

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP)

Program Solicitation

NSF 00-131

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTORATE FOR EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE(S): October 1, 2000 (*Optional*)

DEADLINE(S): November 1, 2000



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



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SUMMARY OF PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Program Title: Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP)

Synopsis of Program: This program seeks to enhance the quality of undergraduate science, mathematics, engineering and technology (SMET) education at Historically Black Colleges and Universities as a means to broaden participation in the Nation's SMET workforce. The program provides support for the implementation of comprehensive institutional strategies to strengthen SMET teaching and learning in ways that improve access and retention of underrepresented groups in SMET. Typical project implementation strategies include SMET course and curricular reform and enhancement, faculty professional development, supervised research and other active learning experiences for SMET undergraduates, student support, scientific instrumentation to improve SMET instruction, and other activities that meet institutional needs. Support is also available for one-year planning grants for the preparation of proposals for HBCU-UP continuing awards.

Cognizant Program Officer(s):

- Dr. Victor A. Santiago, Program Director, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, Room 815, telephone: (703) 292-4673, e-mail: vsantiag@nsf.gov.

Applicable Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:

- 47.076 --- Education and Human Resources

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

- **Organization Limit:** Historically Black Colleges and Universities that currently offer associate, baccalaureate or master's degrees in science, mathematics, engineering and technology (SMET) fields, but do not offer doctoral degrees in SMET disciplines.
- **PI Eligibility Limit:** The Principal Investigator would normally be the Chief Academic Officer of the institution or other senior academic official.
- **Limit on Number of Proposals:** Only one proposal (for either a planning grant or continuing award) per institution will be accepted in any one year.

AWARD INFORMATION

- **Anticipated Type of Award:** Cooperative Agreement
- **Estimated Number of Awards:** Up to 4 continuing awards and up to 4 planning grants.
- **Anticipated Funding Amount:** Approximately a total of \$2 million, pending availability of funds.

PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

A. Proposal Preparation Guidelines

- **Proposal Preparation Instructions:** Supplemental Preparation Guidelines
 - The program announcement/solicitation contains supplements to the standard Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) proposal preparation guidelines. Please see the full program announcement/solicitation for further information.

B. Budgetary Information

- **Cost Sharing Requirements:** Cost Sharing is not required
- **Indirect Cost (F&A) Limitations:** Not Applicable.
- **Other Budgetary Limitations:** If equipment is requested, the proposing institution must contribute from non-federal sources one half of the equipment cost. Equipment costs may not exceed 30% of the total budget request.

C. Deadline/Target Dates

- **Letter of Intent Due Date(s):** October 1, 2000 (*Optional*)
- **Preproposal Due Date(s):** None
- **Full Proposal Due Date(s):** November 1, 2000

D. FastLane Requirements

- **FastLane Submission:** Full Proposal Required
- **FastLane Contact(s):**
 - Ms. Jamie Scipio, Lead Program Assistant, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, Room 815, telephone: (703) 292-4675, e-mail: jscipio@nsf.gov.

PROPOSAL REVIEW INFORMATION

- **Merit Review Criteria:** National Science Board approved criteria apply.

AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

- **Award Conditions:** Standard NSF award conditions apply.
- **Reporting Requirements:** Additional reporting requirements apply. Please see the full program announcement/solicitation for further information.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Preparing the Nation's workforce for an increasingly technological job market is one of the NSF's key investment strategies to address the relevant outcome goal of the NSF Strategic Plan FY 2000-2005: A diverse, internationally competitive and globally-engaged workforce of scientists, engineers and well-prepared citizens. The portfolio of programs managed by the Division of Human Resource Development, located within the Directorate for Education and Human Resources, is directed toward this end by promoting efforts to increase the participation of underrepresented groups in the science, mathematics, engineering, and technology (SMET) related disciplines and careers. The HBCU-Undergraduate Program, Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP), Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), and the Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) programs are intended to develop a comprehensive and systemic educational continuum, from the undergraduate to the doctorate level, to broaden participation in the SMET workforce.

