

LaserNetUS Proposal Submissions

Submission Schedule

Cycle	Type	Proposal deadline	Cycle begins	Cycle ends
3	LaserNetUS standard proposal call	Dec. 11, 2020 4pm PST	June 2021	June 2022
4	LaserNetUS standard proposal call	Dec. 10, 2021 4pm PST	July 2022	July 2023
5	LaserNetUS standard proposal call	Dec. 19, 2022 4pm PST	Sept. 2023*	July 2024

*Earliest start date will depend on facility readiness and proposal feasibility.

Proposal Preparation Guidelines

LaserNetUS encourages scientists from all institutions and any field of research to propose experiments utilizing the consortium's wide-ranging laser capabilities. International Principal Investigators (PIs) and collaborations are welcome.

The Intense-light USers Engagement (I-USE) committee is hosting a one-hour [Webinar on "How to Write a Successful LaserNetUS Proposal"](#) on Oct. 26, 2022 from 10am – noon PDT. Registration is required in advance. Dr. Arianna Gleason (Chair of the Proposal Review Panel) will present proposal best practices and evaluation criteria followed by a moderated Q&A session with a panel of previously successful applicants.

A [Virtual Town Hall for Cycle 5](#) will be held on Nov. 15, 2022 from 10am – noon PST to inform users about the capabilities offered by each of the laser facilities followed by a moderated Q&A. A recording and slides from previous cycles can be found on the Virtual Town Hall for [Cycle 3](#) and [Cycle 4](#) event pages.

More information about each facility can be found on the [LaserNetUS website](#).

Submitting LaserNetUS Proposals

LaserNetUS proposals are submitted through the [LaserNetUS User's Portal](#) which is operated by SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory. New users serving as the spokesperson of a proposal must register for a User's Portal Account before they can submit a proposal – please note that if you already have a user account for facilities at SLAC (i.e. LCLS, SSRL, CryoEM), you do not need to make a new account. The proposal submission process will take approximately 30 minutes to complete including a safety management portion at the end. If you have any problems while submitting your proposal, please [contact us](#).

Proposal preparation guidelines are summarized below. Users will want to review the [our Facilities Pages](#) and contact the Point of Contacts (POCs) to discuss the technical feasibility of proposed experiments.

LaserNetUS Proposal Contents

LaserNetUS received a request for a proposal template during the 2022 LaserNetUS Users' Meeting to assist new applicants with preparing a competitive proposal as well as standardizing the proposal review process. We have developed an official LaserNetUS proposal template, which is available for download from the LaserNetUS website at: <https://lasernetus.org/proposal>.

Starting in Cycle 5, proposals must be prepared using the formatting (font, spacing, margins) and detailed guidelines (required sections/content, page, and character limits) described in this new template which consists of:

- **Main proposal (max. 6 pages)**
- **Appendix I: References**
- **Appendix II: Tentative Research Team**
- **Appendix III: Technical Parameter Table**

When submitting a proposal that is substantially similar to a previous proposal (declined or awarded LaserNetUS facility time), we require applicants to upload a summary of changes since last submission or a **Progress Report (max. 1 page)**; for the latter it should include: the proposal number(s), dates of experiment(s), facilities/instrument(s) used, and a brief summary of the experiment and how results have been disseminated (list major invited talks, papers published or in press, awards or special recognition). These documents are uploaded separately in the proposal submission portal.

Changes since Cycle 4

- The [OMEGA EP Laser Facility](#) at the University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE) will only be accepting proposals for LaserNetUS experiments related to inertial fusion energy (IFE) during Cycle 5.
- The [Texas Petawatt Laser \(TPW\)](#) at the University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) will be available for a full shot-year of LaserNetUS experiments.
- The [Jupiter Laser Facility \(JLF\)](#) will resume operations of the Titan and Janus Lasers. The JLF facility at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) provides 50% of beamtime to LaserNetUS and the other 50% is administered by LLNL through JLF annual call. These beamtime allocations are separate and duplicate proposals are discouraged. The goal of LaserNetUS is to provide complementary opportunities and not meant to replace or duplicate the annual JLF call.

- The [Institute for the Frontier of Attosecond Science and Technology \(iFAST\)](#) is will be accepting proposals for LaserNetUS experiments using the iFAST CPA 2.5 micron laser during Cycle 5.
- The Diocles 100 TW beamline at the [Extreme Light Laboratory \(ELL\)](#) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) is available for user experiments during Cycle 5, however the Diocles 0.7 PW beamline is unavailable due to essential maintenance and repairs.

Notes

- **Safety**
Safety related documents must be submitted during the safety management portion of the LaserNetUS proposal submission process in the user portal. List and describe any safety concerns that may arise with samples you will examine, equipment you will use, or techniques you will perform (including any physical, chemical or biological hazards) and how these issues will be addressed.
- **Cost**
There is no cost to submit proposals or conduct experiments at the participating institutions. Users are generally responsible for their own travel and target expenses as well as any extraordinary consumables required by the experiment.
- **Designating Primary and Secondary Facility**
Each proposal is for one specific experiment, with the option to designate first and second choice for a facility. **The PRP will rank a proposal for the primary facility that was requested and will only consider it at the secondary facility if it was not competitive at the primary facility. If a proposal was not competitive at the primary or secondary facility, the PRP may recommend an alternative facility if available. In this case, the Spokesperson may accept or decline the transfer to the alternate facility.**
- **Scientific Campaigns**
Proposals may be made in the context of a larger scope than can be covered in a single experiment. All proposals, even these broader proposals that address important problems, must be resubmitted each cycle in order to be peer reviewed and considered for facility time. However, in the absence of sufficient information to evaluate progress (data disseminated from previous facility time, publications, etc.), the PRP may recommend that some proposal(s) be postponed for consideration until a future review cycle.
- **Publication Record from Previous LaserNetUS Experiments**
In future calls, the PRP will pay particular attention to the applicant's publication record from prior LaserNetUS facility times. Failure to publish in a timely manner will impact the chances of a successful application in a similar area.

- **Resubmission**

Proposals can be re-submitted at each call, but this will not happen automatically and a re-submission will not receive preference during the review process.

- **Multiple Submissions**

Multiple submissions from the same team for similar experiments at different LaserNetUS facilities will not be considered. While there is no limit to the number of distinct proposals that can be submitted by a scientist or team, the Proposal Review Panel (PRP) may impose a relative advantage to the first-best proposal from each team.

- **Required Language**

Proposal teams must **acknowledge** the host institution and DOE Office of Science in presentations and publications using the template: "*This work was supported by the U.S. DOE Office of Science, Fusion Energy Sciences under Contract No. [LaserNetUS contract number from facility]: the LaserNetUS initiative at [Facility],*" and any other acknowledgement required by the host institution

