SOURCES SOUGHT | OPEN | FEDERAL

Sources Sought Notice for Continuous Wave Parametric Oscillator (CW OPO) Laser System

Department of Commerce › National Institute of Standards and Technology › Department of Commerce NIST

Solicitation `NIST-SS26-CHIPS-16`

Scan for the live page

D
40

RFP DETECTOR SCORE

High data confidence

Limited · 40 / 100

Limited (D, 40/100): 16 days to respond, full and open; but small typical award (~$83K).

−8.6 Value | −8.1 Freshness | +5.4 Time & stage | −5.4 Clarity & completeness

Informational, not advice. How the score works: rfpdetector.com/methodology/score

At a glance

ESTIMATED VALUE **~$83K** Estimated: median award, FY24–FY26	SET-ASIDE **None** Full and open competition	NAICS **334516** Analytical Laboratory Instrument Manufacturing	PSC **6640** Product / service code
PLACE OF PERFORMANCE **Gaithersburg, Maryland**	POSTED **Nov 20, 2025**	RESPONSE DUE **Dec 5, 2026, 11:00 AM EST** 16 days left	LISTING **Official federal notice** Updated Nov 20, 2025

Our summary

National Institute of Standards and Technology (Department of Commerce NIST), part of the Department of Commerce, posted a sources sought notice titled “Sources Sought Notice for Continuous Wave Parametric Oscillator (CW OPO) Laser System” under solicitation number NIST-SS26-CHIPS-16. It was posted on Nov 20, 2025. Responses are due Dec 5, 2026, 11:00 AM EST. It is classified under NAICS 334516 (Analytical Laboratory Instrument Manufacturing) and product/service code 6640. No set-aside is listed. The place of performance is Gaithersburg, Maryland. The listed point of contact is Forest Crumpler.

Summary by RFP Detector.

Timeline

- **Posted** — Nov 20
- **Response due** — Dec 5
- **Archive** — Dec 20

02 Score breakdown

Every RFP starts at 50. Each factor adds or subtracts points depending on how this RFP compares with a typical one, scaled by its weight and by how sure we are of the data. Unknown data has no effect.

Factor		◀ lowers the score / raises the score ▶	Points	Range
Value	ESTIMATED		−8.6	−18.0 / +18.0 w 20 · conf 80%
No value published. Typical award is about $83K: the median of 687 National Institute of Standards and Technology contracts over $25K awarded in NAICS 334516, FY24–FY26.				
Competition & access	MEASURED		+3.4	−18.0 / +18.0 w 20 · conf 100%
Full and open competition. The largest recipient took 15% of these dollars in FY24–FY26.				
Issuer & market	MEASURED		+2.9	−23.4 / +12.6 w 20 · conf 100%
National Institute of Standards and Technology obligated $155M on NAICS 334516 across 816 contracts in FY24–FY26. 24 other notices from this office in the past 12 months.				
Time & stage	MEASURED		+5.4	−14.9 / +12.2 w 15 · conf 100%
Sources sought (market research, not a bid): 16 days to respond (due Dec 5, 2026, 11:00 AM EST).				
Clarity & completeness	ESTIMATED		−5.4	−18.9 / +8.1 w 15 · conf 75%
Documents not listed, named contact with email, 3-word description.				
Freshness	MEASURED		−8.1	−9.0 / +9.0 w 10 · conf 100%
Posted 363 days ago.				

Starts at 50 · contributions sum to **39.6**

Score **40** **(D)**

Score trend

Recorded whenever the score changes, last 30 days



Nov 13: 44 Nov 14: 40

Evaluated Nov 19, 2026, 3:25 AM EST · version 1.0.0

How the score works

Value	weight 20 · −18.0 to +18.0
Competition & access	weight 20 · −18.0 to +18.0
Issuer & market	weight 20 · −23.4 to +12.6
Time & stage	weight 15 · −14.9 to +12.2
Clarity & completeness	weight 15 · −18.9 to +8.1
Freshness	weight 10 · −9.0 to +9.0

Measured data counts fully, estimated data counts less, unknown data counts zero. Grades: A 80–100 · B 65–79 · C 50–64 · D 35–49 · F 0–34. Data confidence (92/100) is how much of the score rests on measured data.

Full methodology: rfpdetector.com/methodology/score

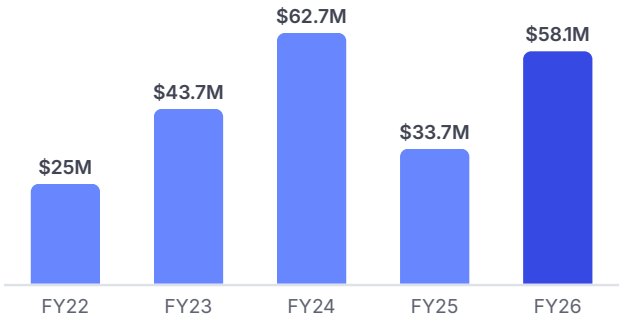
03 Market intelligence

Federal contract awards for National Institute of Standards and Technology, NAICS 334516. Award counts and sizes cover new awards in FY24–FY26; dollars are obligations in the same window.