HBCU-UP seeks to enhance the quality of undergraduate SMET education through comprehensive institutional strategies to strengthen SMET teaching and learning and to improve access and retention in SMET. LSAMP supports the formation of coalitions of two- and four-year institutions that capitalize on each other's strengths to significantly increase the numbers of underrepresented minority students graduating, in good standing, with baccalaureate degrees in SMET fields. AGEP is aimed at increasing the number of minority students pursuing advanced study, obtaining doctoral degrees, and entering the professoriate in SMET disciplines. CREST is directed toward strengthening the research capacity and performance of faculty at minority-serving institutions

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The goal of the HBCU-UP is to enhance the quality of undergraduate SMET programs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities as a means to broaden participation in the SMET workforce. The HBCU Undergraduate Program enables Historically Black Colleges and Universities to implement a plan of action to address the underrepresentation of minorities in SMET disciplines.

The HBCU-UP provides support for the implementation of comprehensive institutional revitalization strategies to strengthen SMET teaching and learning and to improve access and retention of underrepresented groups in SMET. Typical project implementation strategies include SMET course and curricular reform and enhancement, faculty professional development, supervised research and other active learning experiences for SMET undergraduates, student support, and scientific instrumentation, as well as other strategies that address institutional needs.

The HBCU Undergraduate Program works toward its goals by enabling Historically Black Colleges and Universities:

- To strengthen SMET curricula, courses and laboratories through the incorporation of advances in science and engineering knowledge and research-based teaching and learning. Through such efforts, students become aware of, and well prepared for, graduate

school matriculation, including an understanding of non-academic factors that are critical to success in graduate school.

- To develop and maintain a diverse and intellectually vigorous faculty committed to the improvement of undergraduate education. Such faculty, working in collaboration with other academic institutions, professional organizations, business and industry can provide students with mentor-supervised research experiences that complement their academic programs.
- To function in a complementary and collaborative way with related NSF-funded initiatives.
- To encourage increased participation and competitiveness by participating faculty in other NSF programs.

Although programs in the Division of Human Resource Development focus primarily on underrepresented communities, all NSF programs encourage proposals that incorporate this goal. See NSF Guide to Programs (NSF 99-4), Web address <http://www.nsf.gov> for descriptions of all NSF funding opportunities.

Projects under this program should involve every SMET department or program in all of the Institution's Schools or Colleges. Priority will be given to projects that address fields that exhibit serious underrepresentation of minority students, e.g., natural sciences, mathematics, information technology and engineering.* Proposed activities should be the result of a careful analysis of current institutional needs, address institutional and NSF goals, and have the potential to increase the quality of the undergraduate SMET programs at the awardee institution.

[* See National Science Board, Science & Engineering Indicators - 1998, Chapter 2 Higher Education in Science and Engineering and Appendix Table 2-21, Arlington, VA: National Science Foundation, 1998 (NSB98-1)]

While the primary focus of the HBCU-UP is at the undergraduate level, projects may include activities that affect student advancement through the critical transition points during SMET education - the transition between high school and college, 2- and 4-year colleges, undergraduate and graduate school, and from college to the workplace.

TYPICAL ACTIVITIES

Typical activities include, but are not limited to: SMET course and curriculum reform and enhancement, faculty professional development; research and other active learning opportunities for undergraduate students; purchase of equipment/instrumentation to improve instruction; direct student support; and other efforts to improve access and retention of undergraduate students in SMET fields.

