Seed Grant FAQ

1) What should be the research focus of a Seed Grant?
ANS: It should align with some face of the Track 1 research, which is at the intersection of biofilms, 2D materials and big data.

2) Is IDC required/allowed?
ANS: IDC is allowed at your institutional rate. You can attempt to negotiate lower rates with your institution.

3) Is the Seed Grant RFP posted on the EPSCoR website?
ANS: Yes: http://sdepscor.org/sdepscorHome/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/191125_NSFTrack1_SeedGrantRFP.pdf

4) Is a plan required for external funding?
ANS: A convincing plan for external funding based on the Seed Grant results is required.

5) Are all participants involved in the Seed Grant required to be in the External Grant?
ANS: No, you must decide what constitutes the most competitive team.

6) What is the intent of the Seed Grant?
ANS: One goal is to involve those "not currently supported by the Track 1 funding" and connect them to the Track 1 project.

7) Will there be additional calls for Seed Grants?
ANS: There will be annual calls. This call will likely be tweaked, based on what is learned.

8) How can we find out who are Track 1 participants?
ANS: A list will be posted on the EPSCoR Website. You can also request this information through your campus coordinator.

9) Can budgets be less than $50K?
ANS: Budgets should be at the level required by the proposed work.

10) Can successful Seed Grant PI' apply for another Seed Grant?
ANS: Yes, and they will be held to a high standard, needing to demonstrate convincingly the use of their Seed Grant award.

11) Are non-T1 researchers who have non-research funding from the Track 1 grant eligible?
ANS: Yes

12) Can Seed Grant applicants be someone other than faculty?
ANS: Yes, for example as Research Scientist or Post Docs.

13) Is research that prevent biofilms eligible?
ANS: Yes

14) Is the Track 1 Project Description available for review?
ANS: Yes, it is a confidential document, request from your campus coordinator.

15) Is faculty salary allowed?
ANS: Yes, but it must be convincingly justified.

16) How many participants can be listed on a Seed Grant?
ANS: A minimum of two (Seed Grant PI and Current Track 1 Participant), no maximum, however they must be justified.

17) Is there priority regarding basic research versus applied research Seed Grants?
ANS: No priority.

18) Is there priority regarding current collaborations and new collaborations?
ANS: No, must meet eligibility requirements.

19) Can collaborators be from outside of South Dakota?
ANS: Yes. However, no funding can flow outside of the state.

20) Can a Seed Grant PI be involved in the Track 1?
ANS: Yes, but it must meet the "not currently supported by the Track 1 funding" requirement.