

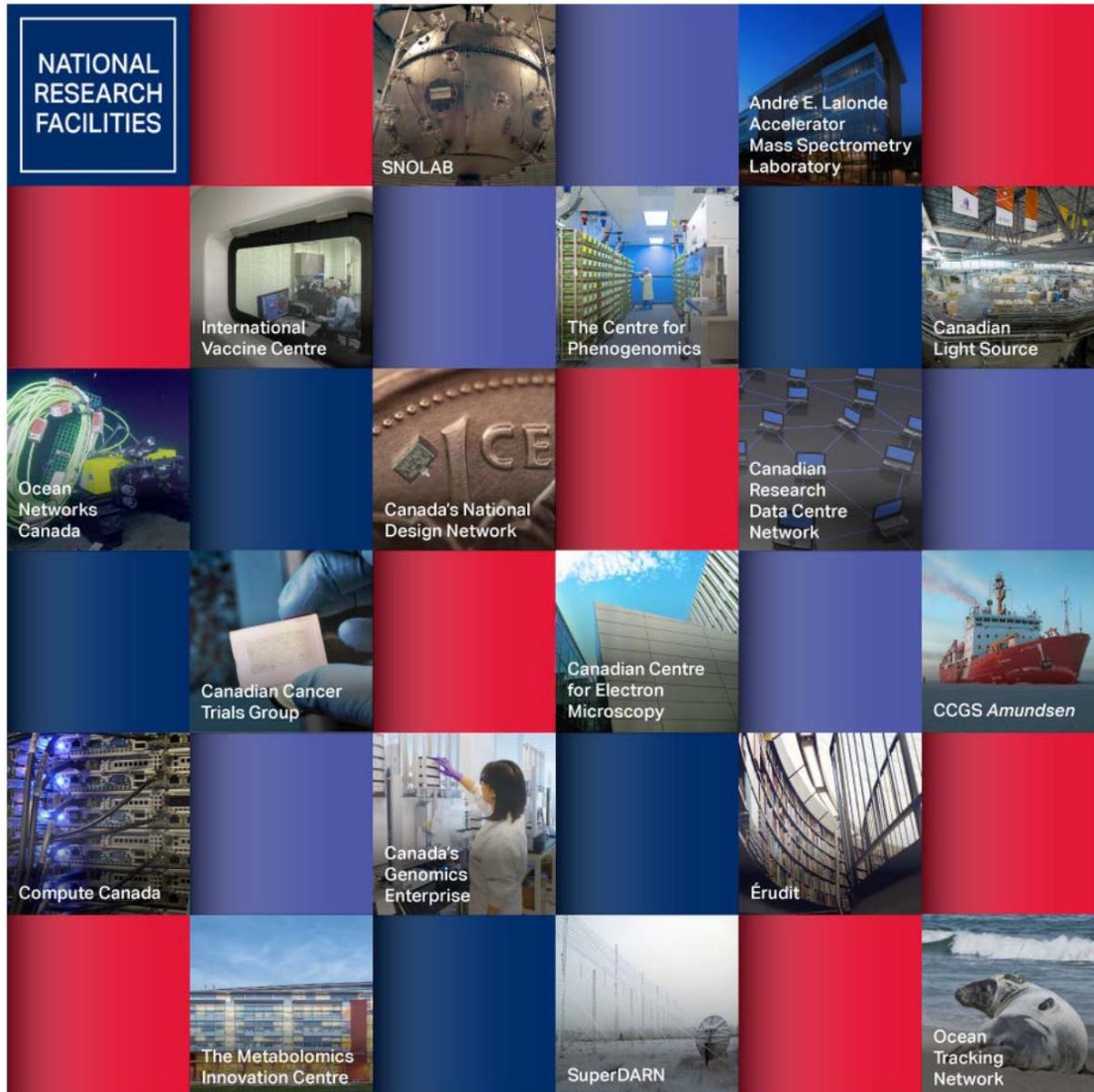
CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION

