SPECIALISTS, AND THE PREEMINENT EXPERT ON OTEC. DOES MY LACK OF A PHD PRECLUDE ME FROM APPLYING?

ANSWER: Yes. As stated in Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, eligibility is restricted to PIs who have graduated with a doctoral degree (Ph.D.) within eight years preceding the concept paper deadline.

Q7. THERE IS A REQUIREMENT TO ATTEND A SUMMER SESSION. ARE THERE ANY TENTATIVE DATES SET FOR PLANNING PURPOSES THAT CAN BE PROVIDED? IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT EACH SUMMER, THIS WILL BE 2 WEEKS OF TIME

ANSWER: The exact dates will be communicated to the applicants that are invited to submit Full Applications. The summer session will be 2-weeks during each Summer of the award.

Q8. WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT SOME OF OUR POST DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS TO PROPOSE TO THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY. ARE THERE ANY ISSUES WITH POST DOCS BEING THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS?

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, the PI "must have the authority to self-direct the proposed work and manage the ARPA-E" and "must have the support of their organization to act as the PI for the proposed project". The ability to meet these requirements must be made clear in the Concept Paper. In addition, employees of U.S. Institutions of Higher Education must be Tenure-Track Assistant/Associate Professors to be eligible.

Q9. COULD YOU KINDLY CLARIFY IF IT IS A SINGLE PI OR MULTI-PI OPPORTUNITY (PI+ CO-PI) ? IN THE LATTER CASE, IS THERE ANY RESTRICTION ON THE NUMBER OF CO-PI?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q4 above.

Q10. IS THE REQUIREMENT FOR APPLICANTS TO BE FULL TIME EMPLOYEES AT DOE/NNSA FFRDCS/DOE LABS TO BE INTERPRETED TO INDICATE THAT LIMITED TERM EMPLOYEES ARE INELIGIBLE TO SERVES AS PIS?

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, employees at DOE/NNSA FFRDCS/DOE Labs must be full-time employees to be eligible to apply.

Q11. I AM WRITING TO ENQUIRE ON WHETHER THERE IS PROVISION TO INCLUDE A CO-PI OR SENIOR PERSONNEL WHILE PROPOSING TO THE IGNITE SOLICITATION.

ANSWER: Please refer to Q4 above.

Q12. IN THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, IT IS STATED THAT APPLICANTS MUST BE A "U.S. CITIZEN, U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT, OR HAVE APPLIED FOR A U.S. GREEN CARD BY THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THEIR PROPOSAL". I WOULD LIKE TO UNDERSTAND MORE PRECISELY WHAT IS CONSIDERED AS HAVING "APPLIED FOR A U.S. GREEN CARD". SPECIFICALLY, MY PETITION FOR I-140 HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE USCIS AND I AM CURRENTLY WAITING FOR MY PRIORITY DATE TO BECOME CURRENT SO I CAN SUBMIT THE I-485 FORM (I-140 APPROVED, I-485 IN PREPARATION BUT NOT SUBMITTED YET). DOES THIS MAKE ME AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q1 above.

Q13. CAN WE INCLUDE CO-PIs OR OTHER AGENCIES OR COMPANIES THAT WILL HELP COMMERCIALIZE THE TECHNOLOGY?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q4 above.

Q14. I UNDERSTAND THE PI MUST BE AN EARLY-CAREER INNOVATOR AS DEFINED IN SECTION III.A IN THE FOA. I WANTED TO CONFIRM WHETHER THIS IS A SINGLE-PI PROGRAM, OR IT ALSO ALLOWS CO-PI (EITHER JUNIOR OR SENIOR) AND/OR SENIOR PERSONNEL (OTHER FACULTY OR POST-DOC)?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q4 above.

Q15. WOULD A RESEARCH ASSISTANT PROFESSOR BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY?

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, employees of U.S. Institutions of Higher Education must be Tenure-Track Assistant/Associate Professors to be eligible.

Q16. WOULD RESEARCH FOCUSED ON IMPROVING THE RECYCLING OF LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES OR THE DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF CRITICAL ELEMENTS FOR BATTERY FABRICATION BE OF INTEREST TO ARPA-E?

I COULD SEE THIS FITTING INTO CATEGORY 2: TRANSPORTATION OR CATEGORY 7: OTHER.

