

BSA FY25 LDRD Process

The FY25 Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) process has now been initiated. There will be Area-wide, Early Career, and Multi-Area Initiative tracks. Please see a description of these tracks in the [call for proposals](#) and the FY25 Bioscience Area priorities [here](#). The highest-ranking proposal submitted by an Early Career researcher (i.e., *Ph.D. received no earlier than January 1, 2013*) will be recommended for funding as the Area's selection for the Early Career track. Candidates at all levels of their careers are encouraged to apply for LDRD funding.

This is a highly competitive process. Therefore, we are seeking high-quality and high-impact proposals. An important consideration for LDRD submissions are opportunities for synergy, building new capabilities/areas of research, the potential for future funding, and Area proposals, as well as linkage to the [Biosciences Strategic Plan - Looks Ahead to 2028](#), [Berkeley Lab COVID-19 Strategic Plan](#), [DOE BER Biological Systems Science Division \(BSSD\) Strategic Plan](#), National Academies reports, or other strategic and forward-looking documents.

The process for the development and review of LDRD proposals is described below. Prior to your submission of a pre-proposal, please contact [Nikki Humphreys](#) or your Division/Facility Director if you have questions

Activity	Due date
300-word pre-proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of LDRD idea, along with potential collaborators and budget • Work with your post-award Resource Analyst to develop your budget 	<p>BSE: January 19, 2024</p> <p>EGSB/JGI: January 19, 2024</p> <p>MBIB: January 19, 2024</p>
Leadership review of pre-proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback provided to PIs 	Late January / Early February
Feedback communicated to pre-proposal submitters	No later than February 9, 2024

<p>Oral presentations to Division/Facility leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations should be a maximum of 7 minutes 	<p><u>BSE</u>: February 27-28, 2024</p> <p><u>EGSB / JGI</u>: February 28 & March 1, 2024</p> <p><u>MBIB</u>: TBD</p>
<p>Proposed Multi-Area Project presentations to Area Leadership</p>	<p>March 8, 2024</p>
<p>Principal Investigators (PIs) submit and lock FY25 LDRD proposals in the web-based submission system for Division processing. Associate Laboratory Directors (ALDs) initiate review processes.</p>	<p>March 22, 2024</p>
<p>Oral presentations to Area leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations should be a maximum of 7 minutes <p>Template is <here>.</p>	<p>April 8, 2024 New FY25 LDRD Presentations</p> <p>April 9, 2024 FY25 Continuing Project Presentations</p> <p>TBD Ending FY24 LDRD Project Updates</p>
<p>ALDs identify proposals selected for Early Career Development track review.</p>	<p>April 19, 2024</p>
<p>Presentation and review meetings for FY25 Early Career Development (ECD), Multi-Area Topic, and Area/Divisional priority proposals + Presentation and review meetings for FY25 Area/Divisional priority proposals.</p>	<p>May 6 & 14, 2024</p>
<p>Lab Director or Deputy Director notifies ALDs and Division/Facility Directors of preliminary FY25 awards.</p>	<p>July 3, 2024</p>
<p>LDRD Office notifies successfully awarded FY25 PIs. Project concurrence requests are provided to DOE Bay Area Site Office.</p>	<p>September 1, 2024</p>

DOE project concurrence is provided, and LDRD projects begin work.	October 2, 2024
Awards are announced in Elements after final allocations are made	December 15, 2024

Notes:

- For those wishing to submit under the ECD track, eligibility is open to those who received their PhD no earlier than January 1, 2013. Current postdocs and project scientists are encouraged to submit proposals, and if successfully funded, must have a scientific job title (career or career track, research scientist or staff scientist) before the project starts. Exceptional approval from the Directorate is required for Scientific Engineering Associates (SEAs) who wish to serve as PI on a project.
- Deputies and Division Directors will work with Early Career applicants to develop a mentoring plan.
- All current FY24 LDRD projects will be required to present a project update to Area leadership. This includes projects for which renewal funding WILL NOT be requested.
- Please see the [Biosciences Area LDRD page](#) for more details, including links to the *BSA FY25 LDRD Town Hall*. Also available on the page is a link to the *Showing Off Your Science: Preparing a Compelling LDRD Presentation* video from February 2022.
- The [Berkeley Lab LDRD page](#) is also a resource.