Major Science Initiatives Workshop 2021

Next MSI Fund competition

www.innovation.ca/2021-major-science-initiatives-workshop

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Agenda

Session 4 – Next Fund competition

1:30 pm Welcome from the CFI

1:35 pm Housekeeping items

1:40 pm Presentation by CFI staff

2:30 pm Questions

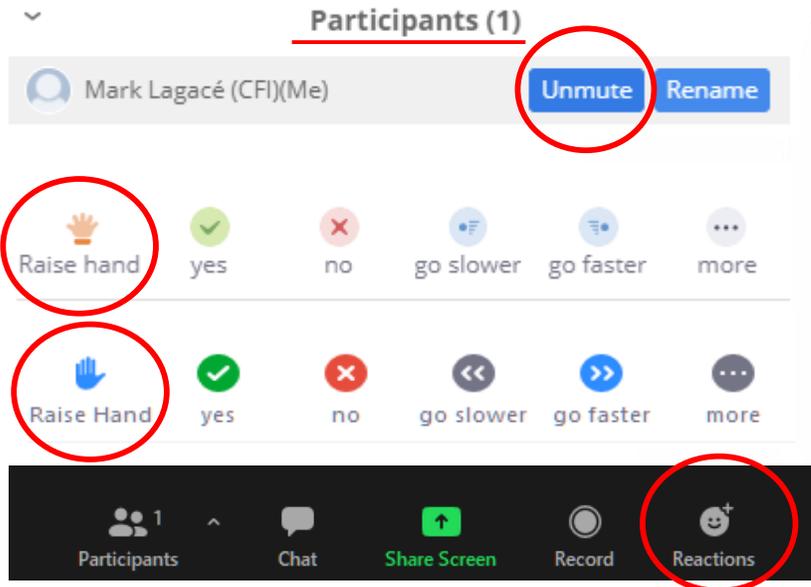
2:55 pm Closing remarks

3:00 pm Session ends



Housekeeping items

- Recorded session
- Questions



Major Science Initiatives Fund (MSI)

For the 2023-2029 MSI competition, we will:



contribute to the ongoing operating and maintenance (O&M) needs of facilities of national importance



modify its objectives and criteria to better reflect the current landscape of large research facilities



improve and streamline its review process



enable a competitive and merit-based assessment of both funded facilities and new applicants



Objectives

- 1 Enable pan-Canadian research communities to undertake world-class research and technology development that lead to social, health, economic or environmental benefits for Canadians
- 2 Enable facilities to operate at an optimal level to ensure the best use of their specialized equipment, services, resources, and technical and scientific personnel
- 3 Promote responsible stewardship by the adoption of best practices in governance and management



Budget and eligible costs

- 1 No significant change to budget
 - Open competition for currently funded facilities and new applicants to the MSI Fund
- 2 No changes to eligible costs
 - Minor upgrades, no infrastructure
 - Contingency presented in year 6 of budget (no change to approach for requesting usage, but will simplify administration of these funds)



**\$660M/
6 years**

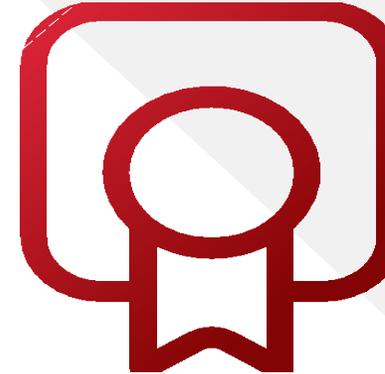


Eligibility criteria

- 1 Facility capabilities
- 2 User community
- 3 Governance
- 4 Management
- 5 Access policy
- 6 Operational
- 7 Ownership
- 8 **Substantial O&M costs**



