

Maria Goeppert Mayer Fellowship Proposal Template Guidance

Read these instructions before completing the proposal template. They explain, in detail, what is expected of each section. Fellowships are funded through the Laboratory Directed Research and Development Program. Proposals will be reviewed by the Lab-wide Named Fellowship Review Committee. Upon selection, proposals will be submitted for DOE approval. Providing the requested information will prevent delays in the approval process.

The last page provides space for the candidate to describe their research background, achievements and leadership experience and career goals.

1. Cover Page—Page One (One Page Limit)

Project Title: The title should be descriptive and appeal to a wide audience. Do not use acronyms, chemical symbols or abbreviations in your title as the DOE reporting system will reject those titles.

Name: Enter your name

Sponsor: Enter the name and Argonne division of your sponsor.

Proposal Summary/Abstract (limit to around 100-200 words): Elevator speech summary or abstract of the proposed research, written for a technical audience that will include experts outside your field:

- What is the proposed research?
- Why is it important?
- Why does this research merit a fellowship at Argonne?

2. Research Plan—Page 2-3 (Two page limit)

This proposal will be reviewed by a Lab-wide review committee whose members have diverse scientific and engineering backgrounds. Please write with a broad, multi-disciplinary audience in mind. The following sections should be included:

- **Research Goal:** Describe the ultimate research goal for this project.
- **Research Opportunity:** Clearly articulate the main idea of your proposed research, including
 - The exploratory research opportunity which the project addresses.
 - The innovative or breakthrough potential of the proposed project.
 - The novelty of the research – explain how this research will be different from work done currently at Argonne and how it is different than research being pursued in the greater scientific community.
- **Research Description:** Detailed research plan discussing how you plan to approach your research goal.

3. References and Figures—Page 4 (One page limit)

This page may be used for technical references and figures.

4. Project Plan and Return on Innovation—Page 5 (one page limit)

- **Resources:** Describe the resources required to accomplish your proposed research including, but not limited to:
 - Equipment or facilities at Argonne
 - Technical or engineering support and use of user facilities.
- **Research Milestones**
 - Provide a tentative timeline for your three-year project and anticipated deliverables.
- **Return on Innovation:**
 - **Alignment with Mission:** Clear statement of the project alignment with both the DOE mission and Argonne's strategic direction. Your sponsor would be a good resource if you are not familiar with the DOE and Argonne missions.
 - **Expected Outcome:** LDRD is the seed fund for Argonne's future. Please describe the expected return if you meet your R&D goal. **How will this research position the PIs and Argonne as a leader?**
 - **Roadmap:** Describe in detail the roadmap for accomplishing the expected return.
 - For future funding opportunities, describe the funding source.
 - Anticipated deliverables, for example, future funding, partnerships, publications, intellectual property, capabilities that can be leveraged and reputation that leads to programmatic growth.

5. Investigator Background—Page 6 (One page limit):

- Provide a short summary of any current or past research relevant to the proposed research in this LDRD.
- Provide information on leadership roles, collaborations and other significant experiences.
- Expand upon interests in pursuing research at Argonne and career goals.