



U.S. Department of Energy

Lighting Prize (L-Prize)

Teaming Partner Request for Information (RFI)

Issued June 30, 2022

This document contains information about the L-Prize Teaming Partner RFI.

To respond to the RFI, complete the “RFI Response Form” located at <https://www.herox.com/LPrize/resources> and submit via email to LPrize@nrel.gov.

Purpose:

The L-Prize® is issuing a request for information (RFI) to facilitate teaming among potential entrants and supporting entities for the Manufacturing and Installation Phase of the competition. The purpose of the RFI is to seek parties interested in possible participation with, or in support of, L-Prize teams during the Manufacturing and Installation Phase. These parties may include manufacturing partners, materials or component suppliers, end-user installation host-sites, utilities, energy service companies (ESCOs), efficiency-as-a-service providers, installation contractors, and any other parties with interest to team with or support a potential entrant. A teaming partner list will be created as a resource that competitors may use to identify any partners they wish to team with in the Manufacturing and Installation Phase. The teaming partner RFI will be kept open throughout the duration of the L-Prize. The teaming partner list will be posted publicly at <https://www.herox.com/LPrize/resources> and regularly updated.

Introduction:

The L-Prize is a \$12.2M competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to advance the state of the art in light-emitting diode (LED) lighting, encouraging technology developers and researchers to engage in advanced lighting system development leading to groundbreaking designs, products, and market impact. The competition is primed to unlock the full potential of LED technology—to combine high efficacy with exceptional lighting quality, data-driven control, and sustainable design and construction in winning products and systems that will redefine the future of illumination in commercial buildings. The competition supports the Biden Administration’s priorities to push the frontiers of science and engineering and catalyze clean energy technologies and jobs, helping America lead the transition to a sustainable, equitable, and inclusive global clean energy economy.

To view the full competition details, visit the [L-Prize website](#).

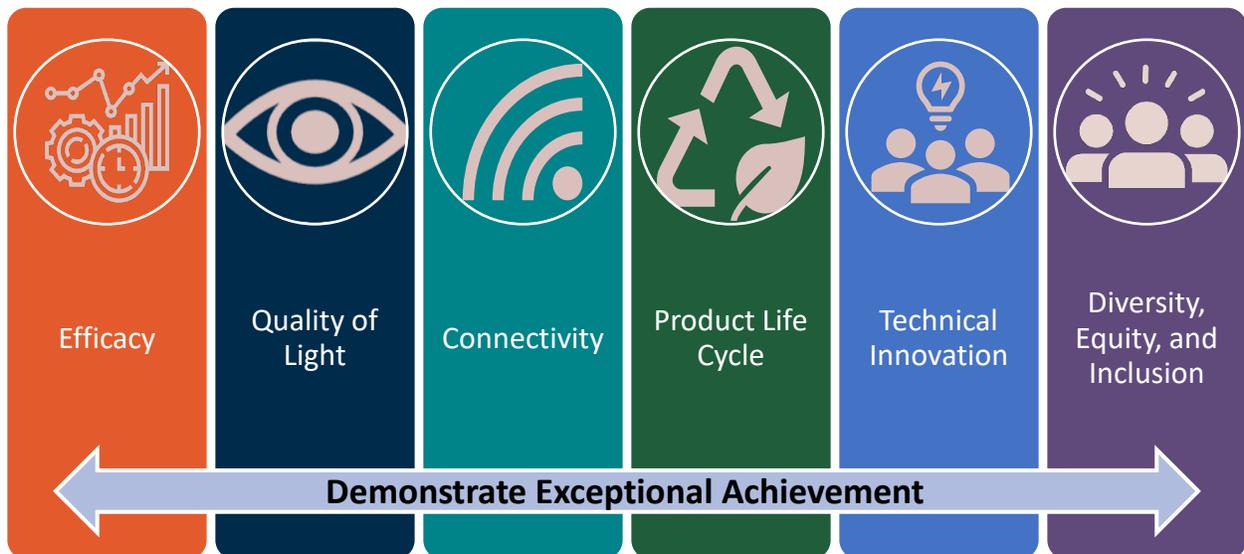


Figure 1: The L-Prize aims for interoperable lighting systems that demonstrate exceptional achievement across six distinct categories.