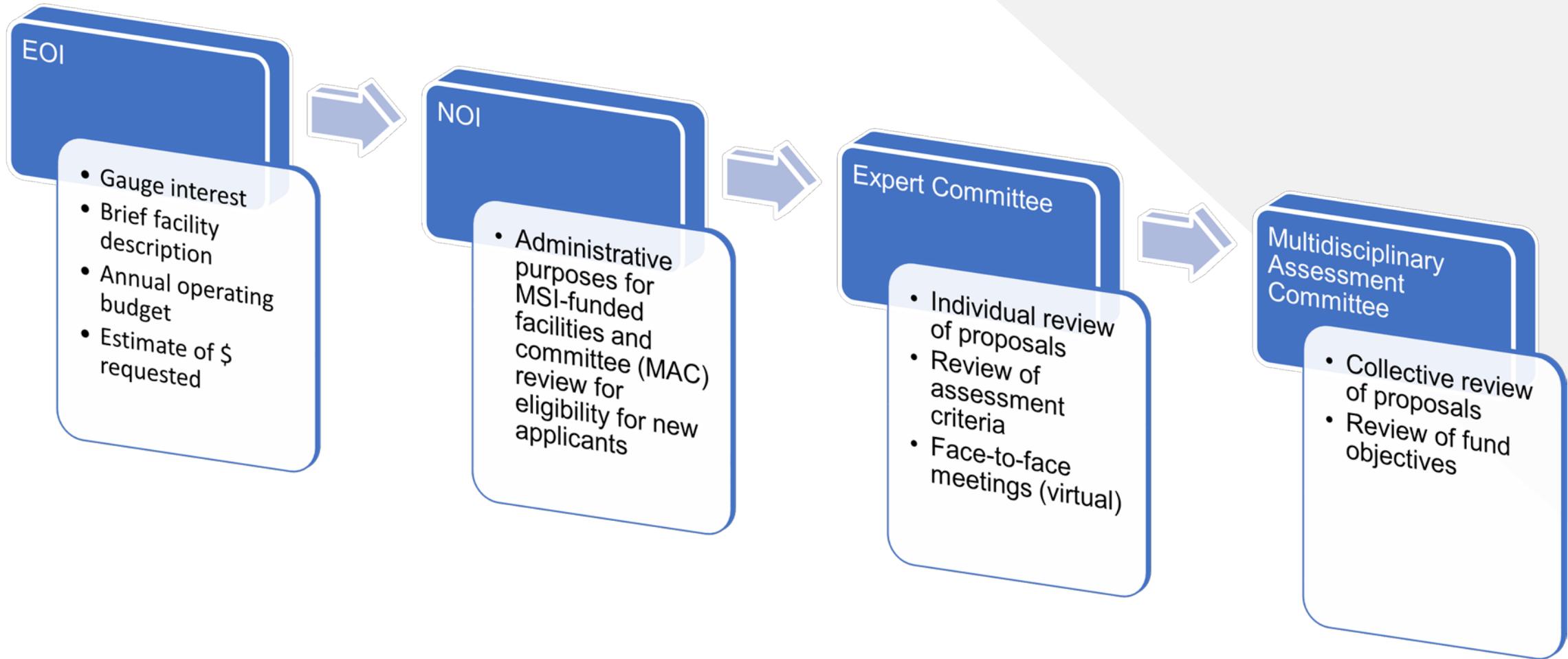
- annual O&M costs >\$1,000,000



Facilities currently supported by the MSI Fund will not be reassessed for eligibility.



Assessment – 4-step process



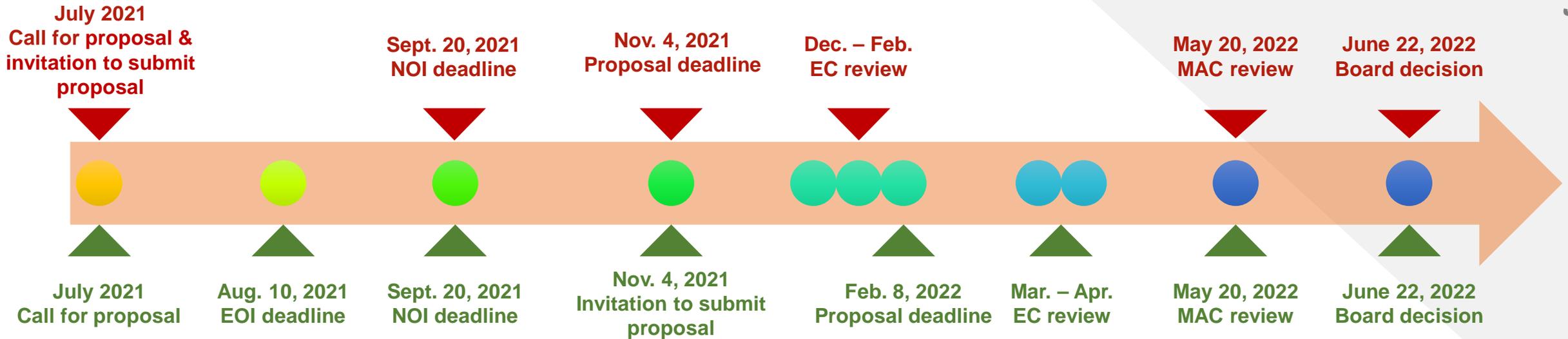
Competition Timeline

Draft call June 3, 2021

2023-2029 Major Science Initiatives Fund (MSI)



Currently funded facilities



New applicants

Funding will start April 1, 2023



1 Scientific Excellence

The facility is used by researchers and highly qualified personnel of the highest calibre and enables innovative and leading-edge research that leads to social, health, economic or environmental benefits to Canadians. **The research directions proposed in the facility's strategic plan are forward-looking and reflect the state-of-the-art in the supported fields.**