CURRICULUM REFORM AND ENHANCEMENT. Curriculum reform and enhancement are critical to achieve positive institution-wide reform of undergraduate education. Applicants may include plans to strengthen and update the SMET curricula. Supportable activities include, but are not limited to:

- strengthening and restructuring the SMET curricula, courses and laboratories through the incorporation of advances in science and engineering knowledge, research-based teaching and learning techniques and practices and through the integration of technology into the curricula;
- revision of SMET gate-keeping and bottleneck courses based on appropriate content and performance standards;
- integration of student research and other active learning pedagogies into the curriculum;
- implementation of strategies to ensure that students are aware of, and well prepared for, graduate school matriculation, including an understanding of non-academic factors that are critical to success in graduate school.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT. A well-trained faculty with continuous learning opportunities remains an integral part of a strong institutional infrastructure and positively impacts the quality of undergraduate education. Faculty development activities suitable for HBCU-UP support include, but are not limited to, the following:

- sabbaticals and exchange programs to enhance research competencies and knowledge of recent technological developments;
- professional development workshops on innovative teaching practices;
- visiting faculty, including industry practitioners;
- special seminars to enhance disciplinary knowledge;
- faculty reassigned time or released time to participate in appropriate SMET course and curricular reform activities;
- opportunities to participate in research in conjunction to student experiences; and,
- faculty reassigned time or released time to mentor students.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCES. This activity may provide stipends to full-time students (U.S. citizens and permanent residents, only) at HBCUs who are engaged in research activities in SMET areas. Research experiences may be on campus with local investigators or at off-campus sites (e.g., industrial, academic, governmental research laboratories). Activities suitable for HBCU-UP support include, but are not limited to, the following:

- development of appropriate partnerships with other academic institutions, industrial laboratories, national laboratories, and NSF-supported research centers to ensure quality student research experiences that complement academic studies;
- meaningful internships or cooperative education opportunities related to students' skill development at appropriate off-campus sites.

PROJECT EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

An evaluation and assessment plan is required so that project development and implementation can be monitored at all stages. One of the key objectives of the HBCU-UP is to improve the quality of undergraduate SMET education through the adaptation and implementation of educational techniques and practices which have been shown to be effective to enhance SMET instruction. Accordingly, proposed evaluation and assessment plans should include indicators of progress that address the extent to which: (1) educational techniques and practices shown to be effective elsewhere, are adapted or modified for use at the awardee institution; (2) a plan has been developed to assess the effectiveness of the educational techniques or practices implemented; (3) faculty at the awardee institution have been prepared to use the modified educational techniques or practices; (4) modified techniques or practices have been incorporated into the curriculum; (5) innovative courses or program components are developed; (6) the effectiveness of implemented educational techniques, practices, courses or components is assessed; and, (7) project activities affect student learning and student access to quality SMET education as defined by measurable quantitative student-based outcomes such as:

- number of minority SMET majors involved in faculty-supervised research and other active learning activities;
- number of minority SMET majors who have enrolled in and successfully completed courses that were developed or revised as part of the HBCU-UP project;
- rates of successful completion of SMET gate-keeper courses, e.g., first semester chemistry, calculus and physics;
- student retention in SMET disciplines;
- number of minority SMET graduates with Grade Point Averages of 3.0 or higher;
- number of minority SMET graduates entering graduate school; and,
- number of minority graduates that enter the SMET workforce.

For those projects that acquire equipment, indicators of success should also address the extent to which the equipment has been successfully incorporated into the curriculum.

The HBCU Undergraduate Program stresses the building of a well-documented knowledge base of successful strategies. Awardees will be required to participate in a program-level evaluation by which NSF can assess quantitative and qualitative gains in relevant measures for minority students and make assessments of the process of change. Technical assistance will be offered to HBCU-UP awardee institutions focusing on each project's critical needs and addressing key aspects of reform directed toward strengthening SMET teaching and learning and increasing student access and retention. Technical assistance will include examples of best practices in each of the key areas in which HBCU-UP support is provided.

Technical assistance will also be offered to eligible institutions that submit a letter of intent in response to

this program solicitation. Technical assistance, provided through regional workshops, will allow participating institutions to benefit from lessons learned and best practices within current HBCU-UP projects.