ANSWER: As stated in sections I.A and I.D of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, Applicants may propose any energy technology R&D project that addresses one or more of ARPA-E's statutory goals through the type of research described in Section I.A of this FOA.

Q17. WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THE EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER, AT SOME POINT DURING THE PROJECT, LEAVES THEIR ENTITY FOR ANY REASON, PERSONAL OR OTHERWISE? WILL THE ENTITY NEED TO APPOINT A NEW RESEARCHER TO TAKE OVER? OR, SINCE IT WAS SELECTED DUE TO THAT SPECIFIC EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER'S ABILITIES, DOES THE PROJECT NOW FOLLOW THEM TO THEIR NEW ENTITY? OR DOES IT JUST END?

ANSWER: Such a hypothetical situation will be decided on a case-by-case basis at the entire discretion of ARPA-E.

Q18. WILL LOW SWAP (SIZE, WEIGHT, AND POWER) DEVICES BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING OR JUST NEW DEVICES FOR ENERGY GENERATION AND STORAGE? MY SECOND QUESTION IS ABOUT WHETHER THIS OPPORTUNITY CAN BE APPLIED FOR BY POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS AT FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTERS (FFRDC) SUCH AS SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES?

ANSWER: 1. As stated in sections I.A and I.D of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, Applicants may propose any energy technology R&D project that addresses one or more of ARPA-E's statutory goals through the type of research described in Section I.A of this FOA.

2. As stated in Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, employees at DOE/NNSA FFRDCS/DOE Labs must be full-time employees to be eligible to apply and must also have the support of their organization to act as the PI for the proposed project, as evidenced by a letter signed by the PI's direct supervisor attesting to the applicant's eligibility and expressing their commitment to support the PI in the successful completion of the project.

Q19. I HAVE DEVELOPED A DESIGN THAT WILL ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES FROM THE ATMOSPHERE.

I AM LOOKING FOR FUNDING SO I CAN BUILD A PROTOTYPE AND FIX ANY KINKS. I NEED TO KNOW IF I AM ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY. I AM ATTACHING MY CAPABILITY STATEMENT IN CASE YOU NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

ANSWER: Refer to Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA for any questions pertaining to eligibility.

Q20. FOR IGNIITE, WILL APPLICANTS (INDIVIDUALS - THE EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER AIMING TO BE A FIRST-TIME ARPA-E PROJECT PI) BE SCORED ON THEIR ABILITY TO BECOME A PI BASED ON THEIR QUALIFICATIONS, EDUCATION, AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE?

ANSWER: As stated in Section V.A.1 in the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, one of the Concept Paper evaluation criteria includes the demonstrated capabilities of the individuals performing the project and the key capabilities of the organization.

Q21. GIVEN THE WORDING IN THE IGNIITE FOA, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE PROPOSING ENTITY IS STANDALONE AND THE PARTICULAR PI CAN ONLY SUBMIT ONE APPLICATION. WITH ALL THE WORDING, ESPECIALLY IN THE "QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE, AND CAPABILITIES" SECTION, IT IS UNCLEAR IF THE PI CAN HAVE A PROJECT TEAM WITHIN THEIR STANDALONE ENTITY. JUST TO REMOVE ANY AMBIGUITY, CAN THE CHOSEN PI HAVE OTHER COLLEAGUES CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROJECT WITHIN THEIR ENTITY?

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, eligibility is restricted to individual Principal Investigators (single PIs). However, a single PI may lead a team of other individuals at their same institution supported by the project.

Q22. DO I NEED TO HAVE RECEIVED A PH.D BY THE CONCEPT PAPER DEADLINE IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY TO IGNIITE 2024?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q6 above.

Q23. GIVEN HOW THE FOA IS WRITTEN AND THE STIPULATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH PHD DATE, CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT ONLY EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS WHO HAVE COMPLETED A PHD PROGRAM ARE ELIGIBLE? THIS MEANS SOMEONE WHO IS STILL IN PROCESS OF OBTAINING THEIR PHD AND THOSE THAT ARE RESEARCHERS WITH A MASTERS DEGREE ARE INELIGIBLE, CORRECT?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q6 above.

Q24. I HAVE A QUESTION WITH RESPECT TO FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DE-FOA-0003224. AS I UNDERSTAND THE APPLICANT PI MUST HAVE A PHD. I AM IN INDUSTRY WITH MY OWN BUSINESS WITH A BS DEGREE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING. AM I DISQUALIFIED?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q6 above.

