

## Competition Details

# Scholarly Advancement Via Enterprise Research Software (SAVERS)

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## Dates

<b>Internal Submission Deadline:</b>	Friday, September 1, 2023
<b>RFP Release Date:</b>	Tuesday, August 1, 2023
<b>Proposals Awarded:</b>	Thursday, November 30, 2023

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## Details

<b>Administrator(s):</b>	Grace Faustino (Owner)
<b>Category:</b>	Internal Equipment Funding Opportunity
<b>Cycle:</b>	SAVERS Track 1 - Pilot Track
<b>Number of Applications Allowed per Applicant:</b>	1

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## Description

The Scholarly Advancement Via Enterprise Research Software (SAVERS) program supports acquisition of shared enterprise software licenses that enable major endeavors to advance discovery, creativity, and innovation across campus. The program's overall goal is to be responsive to the needs of UNM researchers by supporting software licenses for use by multiple researchers across multiple departments, colleges, or other academic units. As such, the acquired software or licenses must be provided and administered at an enterprise level, accessible to more than one PI/lab group, and must have multiple committed users either within a single department/college, or preferably from multiple departments and colleges.

The SAVERS program includes two tracks

- 1. Pilot track** awards fund the acquisition of a limited number of licenses with the goal of assessing the institution-wide demand for a specific research software system or feature, defining support requirements, and developing support and visibility for this software. Pilot-track license requests are limited to two years and cannot have been previously sponsored by the SAVERS program. Pilot licenses may be limited in number (e.g., floating licenses or licenses on fixed systems broadly available to campus researchers) but must support multiple research groups across campus with the goal of assessing the demand by researchers University-wide and supporting the challenges and costs of an institutional license.
- 2. Institutional track** awards fund the new acquisition or renewal of site licenses for research software with demonstrated demand. Institutional-track licenses are limited to three years in length. Applications for institutional track awards must provide clear evidence of demand for the software to be acquired commensurate with the cost of the license; in cases where such evidence does not exist, applicants are encouraged to consider applying to the Pilot track to assess software demand. Proposals for both tracks must also have a clearly defined support plan through vendor-provided support, efforts of the PI, and/or UNM research computing support units (e.g., UNM IT, HHS IT, CARC, UNM Libraries, CTSC, or unit/department-level personnel). In addition to vendor and institutional support, PIs are strongly encouraged to consider the creation of campus user groups to support researchers using the relevant software. To support these efforts, PIs may request funding for a 10 hour per week project assistant to provide user support for the supported software as part of their proposal. Finally, committed effort by

project personnel can be included as cost share.

The initial call for proposals accepts applications for both the pilot and the institutional tracks. In future years, separate yearly calls will be issued for pilot and institutional track proposals, with a six-month gap between pilot and institutional track calls. Pilot awards with sufficient demand may apply for institutional track funding prior to the expiration of the pilot track award.

#### Cost Share

Cost share is not required but strongly encouraged. Cost share could consist of cash contributions toward license purchase (including funds that would otherwise be used on non-shared licenses) or in-kind contributions toward deploying or supporting the proposed software system.

#### Deployment, Support, Publicity, and Assessment

Because the goal of this program is to support widely used institutional resources, proposals must clearly describe plans and committed resources needed or provided for deploying, supporting, and publicizing the software. Up to 10 hours per week of student project assistant support may be requested to support these efforts, and faculty/staff effort may also be included as cost share toward these goals.

- **Deployment:** UNM institutional deployment and integration costs are not funded by this program but will in general be provided by UNM research computing units separately from this program as part of their general institutional research computing support efforts. Proposers are strongly encouraged to discuss deployment support with staff from the relevant research computing and IT support units. In addition, funded project assistant effort may be used to address non-institutional deployment issues.
- **Support and Publicity:** Examples of such activities could include but are not limited to vendor-provided training materials, campus user groups, presentations at UNM Tech Days, and short courses offered in collaboration with campus research computing service providers. PIs are encouraged to request project assistant effort to support these efforts.
- **Assessment:** Proposals should also discuss plans for assessing use of the software system after its acquisition; reports on current software purchases at UNM are available through the UNM IT Business office.

#### Eligibility

Proposals may be led by any UNM faculty or staff member who is eligible to serve as a PI according to UNM policies. Examples of eligible software requests include but are not limited to (1) licenses for new or existing software that support researchers; and (2) addition of new an added feature/component of an integrated software (e.g., adding an additional capability/module to an extant application to accommodate new types of research).