PLANNING GRANTS

Institutions that are eligible for HBCU-UP awards may apply for a planning grant to support the preparation of a proposal for a five-year HBCU-UP continuing award. HBCU-UP planning grants are intended to help institutions conduct an assessment of their SMET infrastructure and develop an institutional plan to enhance their SMET program indicating the anticipated value added by NSF support. Proposals for planning grants should present a clear picture of the planned activities, goals and methods. HBCU-UP planning grants are expected to provide up to \$50,000 for approximately one year. These awards are non-renewable. Project Directors are welcome to confer with NSF HBCU-UP staff prior to proposal submission.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Organizations eligible to submit proposals include those Historically Black Colleges and Universities that currently offer associate, baccalaureate or master's degrees in science, mathematics, engineering and technology (SMET) fields, but do not offer doctoral degrees in SMET disciplines.

IV. AWARD INFORMATION

Although no minimum or maximum amounts are set for continuing awards, these are expected to range from \$400,000 to \$500,000 per year for up to five years. Proposing institutions must contribute from non-federal sources one half of the cost of any equipment that is requested through this program. Equipment costs may not exceed 30% of the total budget request. HBCU-UP planning grants are expected to provide up to \$50,000 for one year. NSF expects to fund four continuing awards and four planning grants depending on the quality of submissions and the availability of funds. The anticipated date of awards is spring 2001.

V. PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

A. Proposal Preparation Instructions

Proposals submitted in response to this program announcement/solicitation should be prepared and submitted in accordance with the general guidelines contained in the NSF *Grant Proposal Guide* (GPG) (NSF 00-2). The complete text of the GPG (including electronic forms) is available electronically on the NSF Web Site at: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2000/nsf002/start.htm>. Paper copies of the GPG may be obtained from the NSF Publications Clearinghouse, telephone (301) 947-2722 or by e-mail from pubs@nsf.gov.

Proposals submitted to the HBCU Undergraduate Program should:

- include project goals, objectives, and a timeline for proposed activities with an indication of their anticipated impact;
- provide a clear picture of the current status of the institution's SMET infrastructure and an institutional plan to enhance the SMET operation by indicating the anticipated value added by the NSF-supported efforts;
- build on existing research about underrepresented minority participation in the SMET educational continuum;
- describe the expected impact of the project across the SMET offerings of the institution;
- provide a list of advisory committee members;
- have strong formative and summative evaluation components to demonstrate project impact and guide project development (See section on project evaluation);
- provide evidence of the commitment of the proposing institution to the improvement of undergraduate SMET education including plans and resource alignment strategies to continue elements of the project after NSF funding ends.

HBCU institutions that are or have been award recipients of NSF programs that promote the involvement of underrepresented minorities in higher education should describe the value-added and complementarity of these efforts. Such programs include the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP), Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST), Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), and Minority Institutions of Excellence (MIE).

Proposers are reminded to identify the program announcement/solicitation number (NSF 00-131) in the program announcement/solicitation block on the proposal Cover Sheet (NSF Form 1207). Compliance with this requirement is critical to determining the relevant proposal processing guidelines. Failure to submit this information may delay processing.

B. Budgetary Information

Cost Sharing is not required in proposals submitted under this Program Solicitation .

Other Budgetary Limitations: If equipment is requested, the proposing institution must contribute from non-federal sources one half of the equipment cost. Equipment costs may not exceed 30% of the total budget request.

C. Deadline/Target Dates

Proposals submitted in response to this announcement/solicitation must be submitted by 5:00 PM, local time on the following date(s):

November 1, 2000

D. FastLane Requirements

Proposers are required to prepare and submit all proposals for this Program Solicitation through the FastLane system. Detailed instructions for proposal preparation and submission via FastLane are available at: <http://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/a1/newstan.htm>. For FastLane user support, call 1-800-673-6188.

Submission of Signed Cover Sheets. The signed copy of the proposal Cover Sheet (NSF Form 1207) must be postmarked (or contain a legible proof of mailing date assigned by the carrier) within five working days following proposal submission and be forwarded to the following address:

National Science Foundation
DIS – FastLane Cover Sheet
4201 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22230

VI. PROPOSAL REVIEW INFORMATION

A. NSF Proposal Review Process

Reviews of proposals submitted to NSF are solicited from peers with expertise in the substantive area of the proposed research or education project. These reviewers are selected by Program Officers charged with the oversight of the review process. NSF invites the proposer to suggest at the time of submission, the names of appropriate or inappropriate reviewers. Care is taken to ensure that reviewers have no conflicts with the proposer. Special efforts are made to recruit reviewers from non-academic institutions, minority-serving institutions, or adjacent disciplines to that principally addressed in the proposal.