Q25. I WOULD LIKE TO APPLY TO THE FOLLOWING FOA: INSPIRING GENERATIONS OF NEW INNOVATORS TO IMPACT TECHNOLOGIES IN ENERGY (IGNIITE) 2024

ACCORDING TO THE ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION IN SECTION III.A OF THE IGNIITE CONCEPT PAPER FOA, THE APPLICANT MUST BE EITHER A US CITIZEN OR A US PERMANENT RESIDENT OR HAVE APPLIED FOR A US GREEN CARD BY THE TIME OF THE PROPOSAL SUBMISSION.

I AM A GERMAN CITIZEN ON AN H-1B VISA WHOSE I-140 PETITION (IMMIGRANT PETITION FOR ALIEN WORKERS) HAS ALREADY BEEN APPROVED (NATIONAL INTEREST WAIVER) BY THE USCIS. HOWEVER, SINCE MY "PRIORITY DATE" IS NOT YET „CURRENT", I CANNOT YET APPLY FOR I-485 (APPLICATION TO REGISTER PERMANENT RESIDENCE OR ADJUST STATUS), AND I HAVE NO IDEA WHEN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S VISA BULLETIN WILL MAKE MY PRIORITY DATE CURRENT SO THAT I CAN FILE MY I-485 APPLICATION.

I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER MY SITUATION COUNTS AS „APPLIED FOR A US GREEN CARD" IN YOUR DEFINITIONS OR NOT.

ANSWER: Please refer to Q1 above.

Q26. I AM INTERESTED IN APPLYING TO THE IGNITE 2024 PROGRAM FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS AND I THINK I AM ELIGIBLE PER THE FOA GUIDELINES. I HAVE A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS THAT IT MIGHT BE EASIER TO ASK FOR A PROGRAM MANAGER IN A 30 MIN SHORT MEETING THAN BY EMAIL. DO YOU MIND CONNECTING ME WITH THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR TO FIND A TIME TO MEET IF THAT'S ALLOWED UNDER THIS FOA?

ANSWER: Please see Section VII. Agency Contacts of the FOA.

Q27. I AM AN EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER AND HAVE GRADUATED WITH A PH.D. WITHIN 8.4 YEARS OF THE CONCEPT PAPER DEADLINE (JANUARY 5, 2024). THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED MY RESEARCH PROGRESS DURING 2020-2023 PERIOD. AM I STILL ELIGIBLE TO APPLY, ALTHOUGH BEING A LITTLE BIT OVER EIGHT YEARS OF THE CONCEPT PAPER DEADLINE?

THE FOA STATES: "ELIGIBLE APPLICANT MUST HAVE GRADUATED WITH A DOCTORAL DEGREE (PH.D.) WITHIN EIGHT YEARS OF THE CONCEPT PAPER DEADLINE (EXCLUDING REASONABLE PERIODS OF EXTENDED LEAVE – E.G., PERSONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE, PARENTAL LEAVE)."

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNITE 2024 FOA, reasonable periods of extended leave may be added to the requirements set forth in Section III.A.ii and III.A.iii. Circumstances may be briefly explained in the application.

Q28. THERE ARE QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT:

"MUST BE A U.S. CITIZEN, U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT, OR HAVE APPLIED FOR A U.S. GREEN CARD BY THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THEIR PROPOSAL."

1) WHAT IF THEY RECENTLY BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR THE GREEN CARD APPLICATION PROCESS AND ARE STARTING THE APPLICATION PROCESS. AT WHAT STATE WITHIN THE APPLICATION PROCESS IS IT CONSIDERED TO BE APPLIED? IS THERE MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE ABOUT THE GREEN CARD CRITERIA, SINCE IT IS A 2-STAGE PROCESS?

A. FOR INSTANCE, THERE IS AN APPROVED I140 WITH I485 UNDER PROCESS OF APPLICATION BUT NOT APPLIED AS YET. WILL THIS SCENARIO QUALIFY?

B. IS IT THE FILING OF THE I-40?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q1 above.

Q29. GIVEN THE WORDING, AN FFRDC WOULD NEED TO BE A STANDALONE APPLICANT. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SOMETIMES STUDENT INTERNS AVAILABLE THAT ARE PLACED AT THE FFRDC. WOULD THOSE PEOPLE BE CONSIDERED NON-FFRDC COLLABORATORS IN THIS CONTEXT? MEANING, DOES THE WORDING MAKE IT SO THE INTERNS COULD NOT CONTRIBUTE TO A PROJECT?

