

DRAFT: CALL FOR PROPOSALS

CONVERGENCE SCIENCE INITIATIVE

PROPOSAL PREPARATION

Include ONLY the following titled sections in the proposal:

a. **Participating Investigators.** A list of the faculty and other senior personnel who will comprise the initial research cluster. Each member of the cluster should be identified by their appointment (title), home department and college, and their primary role in the research cluster. At least two of the investigators must be identified as co-directors of the cluster. Proposals that do not include principal investigators from at least three academic departments will be returned without review. *Attach a two-page cv for each participant.*

b. **Theme.** Identify which of the overall themes (health disparities and health delivery, digital transformation, and XXXX) to which the cluster will contribute.

c. **Introduction, relevance, and need.** This section should describe (i) the problem to be addressed, (ii) the significance of the problem, (iii) how the problem relates to the identified theme, and (iv) why the convergence research cluster is necessary to effectively address the problem. *Two pages.*

d. **Research cluster.** Describe the general approach of the proposed research cluster to addressing the problem, how each member will contribute to the approach, and how the contributions of each investigator are to be integrated. This section should include a profile of the team of investigators to engage in the convergence research. This will include (a) history of previous collaboration including scholarship, (b) opportunity for new partnerships, (c) evidence of externally funded research, (d) opportunity for mentorship in the grant writing process, (e) specialized knowledge residing in the research team that is pertinent to the problem, and/or (f) co-development of research infrastructure. It should also include an organizational and management plan for the cluster and a description of any currently existing infrastructure (e.g., equipment, software, laboratory space) that will be utilized by the cluster. *Three pages maximum.*

e. **Budget and return on investment.** Provide a detailed description and justification for the funds to be allocated to the project, including how any identified support personnel (e.g., graduate students, postdocs, technicians) and new infrastructure purchases will contribute to the overall success of the project. Outline the return on investment with reference to greater access to external funding, the potential for new or stronger partnerships with industry, opportunities for training and mentoring faculty, enriching the student experience, etc.

f. **Identifying gaps in expertise.** Given the problem to be solved, identify any gaps in expertise among the participating investigators and propose how those gaps could be filled by addition of new faculty. Describe the type of faculty, and at least *two* colleges where that type of researcher could be hired as a tenured/tenure-track faculty member. How would the addition of the faculty member increase the impact of the cluster and competitiveness for external funding, and provide a long-term value? *One page maximum.*

g. Curricular implications. Identify either new academic programs that can be developed or existing programs that can be expanded or redeveloped as a result of the proposed cluster, including certificates, minors, and degrees at the undergraduate or graduate level. Estimate student demand for these programs and likelihood of new student enrollment, including (if applicable) populations enrolling via distance learning. Describe opportunities for applied learning experiences within and related to the project. For opportunities with entities outside of the university (e.g., industry, government, non-governmental organizations) that derive from the project, letters of support from those entities should be included as appendices to the proposal. *One page maximum.*

h. Sustainability and impact. Identify sources of external funds (grants or contracts) that will be available to the research cluster. Indicate specific programs that have published calls for proposals or otherwise demonstrated interest in funding research in the area of the cluster. Establish a timeline for applying for funding. Describe the expected outputs and impacts of the cluster after years 1, 2, and 3 and beyond, including possible expansion of the research team, publications, funding, student enrollment, benefit to the economy of Wichita and Kansas, and promotion of WSU to the community, the discipline, prospective students, funding agencies, and industrial partners. *Two pages maximum.*