Proposals will be reviewed against the following general review criteria established by the National Science Board. Following each criterion are potential considerations that the reviewer may employ in the evaluation. These are suggestions and not all will apply to any given proposal. Each reviewer will be asked to address only those that are relevant to the proposal and for which he/she is qualified to make judgements.

What is the intellectual merit of the proposed activity?

How important is the proposed activity to advancing knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields? How well qualified is the proposer (individual or team) to conduct the project? (If appropriate, the reviewer will comment on the quality of the prior work.) To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative and original concepts? How well conceived and organized is the proposed activity? Is there sufficient access to resources?

What are the broader impacts of the proposed activity?

How well does the activity advance discovery and understanding while promoting teaching, training, and learning? How well does the proposed activity broaden the participation of underrepresented groups (e.g., gender, ethnicity, disability, geographic, etc.)? To what extent will it enhance the infrastructure for research and education, such as facilities, instrumentation, networks, and partnerships? Will the results be disseminated broadly to enhance scientific and technological understanding? What may be the benefits of the proposed activity to society?

Principal Investigators should address the following elements in their proposal to provide reviewers with the information necessary to respond fully to both of the above-described NSF merit review criteria. NSF staff will give these elements careful consideration in making funding decisions.

Integration of Research and Education

One of the principal strategies in support of NSF's goals is to foster integration of research and education through the programs, projects, and activities it supports at academic and research institutions. These institutions provide abundant opportunities where individuals may concurrently assume responsibilities as researchers, educators, and students and where all can engage in joint efforts that infuse education with the excitement of discovery and enrich research through the diversity of learning perspectives.

Integrating Diversity into NSF Programs, Projects, and Activities

Broadening opportunities and enabling the participation of all citizens - women and men, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities - is essential to the health and vitality of science and engineering. NSF is committed to this principle of diversity and deems it central to the programs, projects, and activities it considers and supports.

A summary rating and accompanying narrative will be completed and signed by each reviewer. In all cases, reviews are treated as confidential documents. Verbatim copies of reviews, excluding the names of the reviewers, are mailed to the Principal Investigator/Project Director by the Program Director. In addition, the proposer will receive an explanation of the decision to award or decline funding.

B. Review Protocol and Associated Customer Service Standard

All proposals are carefully reviewed by at least three other persons outside NSF who are experts in the particular field represented by the proposal. Proposals submitted in response to this announcement/solicitation will be reviewed by Panel Review.

Reviewers will be asked to formulate a recommendation to either support or decline each proposal. The Program Officer assigned to manage the proposal's review will consider the advice of reviewers and will formulate a recommendation.

In most cases, proposers will be contacted by the Program Officer after his or her recommendation to

award or decline funding has been approved by the Division Director. This informal notification is not a guarantee of an eventual award.

NSF will be able to tell applicants whether their proposals have been declined or recommended for funding within six months for 95 percent of proposals. The time interval begins on the proposal deadline or target date or from the date of receipt, if deadlines or target dates are not used by the program. The interval ends when the Division Director accepts the Program Officer's recommendation.

In all cases, after programmatic approval has been obtained, the proposals recommended for funding will be forwarded to the Division of Grants and Agreements for review of business, financial, and policy implications and the processing and issuance of a grant or other agreement. Proposers are cautioned that only a Grants and Agreements Officer may make commitments, obligations or awards on behalf of NSF or authorize the expenditure of funds. No commitment on the part of NSF should be inferred from technical or budgetary discussions with a NSF Program Officer. A Principal Investigator or organization that makes financial or personnel commitments in the absence of a grant or cooperative agreement signed by the NSF Grants and Agreements Officer does so at its own risk.