ANSWER: Student Interns will be considered non-FFRDC collaborators. Note that Applicants must have already received a PhD within the last 8 years.

Q30.

- 1. THE FOA STATES "FOR-PROFIT ENTITIES , EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, DOE/NNSA FFRDCS/DOE LABS, AND NONPROFITS THAT ARE INCORPORATED IN THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING U.S. TERRITORIES, ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY, AND THESE ENTITIES MUST APPLY AS A STANDALONE APPLICANT ONLY (I.E., THEY CANNOT APPLY AS A PROJECT TEAM WITH ANOTHER ENTITY)." BEYOND THE REQUIREMENT FOR THESE ENTITIES TO SUBMIT STANDALONE SUBMISSIONS, IS THERE REQUIREMENT REGARDING THE LEVEL OF EFFORT BY THE INDIVIDUAL NEW INNOVATOR PI? FOR EXAMPLE, IS THAT INDIVIDUAL REQUIRED TO DO A MINIMUM OF X% EFFORT ON THE PROJECT COMPARED TO OTHER INDIVIDUALS FROM THE PI'S ORGANIZATION WHO MAY ALSO BE SUPPORTING THE PROJECT?**
- 2. THE FOA STATES THAT PROPOSERS "IDENTIFY KEY CAPABILITIES PROVIDED BY THE PI'S ORGANIZATION AND HOW THOSE KEY CAPABILITIES WILL BE USED IN THE PROPOSED EFFORT" IN THE CONCEPT PAPER. IS THERE A MAX PERCENTAGE OF THE PROJECT EFFORT THAT CAN BE PROVIDED BY ADDITIONAL PROJECT PERSONNEL FROM THE NEW INNOVATOR PI'S ORGANIZATION RATHER THAN THE PI HIMSELF/HERSELF?**

ANSWER: The IGNIITE 2024 FOA does not set minimum Level of Effort requirements for the PI.

Q31. I RECEIVED MY PH.D. IN DECEMBER 2015, SO TECHNICALLY IT WILL BE 8 YEARS AND 1 MONTH BY THE TIME OF SUBMIT THE CONCEPT PAPER (JANUARY 5, 2024).

HOWEVER, I HAD A MATERNITY DURING MY POSTDOCTORAL WORK IN FALL 2017, WHICH DELAYED THE START OF MY INDEPENDENT ACADEMIC CAREER.

WOULD THIS APPLY AS AN EXCEPTION FOR AN 8-YEAR RULE?

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNIITE 2024 FOA, reasonable periods of extended leave may be added to the requirements set forth in Section III.A.ii and III.A.iii. Circumstances may be briefly explained in the application.

Q32. FOA 3224 STATES THAT "MUST HAVE GRADUATED WITH A DOCTORAL DEGREE (PH.D.) WITHIN EIGHT YEARS OF THE CONCEPT PAPER DEADLINE (EXCLUDING REASONABLE PERIODS OF EXTENDED LEAVE – E.G., PERSONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE, PARENTAL LEAVE)."

SOME DOE AND DOD PROGRAMS ARE CONSIDERING AT LEAST TWO YEARS OF EXTENSION TO THIS LIMITATION DUE TO THE COVID PANDEMIC. FOR EXAMPLE, DOE EARLY CAREER RESEARCH PROGRAM NOW CONSIDERS 12 YEARS AFTER PHD GRADUATION.

WILL YOU ALSO EXTEND IT?

I GRADUATED ON MAY 2, 2015, FROM GEORGIA TECH AND WAS A POSTDOC AT CALTECH FOR THREE YEARS AND A LECTURER AT CAL STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH FOR TWO YEARS BEFORE STARTING MY TENURE TRACK POSITION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH IN 2021. I DID HAVE A MAJOR LIFE EVENT (MY SON WAS BORN) BUT IN 2013.

I WAS WONDERING IF I COUNT AS AN EARLY CAREER IN YOUR PROGRAM SO THAT I CAN APPLY FOR IGNIITE.

ANSWER: The leave of absence must have occurred in the period of time after the proposed PI obtained their Ph.D.