CONTRACTS AWARDED	TOTAL OBLIGATED	MEDIAN AWARD OVER $25K
816	**$155M**	**$83K**
New awards, FY24–FY26	Obligated FY24–FY26	687 awards above $25K

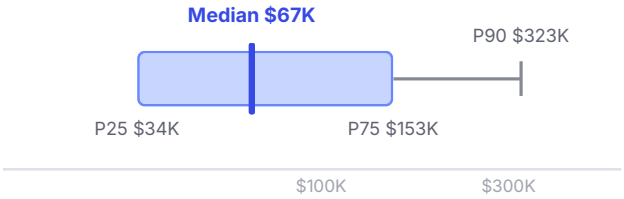
Obligations by fiscal year

National Institute of Standards and Technology, NAICS 334516



Award size

National Institute of Standards and Technology NAICS 334516 contracts, FY24–FY26 (log scale)



For reference, the typical federal contract award above $25K across all agencies is about $69K.

Largest recipients in this market

Share of obligated dollars, FY24–FY26

1	**Fei Company**	$23.6M	15%
2	**Cameca Instruments, Inc**	$10.1M	7%
3	**Oxford Instruments America, Inc.**	$5.1M	3%
4	**Bruker Biospin Corp**	$4M	3%
5	**Technical Communities, Inc.**	$4M	3%

These are the largest recipients across this agency and NAICS code, not the incumbent of this RFP. Concentration feeds the Competition & access factor.

How this market feeds the score

Value	Competition & access	Issuer & market
−8.6	+3.4	+2.9
Small typical award (~$83K)	Full and open	Active buyer ($155M FY24–FY26)

Federal award history: contract award types A–D, FY24–FY26, updated Nov 13, 2026.

04 Requirements & logistics

Facts from the notice. Confirm every requirement and date on the official notice before responding.

Eligibility

SET-ASIDE
Full and open competition: any responsible business may respond.

NAICS
334516 Analytical Laboratory Instrument Manufacturing

PRODUCT / SERVICE CODE
6640

Place & submission

PLACE OF PERFORMANCE
Gaithersburg, Maryland

HOW TO SUBMIT
As instructed in the official solicitation

OFFICIAL SOLICITATION
Open the official solicitation at rfpdetector.com (free account)

Contacts

Forest Crumpler · primary
forest.crumpler@nist.gov

Documents

No documents are listed on the notice.
Open the official solicitation at rfpdetector.com (free account)

Before you respond

Confirm on the official notice

- [ ] Read every attachment and amendment on the official solicitation
- [ ] Confirm the response deadline and time zone
  Dec 5, 2026, 11:00 AM EST
- [ ] Check you meet the set-aside / eligibility requirement
  Full and open competition
- [ ] Make sure your federal entity registration (UEI) is active
  Federal awards require an active entity registration
- [ ] Confirm how to submit
  See the official solicitation

Bid / no-bid questions

For your own decision

- [ ] Do you have relevant past performance for this scope and customer?
- [ ] Can you staff and deliver on time with a compliant response?
- [ ] Can you perform in Gaithersburg, Maryland?
- [ ] Does your pricing fit the typical award range ($34K–$153K)?
- [ ] Do you need a teaming partner or subcontractors to cover the full scope?

A generic checklist, not advice to bid or not bid.

05 Related RFPs

Open RFPs with the same NAICS industry group or category (same state first, then by score), and more from this issuer. Each title links to its page on RFP Detector.

Similar open RFPs

- A | 89 **MH-60 Airborne Mine Countermeasure (AMCM) Carriage, Stream, Tow and Recovery System (CSTR...**
  Department of the Navy · Due Dec 4
- B | 77 **Low Band Dedicated Receiver (LBDR) Full Rate Production (FRP) 3**
  Department of the Navy · Due Dec 1
- B | 73 **X-Ray Computed Tomography Cabinet System (Revised Requirements)**
  Department of the Navy · Due Dec 7
- B | 70 **UHP Water Jet Blasting Services**
  US Coast Guard · Due Dec 28
- B | 68 **Tunnel 9 Pitch Upgrade**
  Department of the Air Force · Due Dec 10

More from Department of Commerce NIST

- F | 31 **Sources Sought Notice for new Microscopes**
  National Institute of Standards and Technology · Due Nov 20
- D | 45 **Combined Synopsis/Solicitation for Spent Fuel Cell Shipment(s)**
  National Institute of Standards and Technology · Due Nov 23
- D | 43 **Sonnet Software and Maintenance Support**
  National Institute of Standards and Technology · Due Nov 28
- C | 55 **Graphite Furnace Atomic Absorption Spectrometer**
  National Institute of Standards and Technology · Due Nov 28

Data and as-of times

Notice data	Official federal notice, first seen Nov 13, 2026, updated Nov 20, 2025
Market data	Federal award history, contract award types A–D, FY24–FY26, updated Nov 13, 2026
Score	RFP Detector Score v1.0.0, evaluated Nov 19, 2026, 3:25 AM EST
Report	ID 185e39741b2a76ac84e2 · generated Nov 19, 2026, 8:46 PM EST
Official notice	Open the official solicitation at rfpdetector.com (free account)

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