VII. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. Notification of the Award

Notification of the award is made to *the submitting organization* by a Grants Officer in the Division of Grants and Agreements. Organizations whose proposals are declined will be advised as promptly as possible by the cognizant NSF Program Division administering the program. Verbatim copies of reviews, not including the identity of the reviewer, will be provided automatically to the Principal Investigator. (See section VI. A, for additional information on the review process.)

B. Award Conditions

An NSF award consists of: (1) the award letter, which includes any special provisions applicable to the award and any numbered amendments thereto; (2) the budget, which indicates the amounts, by categories of expense, on which NSF has based its support (or otherwise communicates any specific approvals or disapprovals of proposed expenditures); (3) the proposal referenced in the award letter; (4) the applicable award conditions, such as Grant General Conditions (NSF-GC-1)* or Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) Terms and Conditions * and (5) any NSF brochure, program guide, announcement or other NSF issuance that may be incorporated by reference in the award letter. Cooperative agreement awards also are administered in accordance with NSF Cooperative Agreement Terms and Conditions (CA-1). Electronic mail notification is the preferred way to transmit NSF awards to organizations that have electronic mail capabilities and have requested such notification from the Division of Grants and Agreements.

*These documents may be accessed electronically on NSF's web site at http://www.nsf.gov/home/grants/grants_gac.htm. Paper copies may be obtained from the NSF Publications Clearinghouse, telephone (301) 947-2722 or by e-mail from pubs@nsf.gov.

More comprehensive information on NSF Award Conditions is contained in the NSF *Grant Policy*

Manual (GPM) Chapter II, (NSF 95-26) available electronically on the NSF web site at <http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?gpm>. The GPM is also for sale through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office (GPO), Washington, DC 20402. The telephone number at GPO for subscription information is (202) 512-1800. The GPM may be ordered through the GPO web site at <http://www.gpo.gov>.

C. Reporting Requirements

For all multi-year grants (including both standard and continuing grants), the PI must submit an annual project report to the cognizant Program Officer at least 90 days before the end of the current budget period.

HBCU-UP awards are managed through cooperative agreements. Information regarding annual and final report content, due dates and other report specifications are contained in the cooperative agreement. Annual reports will be used to determine the level of continuing support for the HBCU-UP awardee institution.

Within 90 days after the expiration of an award, the PI also is required to submit a final project report. Approximately 30 days before expiration, NSF will send a notice to remind the PI of the requirement to file the final project report. Failure to provide final technical reports delays NSF review and processing of pending proposals for that PI. PIs should examine the formats of the required reports in advance to assure availability of required data.

NSF has implemented an electronic project reporting system, available through FastLane. This system permits electronic submission and updating of project reports, including information on: project participants (individual and organizational); activities and findings; publications; and other specific products and contributions. PIs will not be required to re-enter information previously provided, either with a proposal or in earlier updates using the electronic system.

VIII. CONTACTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

General inquiries should be made to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program Program: Dr. Victor A. Santiago, Program Director, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, Room 815, telephone: (703) 292-4673, e-mail: vsantiag@nsf.gov.

For questions related to the use of FastLane, contact, Ms. Jamie Scipio, Lead Program Assistant, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, Room 815, telephone: (703) 292-4675, e-mail: jscipio@nsf.gov.

IX. OTHER PROGRAMS OF INTEREST

The NSF Guide to Programs is a compilation of funding for research and education in science, mathematics, and engineering. The NSF Guide to Programs is available electronically at

<http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?gp>. General descriptions of NSF programs, research areas, and eligibility information for proposal submission are provided in each chapter.

Many NSF programs offer announcements or solicitations concerning specific proposal requirements. To obtain additional information about these requirements, contact the appropriate NSF program offices listed in Appendix A of the GPG. Any changes in NSF's fiscal year programs occurring after press time for the Guide to Programs will be announced in the NSF [E-Bulletin](#), which is updated daily on the NSF web site at <http://www.nsf.gov/home/ebulletin>, and in individual program announcements/solicitations. Subscribers can also sign up for NSF's [Custom News Service](#) (<http://www.nsf.gov/home/cns/start.htm>) to be notified of new funding opportunities that become available.