Q33. I AM DEEPLY INTERESTED IN THE IGNIITE 2024 PROGRAM, AND I HOPE TO CLARIFY MY ELIGIBILITY REGARDING BELOW.

III. A. I) MUST BE A U.S. CITIZEN, U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT, OR HAVE APPLIED FOR A U.S. GREEN CARD BY THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THEIR PROPOSAL.

I AM A CITIZEN OF KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH KOREA) AND IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING MY U.S. GREEN CARD. I HAVE MY I-140 FORM APPROVED (LAST YEAR OCTOBER) AND PLAN TO SUBMIT MY I-485 FORM IN NOVEMBER (THIS MONTH). I WONDER THIS CONDITION FITS INTO THE THIRD CATEGORY (HAVE APPLIED FOR A U.S. GREEN CARD BY THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THEIR PROPOSAL).

ANSWER: The Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status (form I-485) must be filed with the US Citizenship and Immigration Services before submitting the Concept Paper. Please refer to Q1 above.

Q34. I HAVE A QUESTION ON THE ELIGIBILITY OF THIS CALL. THE FOA SAID ' PI MUST BE A U.S. CITIZEN, U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT, OR HAVE APPLIED FOR A U.S. GREEN CARD BY THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THEIR PROPOSAL.'

REGARDING PI 'HAVE APPLIED FOR A U.S. GREEN CARD BY THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THEIR PROPOSAL', DOES THIS MEAN BY THE TIME OF CONCEPT PAPER SUBMISSION OR FULL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION?

SINCE THE GREEN CARD APPLICATION INVOLVES TWO STEPS (I-140 AND I-485), AT WHAT STEP SHOULD I HAVE TO SATISFY THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT? IF I JUST HAVE SUBMITTED THE I-140 PETITION BY THE TIME OF PROPOSAL DEADLINE, WILL I BE ELIGIBLE?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q1 above.

Q35. I AM INTERESTED TO SUBMIT A CONCEPT PAPER FOR ARPA-E IGNITE. ONE QUESTION REGARDING THE PI. THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY IS SUPPOSED FOR SINGLE-PI OR CAN BE SUBMITTED BY MULTI-PIS?

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNITE 2024 FOA, eligibility is restricted to individual Principal Investigators (single PIs).

Q36. FOR THE RECENTLY RELEASED FOA 0003224 IGNITE 2024, MY TEAM IS WONDERING IF ARPA-E WOULD CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FROM A NONPROFIT TO ADMINISTER THE \$10M AWARD AND RECRUIT 10 SCIENTISTS WHO ARE WORKING ON TECHNOLOGY RELEVANT TO THIS FOA WHO ARE TRYING TO COMMERCIALIZE THAT TECH.

I READ THE FOA A FEW TIMES, AND WAS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR IF THIS IDEA IS TOO OUT OF SCOPE FOR THE SOLICITATION.

ANSWER: No. ARPA-E will administer the funds and select the awardees.

Q37. I WONDER IF I AM ENCOURAGED TO HAVE A CO-PI?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q4 above.

Q38. I AM VERY EXCITED ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY. I AM FULL TIME CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR. I HAVE BEEN SUPERVISING THREE FULL-TIME PHD STUDENTS. JUST WONDERING IF I AM ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR THIS GRANT.

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.A of the IGNITE 2024 FOA, employees of U.S. Institutions of Higher Education must be Tenure-Track Assistant/Associate Professors to be eligible.



Q39. FOR THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY, I UNDERSTAND THAT ELIGIBILITY IS RESTRICTED TO INDIVIDUAL PIS ACCORDING TO SECTION III.A OF THE FOA AND AS INDICATED IN Q4 OF THE FAQ. HOWEVER, CAN YOU PLEASE CLARIFY WHETHER SUB-AWARDS / SUB-CONTRACTS ARE PERMITTED? IF THEY ARE PERMITTED, ARE THEY DISCOURAGED, CONSIDERING THAT THIS IS AN EARLY CAREER TYPE AWARD?

ANSWER: Entities must apply as a Standalone Applicant only. See Section III.B of the FOA.

Q40. I AM INTERESTED IN APPLYING IGNIITE THIS YEAR. I'M WONDERING IF I TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER INSTITUTION AFTER BEING AWARDED, WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO TRANSFER THE AWARD TO THE NEW INSTITUTION?

ANSWER: Please refer to Q17 above.