In order to assess these criteria, facilities must :

- Provide an overview of the scope and nature of the research enabled by the facility and describe the priority research directions envisioned for the next six years
- Provide a description or table summarizing the user community, measures of knowledge transfer and research activities, significant accomplishments and training activities
- Provide a list of selected publications (2 pages)
- Provide a description of the most significant and anticipated benefits to Canadians





2 International competitiveness

The facility's highly specialized equipment, services, resources, and scientific and technical personnel are internationally competitive and a high priority for the user community. **The loss of these capabilities would be a setback to Canada.**

In order to assess these criteria, facilities must:

- Identify and compare to similar facilities worldwide
- Describe the facility's highly specialized equipment, services, resources, and scientific and technical personnel
- Demonstrate that the facilities' highly specialized equipment, services, resources, scientific and technical personnel are in demand by, and a high priority for, the research community it serves
- Describe how the facility collaborates with its users to define future needs to maintain its competitive edge





3 Need for CFI funding

The requested funding is necessary to allow the facility to fully exploit its scientific and technical capabilities and to operate at an optimal level to address the needs of the user community.

In order to assess these criteria, facilities must:

- Describe and provide justification for each expense outlined in the detailed budget
- Describe how the requested funding will allow the facility to fully exploit its capabilities, to operate at an optimal level and allow it to address the needs of the user community
- Describe the budgeting process and how the facility determines the level of funding requested from the CFI. Explain any variations in the budget compared to past years
- Describe the plan for maintaining, securing and diversifying funding sources as well as contingency plans for potential funding shortfalls. If applicable, describe the user fee structure and how anticipated revenues have been calculated
- For facilities currently receiving CFI funding (>\$2M/year), provide a plan for transitional funding if CFI funding is not renewed





4 Excellence in governance

The facility adopts best practices in governance, including long-term strategic planning, as appropriate to its size and complexity. The facility defines its needs over the life of the facility in consultation with the user community.

In order to assess these criteria, facilities must:

- Describe the long-term vision for the facility and any major upgrades planned over the next 20 years
- Describe the steps taken to apply the EDI principles to the Board composition
- Describe how the facility is integrating EDI best practices in strategic planning
- Provide the facility's strategic plan and process used to define the strategic directions
- Using performance measures, explain how the facility will measure its success in achieving its objectives/research priorities
- Explain how the facility is accountable to its administrative and member institutions
- Describe and contrast the governance structure of the facility and its committees against relevant best practices





5 Excellence in management

The facility adopts best practices in the management of its operations, risk mitigation, financial, **data, cybersecurity** and human resources, including **equity, diversity and inclusion**. **The management team has the core competencies required.**

In order to assess these criteria, facilities must:

- Describe the current management structure, identify individuals in key positions and demonstrate that these individuals have the core competencies required to effectively manage the facility
- Provide a plan or policies describing the facilities' approach to data management, research security and cybersecurity
- Provide a plan describing how measures have been or could be put in place to ensure that the selection process is transparent and based on best practices
- Describe how the facility tracks/measures outcomes enabled by the facility and how this information is integrated into decision-making processes
- Provide the facility's management plan
- Identify the facility's key risks and describe the strategies to mitigate these risks





6 Operations and user access (new)

The facility is effectively and efficiently operated and has established mechanisms to ensure optimal use by the user community. **Access to limited resources is only granted following an appropriate selection process.**

In order to assess these criteria, facilities must:

- Describe the expertise and specialized support available and planned
- Define the optimal level of use of the facility
- Demonstrate how the facility is being and will continue to be used effectively and efficiently
- Identify the equity gap relative to access and what steps will be taken to ensure equitable and inclusive access to the facility
- Describe the process to allocate access and the annual number of access requests received/accommodated over the past three years. Describe any differences between academic, public and private users.





Equity, diversity and inclusion

The CFI is committed to the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion. In all our activities, we recognize that a breadth of perspectives, skills and experiences contributes to excellence in research. We believe that nurturing an equitable, diverse and inclusive culture is the responsibility of every member of the research ecosystem, including funders, institutions, researchers, experts and reviewers.

Equity: We aim to ensure all CFI-eligible institutions have opportunity to access and benefit from our programs and CFI-funded infrastructure through our well-established, fair and impartial practices.

Diversity: We value attributes that allow institutions and their researchers — from any background and from anywhere — to succeed. This includes individual attributes such as gender, language, culture and career stage; institutional attributes such as size, type and location; and attributes that encompass the full spectrum of research, from basic to applied and across all disciplines.