Non-allowable costs include:

1. Software for individual or other limited use.
2. Faculty/staff personnel costs, including costs for supporting software development, installation, management, or support. PIs may request up to 10 hours per week of funding for a project assistant to assist with deployment, support, publicity, and assessment efforts.
3. Hardware costs for hosting or supporting software; such costs may be supported by the UNM PERC program, existing institutional infrastructure (e.g., LoboCloud), or included as cost share for the proposal.

#### Note

Although software may have administrative, classroom instruction, and outreach applications, the primary use of proposed software should be for research and scholarship.

#### Funding

In FY2024, Pilot awards will provide up to \$25,000/year in funding for up to two years toward institutional or multi-unit licenses; this can be supplemented by committed cost share from piloting PIs and departments. Institutional awards will provide up to \$40,000/yr in funding for up to three years to purchase institutional site licenses. PIs for both pilot and institutional proposals may also request funding for up to 10 hours per week for a project assistant to address software deployment and user support needs.

**APPLICATION MATERIALS:** The following application materials must be submitted through the InfoReady Review portal.

For each PI and Co-PI:

- **Email address**
- **Name**
- **Rank/Title**
- **Department**
- **College/School**
- **Campus**

For the proposed project:

- **Project Title**
- **Brief Project Description (2 page maximum):** A concise description of the software system, license, or feature to be acquired, its expected impact on research, scholarship, and education at UNM, the projected demand for the software (including names of individuals and/or departments who are anticipated users of the software), and any support or publicization that will encourage software usage. Use supporting evidence wherever possible.
- **Deployment, Support, and Assessment Plan (1 page maximum):** A concise description of how the software system, license, or feature will be deployed and supported, how its availability will be publicized to the University community, and how demand for the software will be measured.
- **Budget:** Provide detailed budget information, including quotes when available, on all software costs that will be covered. If cost sharing is proposed, also include cost sharing in the budget along with letters of support from the unit(s) providing the cost share if not being provided by the PI.

**DEADLINES: 2023:**

- Fall Pilot: 11:59pm, Friday, September 1, 2023
- Institutional Proposal: 11:59pm, September 1, 2023
- Spring Pilot: 11:59pm, March 15, 2024

**SUBMISSION PROCESS:** Use the following link to access the InfoReady Review submission portal: <https://unm.infoready4.com>. You will use your UNM Net ID and password to log in. Your application will be routed electronically to your Department Chair/Dean for approval after you enter their email and submit the application. Applications can be submitted (application period). All applications must be submitted through this portal no later than 11:59 pm on the due date. No late applications will be accepted. Assistance with the InfoReady portal is available from the Faculty Research Development Office (frdo@unm.edu).

**REVIEW CRITERIA, AWARD PROCESS, and REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

**Review Process:** Applications will be reviewed by the UNM Research Technology Advisory Board (RTAB) Scoring committee, which will make funding recommendations to the OVPR and the RTAB, who will make final funding decisions. Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Impact of the proposed software license on University researchers' ability to effectively conduct high-quality scholarship and research.
2. Breadth of demand for the software package across the University, particularly by multiple departments and/or colleges.
3. Current and/or expected researcher demand for the software system or feature.
4. Impact of the proposed software on the ability of UNM researchers to compete for sponsored research awards.
5. Cost of the proposed software package, system or feature.
6. Broader impact of the proposed software license on the UNM community, including but not limited to

educational impact, community engagement, and workforce development.

7. Committed cost share amount.

**Reporting:** For completing pilot awards and non-renewed institutional awards, PIs must submit a final report through InfoReady describing:

1. Adoption and usage of the acquired software for the conduct of research.
2. Impact of the software on the ability to attract or retain sponsored funding or research personnel, including faculty, staff, or student researchers.
3. Any notable other examples of the impact of the software UNM personnel's ability to conduct cutting-edge research.
4. Any broader impacts of the software on UNM's education and service missions.
5. Support and publicity activities conducted to increase the impact of the software.

In addition, PIs of active pilot and institutional awards must submit an annual report describing the above items as well as Plans for the coming year to enhance software usage and impact.

Questions: Please email Grace Faustino at [gfaustin@unm.edu](mailto:gfaustin@unm.edu).