The UNH Center for Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Innovations (CAMMI) invites proposals to support industrial collaborations between UNH faculty members and companies that will advance the mission of the Center*. The CAMMI Industrial Research and Engagement (CIRE) seed funding ($15-20k of CAMMI support per project) is modeled after the NH Innovation Research Center (NHIRC) competition and requires industrial matching funds of at least 1:1. But unlike the NHIRC, the funds are not restricted to NH companies. The goal of these projects will be to establish strong mutually beneficial connections for continued research and engagement with companies or involvement in consortia.

**Deadline for proposals:** Unlike other CAMMI solicitations, there is not a deadline. Proposals can be submitted at any time when an industrial research project is identified.

**Evaluation:** The evaluation criteria for these awards will be how well the proposed industrial research project a) advances the mission and growth of CAMMI, b) enhances research productivity and advancement, c) develops new or strengthens existing external relationships, and d) increases competitiveness for external funding. Furthermore, the feasibility of e) the budget and f) implementation will be assessed.

**Proposal structure** (not to exceed 5 pages)

1. **Background and Objectives** (approximately 1-2 pages)
   - Provide a brief overview of the industrial problem, engagement, or technical area to be investigated.
   - What is the relation to the present state of knowledge in the field and to work in progress?
   - Describe objectives and specify the significance of the work, both in terms of industrial relevance, engagement, and advancement of fundamental knowledge.
   - Provide a duration of the project (typically up to 1 year)

2. **Research Plan** (approximately 2-3 pages)
   - Describe the methodology and tasks to be completed.
   - Detail the roles and responsibilities of the industrial partner(s) and faculty member(s) and how the team will actively collaborate.
   - Describe the expected results (which of course are difficult to predict prior to conducting research), anticipated challenges, and back-up plans in case of roadblocks.

3. **Impact** (approximately 1 page)
   - How will the proposed collaboration advance the mission and growth of CAMMI?
   - How will the research and engagement benefit the product, process, and organization of the industrial partner, as well as, if appropriate, advance fundamental knowledge?
   - How will the research and engagement benefit faculty’s scholarly agenda and laboratory?
   - How will the proposed research and engagement lead to new opportunities that can be supported by industry, corporations, federal agencies, and/or foundations?
   - The proposal should include specific information on opportunities where follow-on funding will be sought based on expected preliminary data.

4. **Budget** (not counted towards the 5 page limit and uses the CIRE budget form; approx. 1-2 pages)
   This will use the modified budget template from UNH Sponsored Program Administration (SPA) to calculate the values for the CIRE budget form. Support from CAMMI (which will not have F&A applied) will be entered into the Cost Sharing tab on the budget template Excel spreadsheet and should focus on graduate student, postdoc, and research scientist support and materials/supplies/ consumables. Company funds (which will have the Research On-Campus F&A

* see draft mission statement on the next page of this solicitation
rate applied) will be entered into the Sponsor tab and be used to support PI salary, travel, equipment, additional personnel support, etc. The budget justification should provide sufficient detail to assess the need for the resource. The total funds available for this solicitation and others in a fiscal year are $60k. We anticipated funding 3-4 projects over the year. See the sample budget for how to enter costs for the project in the SPA Excel spreadsheet.

5. **Letter from Company** (not counted towards the 5 page limit)

Please include a letter from the company (on letter head) stating the importance of the research for their current as well as future technical interests and needs.

**In-kind**: In-kind expenses are direct costs incurred by the company in support of the project. In-kind expenses may include salaries, fringe benefits, materials, travel, equipment, and equipment usage during the project period. **While in-kind company expenses can be mentioned in the proposal to demonstrate interest from the company, these will not count towards credit for the at least 1:1 dollar match.**

Upon award approval, UNH will enter into a Cooperative Agreement with the company for the project. An agreement must be executed between the company and UNH within 30 days of the award.

**Submission Process**: The proposal must be submitted through SPA as a typical proposal including the completed modified SPA template, a yellow sheet, and a single PDF file that includes the proposal narrative and CIRE budget form. In the event that any elements of the proposal are missing or incomplete, the proposal may be rejected. Proposals (and budgetary questions) should be directed to: Karen Rooney at Karen.rooney@unh.edu (603-862-5412).

**Recipients of these awards agree to:**

- Provide a one-page report including (i) research and engagement outcomes, (ii) progress toward securing external funding, and (iii) any other key outcomes of funding at the end of the project.
- Allow their collaborations to be publicized in CAMMI promotional material and website.
- Acknowledge CAMMI funding on all papers published and presentations from project.
- Provide to CAMMI all of the PI indirect cost return from the company CIRE grant in addition to a quarter of the 10% PI indirect cost return received from the first funded award enabled by CAMMI seed funding. This additional PI indirect cost return provided to CAMMI will not exceed the value of the funding from CAMMI. This will help sustain Center operations and grow administrative and PI support.

**Acknowledgement**: CAMMI is very appreciative of the seed funding that was provided by the CEPS Dean’s Office and the Senior Vice-Provost for Research (SVPR) Office. The goal is to transition this seed funding into a sustainable Center that will strengthen the research and engagement efforts of faculty members; increase the overall research enterprise of the university; and create a nationally and internationally recognized Center in the interdisciplinary areas of materials and manufacturing.

**CAMMI Mission**: The Center for Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Innovations seeks to assure that UNH is a part of the national goal to out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build the rest of the world. The Center is dedicated to providing an environment where researchers (faculty members, industrial personnel, post-doctoral fellows, graduate students, visiting scholars, and undergraduate students) can work collectively to conduct the fundamental research to realize the next technical breakthrough as well as transition these laboratory scale innovations to commercialized products. In addition to new innovations, the Center will work with industrial partners to solve current technical challenges in the fabrication of their high-technology products. Finally, the Center will provide the necessary interdisciplinary experiences to educate the next generation of technology leaders, inventors, employees, and entrepreneurs.