



VALUABLES
AN RFF/NASA CONSORTIUM

Frequently Asked Questions for the VALUABLES Consortium's Call for Proposals: Grants for Assessing the Benefits of Satellites (GABS)

1. What are the deadlines?

- Pre-proposals due Thursday, December 5, 2019
- (Invited) Final proposals due Friday, February 28, 2020

2. Are there other dates I need to be aware of?

- GABS opportunity opens: September 16, 2019
- Webinar for prospective applicants: October 16, 2019, 3:00-4:30pm ET (**register here**)
- VALUABLES' annual workshop webcast, which will feature a session on GABS (**register for workshop remote participation**; in-person attendance is by invitation only): October 30, 2019, 10:00am-5:00pm ET.
- Invitation to selected applicants to submit final proposal: January 24, 2020
- Award(s) announced: late March/April 2020

3. Where can I find the full call for proposals?

- www.rff.org/valuables/gabs.

4. Who is eligible to apply for the award?

- Proposal teams must be located in the U.S. There are no other limitations on eligibility.

5. Are there any requirements for applicant team composition?

- Applicant teams must be interdisciplinary and include at least one social scientist, with preference for an expert in the value of information, such as an economist or decision theorist.

6. What are this solicitation's requirements regarding the case studies?

- Case studies must address a decision context in which satellite data (not necessarily NASA data) play a role.
- We have a preference for case studies in which satellite data are already being used in decision-making and the counterfactual case is one in which the satellite data are not used.
- Case studies should be strongly quantitative and be designed to provide an economic value of the satellite information as a result.

7. What are the budget requirements?

- **Overhead rates:**
 - University applicants: maximum of 10% salary plus benefits.
 - Non-profit applicants: maximum of 15% salary plus benefits plus research support.
 - All other applicants: No limitations.

8. Can part of the project proposal or funds include sub-contracts, either from a private sector services company or a non-profit?

- Yes.

9. Would VALUABLES Consortium members be working with winning bidders?

- No, VALUABLES consortium members will not work on the project.
- However, after project completion, research teams will be expected to work with VALUABLES' outreach and communications team to integrate their research results into VALUABLES' capacity-building and communications products, which may include fact sheets, blog posts, and a webinar. Additional funds will be made available to facilitate these interactions.

10. Should budgets include funds for communications/outreach activities?

- No, additional funds will be made available as needed by the VALUABLES team.

11. Would the award be made to the individual researcher or to the institution to administer?

- We prefer making awards to institutions.

12. Can a researcher be on more than one pre-proposal team? Submit more than one proposal as PI?

- Yes, and yes.

13. Will you provide feedback on pre-proposal ideas prior to the pre-proposal deadline?

- We will not be providing opportunities for direct one-on-one interactions, but encourage prospective bidders to review the full solicitation posted at www.rff.org/valuable/gabs and to attend the informational webinar for this purpose on October 16th. Visit valuable2019-gabs.splashthat.com to register for the applicant webinar. This will be the only opportunity to ask questions (via the webinar chat function).
- Applicants can also attend the webcast of the VALUABLES Consortium's 2019 annual workshop, which will include an informational session about GABS, on October 30, 2019. Visit valuable2019-webcast.splashthat.com to register for the workshop webinar.

14. What's the process for submitting a pre-proposal?

- See the full RFP posted at www.rff.org/valuable/gabs.

15. If a pre-proposal is submitted after the 5pm ET deadline on December 5, will you still consider it?

- No, late applications will not be accepted.

16. When will applicants know whether they have been invited to submit a final proposal?

- Pre-proposal team PIs will receive an invitation to submit a final proposal or a decline notice by Friday, January 24, 2020.

17. How will the review process work?

- Pre-proposals will be reviewed by consortium staff members. We will look carefully to see that the submission contains the required elements and how preferred elements were addressed. There will not be a specific scoring system.
- Final proposals will be reviewed by an interdisciplinary expert panel.

18. How can I receive deadline reminders and the latest information about this opportunity?

- **Sign up** to receive email updates.

19. Where can I learn more about VALUABLES?

- Visit www.rff.org/valuable to learn more about the consortium's work.