

## RFP: Transitioning Racks of the Ada and Curie Supercomputers

Texas A&M's High Performance Research Computing (HPRC) will transition the Ada supercomputer (<https://hprc.tamu.edu/wiki/Ada:Intro>) to support other research activities in Spring 2021. The Ada cluster has been the workhorse of computational researchers at Texas A&M since 2014. It will be succeeded by the new Grace cluster. Proposals requesting nodes from the Ada cluster and the recently decommissioned Curie cluster are invited from faculty and staff at Texas A&M.

### Request specifications

The types of nodes that will be available for reuse are listed below:

#### Ada standard compute

The minimum request should be for one rack. Racks are included along with the internal cabling. 9 racks are available. Each rack contains 72 nodes, two Ethernet switches, and 3 InfiniBand switches. Each node has 20 2.5 GHz Intel IvyBridge cores and 64 GB of DDR3 1866 MHz memory.

#### Ada Large Memory

The minimum request should be for one rack. Racks are included along with the internal cabling.

1. 1 rack with six 1TB nodes and four 2TB nodes. Each node has 40 2.26 GHz Intel Westmere-EX cores and DDR3-1066 MHz memory.
2. 1 rack with five 1TB nodes. Each node has 40 2.26 GHz Intel Westmere-EX cores and DDR3-1066 MHz memory.

#### Curie

The minimum request should be for any combination of eight nodes. Racks are not included. 1G and 10G ethernet cables are available per node.

1. 48 nodes with 4x600 GB internal 10k SAS disks. Each node has 16 4.2 GHz IBM Power7+ cores and 256 GB of DDR3 1066 MHz memory.
2. 23 nodes with 4x600 GB internal 10k SAS and an expansion chassis with 24x600GB 10k SAS. Each node has 16 4.2 GHz IBM Power7+ cores and 256 GB of DDR3 1066 MHz memory.
3. 1 node with 2x600 GB internal 10k SAS, and an expansion chassis with 24x600GB 10k SAS. The node has 16 4.2 GHz IBM Power7+ cores and 128 GB of DDR3 1066 MHz memory.
4. 2 nodes with 2x600 GB internal 10k SAS. Each node has 16 4.2 GHz IBM Power7+ cores and 128 GB of DDR3 1066 MHz memory.

### Additional Considerations

1. Please note that PI's will be responsible for moving, managing, maintaining, auditing, and decommissioning the requested hardware. By submitting the proposal, the PI acknowledges that if their proposal were to be awarded, Texas A&M HPRC will not be able to assist in moving, setting up, or managing these resources.
2. Prospective adoptees are strongly encouraged to contact their IT staff and ensure that they will be able to comply with the TAMU Information Security Controls Catalog (<https://it.tamu.edu/policy/it-policy/controls-catalog/index.php>) and other related TAMUS policies and requirements (<https://policies.tamus.edu/29-01-03.pdf>).
3. All hardware is provided *as is* with no guarantee that the equipment is in working condition. Racks may contain a mix of working and non-working equipment.

### Review Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee appointed by Texas A&M University's Division of Research. The review criteria for selecting awardees are:

1. Research enabled and the community that will be supported by the equipment.
2. Current (or future) funding efforts that will be supported by the equipment.
3. Brief statement describing the ability to deploy the equipment, including the facility for hosting the equipment (power, cooling), plans for deploying the OS, software applications, and managing the equipment.
4. A significant weight will be placed on whether the requested equipment will be housed in an existing facility rather than creating a new one. We would like to avoid proliferation of new computing facilities.

### Eligibility Criteria

Faculty and staff at Texas A&M University, TEES, TTI and AgriLife Research may request these resources. In consideration of the ease of migrating the requested equipment, preference will be given to organizations that intend to host the equipment in Brazos County.

### Proposal Format

Proposals should include the name of the PI, their contact information, department, and institution. Kindly address the review criteria and list the equipment requested. Proposals should be limited to one page and should be submitted as a PDF document. In terms of formatting, we request that the page should be formatted with (a) 1-inch margins; and (b) single line spacing with Times New Roman font size 11.

### Where to send your proposal?

222 Jones St., Suite 115  
3361 TAMU  
College Station, TX 77843-3361

Tel. 979.845.2561  
<http://hprc.tamu.edu>

**High Performance Research Computing**

Please send completed proposals in PDF format via email to Dr. Honggao Liu, Executive Director of HPRC at [honggao@tamu.edu](mailto:honggao@tamu.edu).

**Important Dates**

To receive full consideration please submit your proposal by November 15, 2020. Recipients will be notified via email by November 30, 2020.

**Contact information**

Please direct requests for further information regarding this RFP via email to Dr. Honggao Liu, Executive Director of HPRC at [honggao@tamu.edu](mailto:honggao@tamu.edu).