Inclusion: Our culture encourages collaboration, partnership, contributions and engagement among diverse groups of people, institutions and areas of research to maximize the potential of Canada's research ecosystem.



Equity, diversity and inclusion

As part of its commitment to EDI, the CFI is integrating EDI principles into its processes and evaluation criteria.

- review panel
- more inclusive language in our documentation
- flexibility in accommodating reviewer participation
- unconscious bias training for reviewers

In the next MSI competition, EDI considerations will be included as an element of existing assessment criteria.

Governance:

- Composition of the boards reflect EDI
- Strategic planning: understanding of EDI consideration/systemic barriers to access to the facility

Management:

- EDI in recruitment and staffing

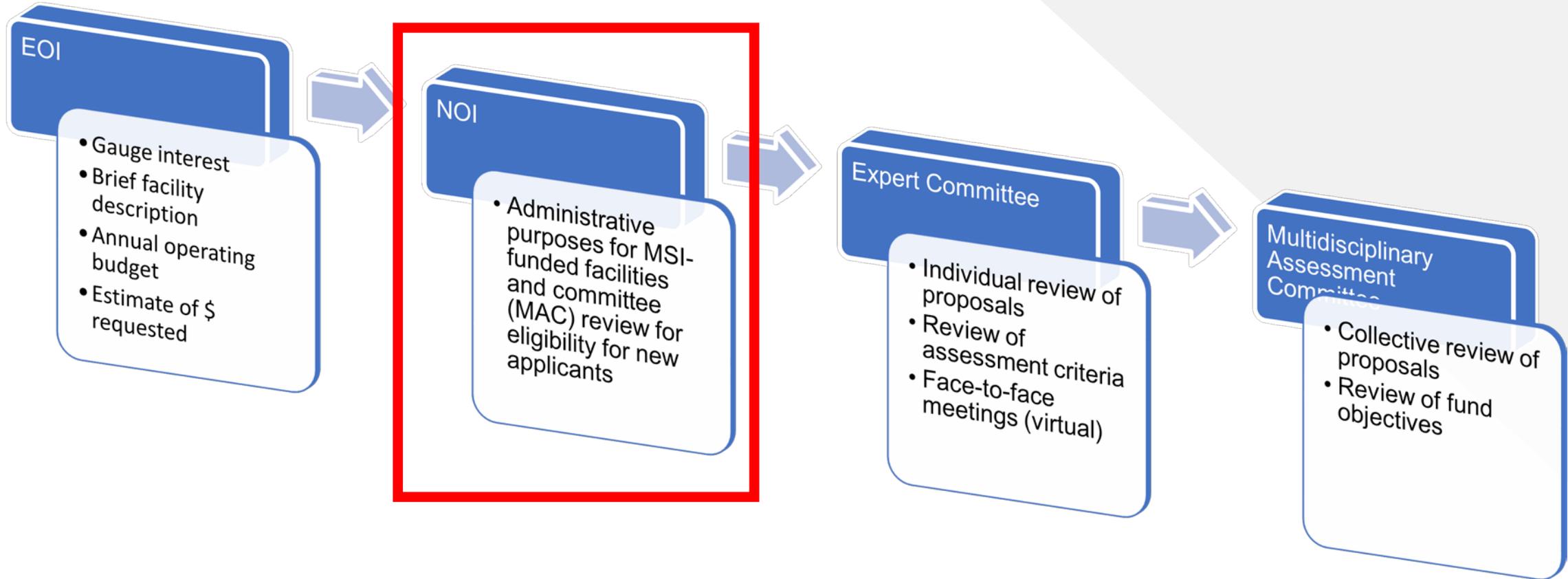
Operations and user access:

