

# Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund

## Notice of Funding Opportunity #3

NTIA Will Award Up to \$450,000,000

Released December 17, 2024 | Applications Due April 16, 2025

## Overview

This third Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will invest in software solutions for industry verticals and integration automation to further drive Open Radio access Network (Open RAN) adoption. It is comprised of two specific research focus areas ("SRFAs"):

**SRFA 1:** Develop software solutions that leverage data made available through Open RAN interfaces and/or capitalize on Open RAN-specific innovations, such as the RAN Intelligent Controller (RIC), to generate energy efficiencies, cost savings, productivity gains, or other value for industry verticals (e.g., utilities, mining, manufacturing, unmanned aviation).

- **Funding Range:** \$24,000,000-\$50,000,000.
- **Period of Performance:** 18-36 months.
- **Place of Performance:** Activities may take place in the U.S. or overseas, excluding covered nations. However, NTIA will evaluate an applicant's benefit to U.S. economic security during the Merit Review.
- 30% minimum cost share requirement.
- SRFA 1 applicants must partner with at least one entity and submit a Letter of Partnership Intent demonstrating each entity's capabilities. The applicant or at least one of the partners must have Ultimate Beneficial Ownership (UBO) in the U.S.

**SRFA 2:** Develop software solutions that reduce the cost and complexity of multi-vendor integration through automation.

- **Funding Range:** \$9,000,000-\$18,000,000 per project.
- **Period of Performance:** 12-18 months.
- **Place of Performance:** Activities may take place in the U.S. or overseas, excluding covered nations. However, NTIA will evaluate an applicant's benefit to U.S. economic security during the Merit Review.
- 20% minimum cost share requirement.
- SRFA 2 applicants must partner with at least three RAN equipment suppliers and submit a Letter of Partnership Intent to explain the partnership.
- The applicant or at least one of the partners must have Ultimate Beneficial Ownership (UBO) in the U.S.

**All applicants must submit a Commercial Transition Plan to commercialize and scale their product after the period of performance.**

## Key Industries

As 5G further evolves, it will transform how we work, live, do business, and care for our health. Many industries can benefit from this grant fund, including:



**Agriculture**



**Aerospace/Aviation**



**Utilities**



**Healthcare**



**Manufacturing**



**Automotive/Unmanned Traffic Management (UTM)**

## Administrative Requirements

Applicants **must** submit their materials via Grants.gov. NTIA encourages applicants to initiate the following two steps as early as possible.

1. **Register with SAM.gov** at <https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration> to obtain a **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)**. An active registration is required at time of award. This process may take weeks so please ensure registration is done in sufficient time so that it does not impact your ability to meet submission deadlines.
2. **Register for an account with Grants.gov** at <https://grants.gov/learn-grants/>. **You must have obtained your UEI before registering on Grants.gov.** Please fill in all organizational applicant information for the profile of the account. Communication regarding the grant will only be sent to the point of contact (POC) listed on the organizational profile.



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Public Wireless Supply Chain  
**INNOVATION FUND**