Background and RFI Opportunity:

The L-Prize includes challenging technical requirements intended to raise the bar in six areas: efficacy, quality of light, connectivity, product life cycle, technical innovation, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (See Figure 1). Beyond technical innovation, the competition also includes domestic manufacturing requirements that encourage innovators to think creatively about designs and supply chains to maximize U.S. content and support U.S. jobs. The L-Prize also incentivizes diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the lighting workforce and promotes high-quality lighting in all communities, including those that have been historically underserved or disadvantaged.

DOE launched the L-Prize in May 2021 and announced the Concept Phase winners in February 2022. DOE is now launching the Prototype Phase, inviting competitors to submit working prototype luminaires and lighting systems that meet the rigorous L-Prize requirements for energy efficiency, lighting quality, connectivity, and product life cycle—combined attributes that exceed the capabilities of currently available products.

The third and final phase of the L Prize will be the Manufacturing and Installation (M&I) phase, which will be launched after the Prototype phase is completed. The M&I phase will recognize competitors who produce luminaires or connected systems that meet the L Prize requirements and install their products in at least one real building. The L-Prize provides additional points if the installation is installed under an efficiency-as-a-service or lighting-as-a-service business model that includes provisions for system maintenance, optimization, and upgrade or end-of-life reclaim, recycle, or remanufacture. Please note: each phase of the L Prize is independent, meaning a competitor or team is not required to participate in the Prototype Phase in order to participate in the M&I Phase.

DOE is issuing this RFI to identify interested parties who may wish to partner with or support an L-Prize team with the design, manufacture, installation, or “as-a-service” requirements of the M&I Phase, currently expected to launch in 2023 and conclude in 2025. Current information about the M&I Phase requirements can be found in Tables 5 and 6 of the [L-Prize Official Rules](#), and are further detailed in Appendices A-C. Listed below are some ways that RFI respondents can participate in teaming partnerships. Respondents can select as many as are applicable, or insert an opportunity not listed, using the RFI response form located on <https://www.herox.com/LPrize/resources>.

Product Design and Manufacturing Partners	Installation Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide product design services for an L-Prize entry• Provide manufacturing or assembly services or facilities for an L-Prize entry• Provide materials or components for an L-Prize entry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide or assist with finding an installation host site for an L-Prize entry• Provide incentives/rebates for an L-Prize entry installation• Provide electrical contracting installation services for an L-Prize entry• Provide design/specification services for an L-Prize entry installation• Provide “efficiency-as-a-service” or “lighting-as-a-service” business model or contract services for an L-Prize entry installation

Response Requirements:

To respond to this RFI, complete the “RFI Response Form” located on <https://www.herox.com/LPrize/resources> and submit via email to LPrize@nrel.gov.

Responses to this notice may be submitted throughout the duration of the L-Prize. Responding to this notice identifies your organization as an interested party only.

****Disclaimer and Important Notes****

This RFI is NOT a funding opportunity announcement; therefore, NREL is not accepting applications.

Submitting this RFI is not required for participation in the L-Prize competition, and potential entrants are not required to join a team to participate in the competition.

Your response to this notice will be treated as information only. The L-Prize will review and consider all responses in its formation of a teaming partner list that is the subject of this request. The Prize Administrator will not provide reimbursement for costs incurred in responding to this RFI. Respondents are advised that the Prize Administrator is under no obligation to acknowledge receipt of the information received or provide feedback to respondents with respect to any information submitted under this RFI. Responses to this RFI do not bind the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) to any further actions related to this topic. Information submitted to the RFI will be shared publicly, so do not submit proprietary information.

Neither DOE nor the Prize Administrator will arbitrate, intervene, advise on, or resolve any matters involving teaming partner negotiations and/or contractual relationships. Competitors should assess the risks associated with joining a team and adequately protect themselves moving into teaming relationships. DOE and the Prize Administrator will not provide any legal advice or consultation in these matters.

Questions:

During the RFI process, respondents may ask for clarifications concerning the request itself. Each inquiry will be documented, and the answer will be provided to each respondent if, in the opinion of NREL, the response will enhance the information already provided. NREL will endeavor to provide these responses within three (3) to five (5) business days of the inquiry.

All communications regarding this RFI must be submitted in writing via email to: LPrize@nrel.gov.

Do not submit questions or information to any contacts other than the representative listed here.

Schedule:

RFI issued: June 30, 2022

RFI due: The teaming partner RFI will be kept open throughout the duration of the L-Prize.