SOURCES SOUGHT | OPEN | FEDERAL

Sources Sought: Polarization-Entangled Photon Source

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

Solicitation 573067-27-0009

Scan for the live page

RFP DETECTOR SCORE

High data confidence

Fair · 58 / 100

C
58

Fair (C, 58/100): posted today, 10 days to respond; but small typical award (~$83K).

+9.0 Freshness | −8.6 Value | +5.4 Time & stage | −4.1 Clarity & completeness

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

At a glance

ESTIMATED VALUE	SET-ASIDE	NAICS	PSC
~$83K Estimated: median award, FY24–FY26	None Full and open competition	334516 Analytical Laboratory Instrument Manufacturing	6035 Product / service code
PLACE OF PERFORMANCE	**POSTED**	**RESPONSE DUE**	**LISTING**
Boulder, Colorado	Nov 23, 2026	Dec 4, 2026, 12:00 PM MST 10 days left	Official federal notice Updated Nov 23, 2026

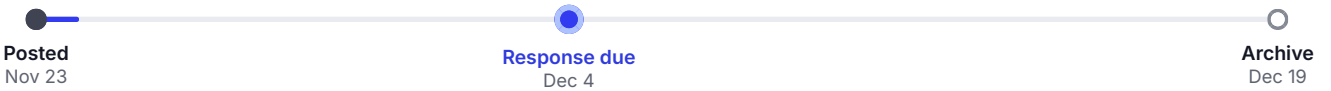
Our summary

National Institute of Standards and Technology (Department of Commerce NIST), part of the Department of Commerce, posted a sources sought notice titled “Sources Sought: Polarization-Entangled Photon Source” under solicitation number 573067-27-0009. It was first posted on Nov 23, 2026 and has been updated 2 times since. Responses are due Dec 4, 2026, 12:00 PM MST. It is classified under NAICS 334516 (Analytical Laboratory Instrument Manufacturing) and product/service code 6035. No set-aside is listed. The place of performance is Boulder, Colorado. The listed point of contact is Daniel Kent.

Summary by RFP Detector.

Timeline

Blue line: today (Nov 24)



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		+3.0	−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. 26 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): 10 days to respond (due Dec 4, 2026, 12:00 PM MST).				
Clarity & completeness	ESTIMATED		−4.1	−18.9 / +8.1 w 15 · conf 75%
Documents not listed, named contact with email and phone, 9-word description.				
Freshness	MEASURED		+9.0	−9.0 / +9.0 w 10 · conf 100%
Posted today.				

Starts at 50 · contributions sum to **58.1**

Score **58** (C)

Score trend

Recorded whenever the score changes, last 30 days

The trend appears once the score has changed. Time-dependent factors (deadline, freshness) are re-evaluated every night.

Evaluated Nov 24, 2026, 6:15 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

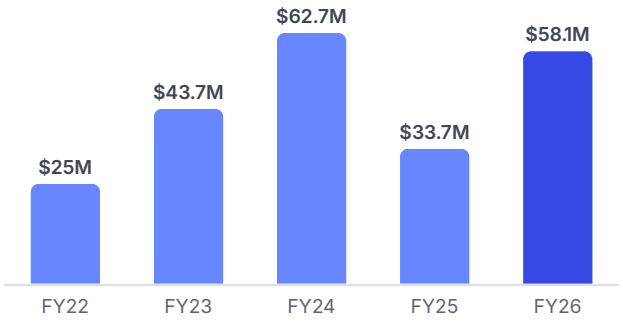
03 Market intelligence

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

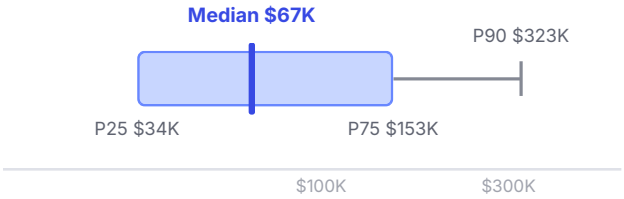
Obligations by fiscal year

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	+3.0
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

6035

Place & submission

PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

Boulder, Colorado

HOW TO SUBMIT

As instructed in the official solicitation

OFFICIAL SOLICITATION

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

Contacts

Daniel Kent · primary
daniel.kent@nist.gov
3034976533

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 4, 2026, 12:00 PM MST
- [ ] 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 Boulder, Colorado?
- [ ] 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

- B | 67 **Rail Propulsion Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) for Safety Research**
  Office of the Secretary · Due Dec 21
- D | 47 **FY27 Nursing Practice Oversight Course (NPOC)**
  Department of the Air Force · Due Nov 27
- D | 46 **FY27 Usafa Lrs/Lgrc Cadet T-Shirts**
  Department of the Air Force · Due Dec 1
- D | 45 **Request for Proposal for the Purchase of a 3-Point Boom Mower**
  Montezuma County Road and Bridge · Due Dec 2
- D | 44 **USAFA Rapid Acquisition Commercial Solutions Opening (CSO)**
  Department of the Air Force · Due May 29

More from Department of Commerce NIST

- F | 32 **Sonnet Software and Maintenance Support**
  National Institute of Standards and Technology · Due Nov 28
- D | 45 **Graphite Furnace Atomic Absorption Spectrometer**
  National Institute of Standards and Technology · Due Nov 28
- D | 39 **Sources Sought Notice for Mid-IR Optical Frequency Comb**
  National Institute of Standards and Technology · Due Dec 3
- D | 40 **Sources Sought Notice for Continuous Wave Parametric Oscillator (CW OPO) Laser System**
  National Institute of Standards and Technology · Due Dec 5

Data and as-of times

Notice data	Official federal notice, first seen Nov 24, 2026, updated Nov 23, 2026
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 24, 2026, 6:15 AM EST
Report	ID 851b54fffc45d7995c38 · generated Nov 24, 2026, 10:02 AM EST
Official notice	Open the official solicitation at rfpdetector.com (free account)

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