- Equitable and inclusive access to the facility



Application Process

NOI



NOI

Current MSI-Funded Facilities

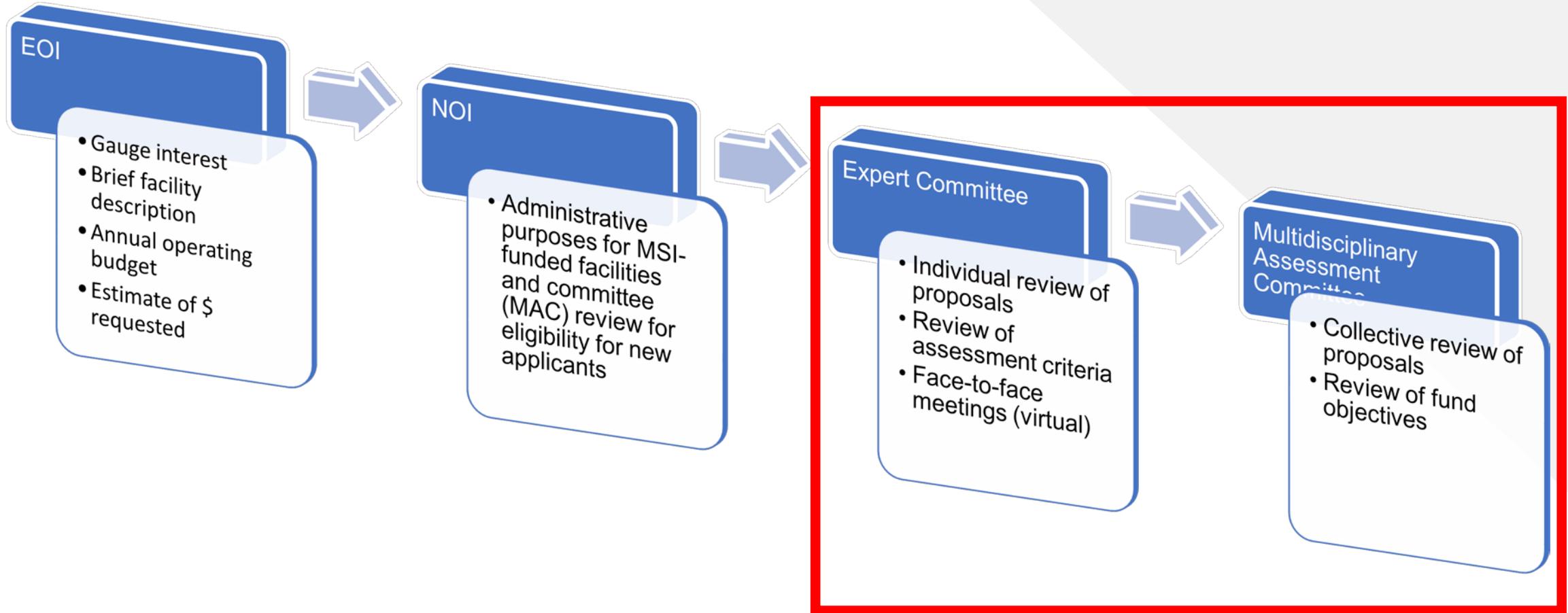
- NOI will be used for administrative purposes only
- Required for the anticipated 2023-2029 budget and suggested reviewers

New Applicants

- Required to assess the eligibility of the facility for the MSI Fund
- In addition to addressing the eligibility criteria, the NOI will require the submission of:
 - Historic budget
 - Forecasted budget
 - Suggested reviewers



Proposal



Proposal

1 **Assessment criteria (6)**

- Page limits for your document depend on the amount requested from the CFI
- We encourage the use of tables, figures, etc.



Total CFI request (\$)	Maximum # of pages
≤ \$15 million	30 pages
> \$15 million	40 pages



Proposal

2 Budget

- All budget information can now be entered directly into CAMS

The 2023-2039 MSI Fund competition will require a:

- ✓ high-level historical budget for the past 3 fiscal years, including contributions and expenses
- ✓ detailed forecasted budget (2023-2029), including contributions and expenses
 - Now includes FTEs and flexibility to provide more detailed costs



	Historical Budget			Forecasted Budget						
<i>Year</i>	<i>20-21</i>	<i>21-22</i>	<i>22-23</i>	<i>23-24</i>	<i>24-25</i>	<i>25-26</i>	<i>26-27</i>	<i>27-28</i>	<i>28-29</i>	
Expenses (e.g. personnel)										



Proposal

3 Additional documents

- In addition to the allotted pages to describe how the facility meets the assessment criteria established, the following additional documents will be requested:

- ✓ Strategic plan
- ✓ Management CVs (2-3 pages x 4)
- ✓ List of selected publications (2 pages)
- ✓ Management plan
 - Decommissioning plans (or separate)
 - Equity, diversity and inclusion policy/plan (or separate up to 5 pages)
 - Data management and cyber security policies/plan (or separate up to 5 pages)
 - Organizational chart (or separate)
- ✓ Transitional funding plan, if the facility receives > \$2M/year from CFI (up to 3 pages)





Q&A



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Thank you / Merci

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