The HBCU-UP Program is among those that promote the involvement of underrepresented minorities in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology and foster innovation in education for all students. Related programs include the: Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) (NSF 98-19), Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) (NSF 98-19), Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) (NSF 00-53), and Collaborative Integration of Research and Education (CIRE) (NSF 98-47).

The following programs might also be of interest:

- Advanced Technological Education (ATE) (NSF 00-62)
- Computer Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Scholarships (CSEMS) (NSF 99-121)
- NSF Graduate Teaching Fellows in K-12 Education (GK-12) (NSF 00-46)
- Activities in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics for Persons with Disabilities (NSF 00-69)
- Program for Gender Equity in Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology (NSF 99-25)
- Educational Innovation Program (NSF 00-33)
- Minority Institutions Infrastructure Program (NSF 96-15)
- Combined Research-Curriculum Development (CRCDD) (NSF 00-66)
- The Action Agenda for Systemic Engineering Education Reform (NSF 99-169)
- Geoscience Education (NSF 00-38)
- Vertical Integration of Research and Education in Mathematical Sciences (VIGRE) (NSF 00-40)
- Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) (NSF 96-102).

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds research and education in most fields of science and engineering. Awardees are wholly responsible for conducting their project activities and preparing the results for publication. Thus, the Foundation does not assume responsibility for such findings or their interpretation.

NSF welcomes proposals from all qualified scientists, engineers and educators. The Foundation strongly encourages women, minorities and persons with disabilities to compete fully in its programs. In accordance with Federal statutes, regulations and NSF policies, no person on grounds of race, color, age, sex, national origin or disability shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving financial assistance from NSF (unless otherwise specified in the eligibility requirements for a particular program).

Facilitation Awards for Scientists and Engineers with Disabilities (FASED) provide funding for special assistance or equipment to enable persons with disabilities (investigators and other staff, including student research assistants) to work on NSF-supported projects. See the program announcement/solicitation for further information.

The National Science Foundation has Telephonic Device for the Deaf (TDD) and Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) capabilities that enable individuals with hearing impairments to communicate with the Foundation about NSF programs, employment or general information. TDD may be accessed at (703) 292-5090, FIRS at 1-800-877-8339.

The National Science Foundation is committed to making all of the information we publish easy to understand. If you have a suggestion about how to improve the clarity of this document or other NSF-published materials, please contact us at plainlanguage@nsf.gov.

PRIVACY ACT AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENTS

The information requested on proposal forms and project reports is solicited under the authority of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended. The information on proposal forms will be used in connection with the selection of qualified proposals; project reports submitted by awardees will be used for program evaluation and reporting within the Executive Branch and to Congress. The information requested may be disclosed to qualified reviewers and staff assistants as part of the proposal review process; to applicant institutions/grantees to provide or obtain data regarding the proposal review process, award decisions, or the administration of awards; to government contractors, experts, volunteers and researchers and educators as necessary to complete assigned work; to other government agencies needing information as part of the review process or in order to coordinate programs; and to another Federal agency, court or party in a court or Federal administrative proceeding if the government is a party. Information about Principal Investigators may be added to the Reviewer file and used to select potential candidates to serve as peer reviewers or advisory committee members. See Systems of Records, NSF-50, "Principal Investigator/Proposal File and Associated Records," 63 Federal Register 267 (January 5, 1998), and NSF-51, "Reviewer/Proposal File and Associated

Records," 63 Federal Register 268 (January 5, 1998). Submission of the information is voluntary. Failure to provide full and complete information, however, may reduce the possibility of receiving an award.

Pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(b), an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection is 3145-0058. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 120 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions. Send comments regarding this burden estimate and any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, Information Dissemination Branch, Division of Administrative Services, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230, or to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for National Science Foundation (3145-0058), 725 - 17th Street, N.W. Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503.

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