

2001 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM)

NSF 01-54

DIRECTORATE FOR EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

DEADLINE: April 26, 2001



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



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PROGRAM SUMMARY

GENERAL INFORMATION

Program Title: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2001 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM)

Synopsis of Program: The PAESMEM Program seeks to identify outstanding mentoring efforts that enhance the participation of groups (i.e., women, minorities and persons with disabilities) that are underrepresented in science, mathematics, and engineering. The awardees serve as leaders in the national effort to develop fully the Nation's human resources in science, mathematics, and engineering.

Cognizant Program Officer(s):

- Marilyn Suiter, Program Director, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, Room 815, telephone: (703) 292-8639, e-mail: msuiter@nsf.gov.

Applicable Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number(s):

- 47.076 --- Education and Human Resources

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

- **Individual Nominees:** Must be a U.S. Citizen. Must have affiliation with an organization eligible to be an NSF grantee. Must not be government employees. Must have demonstrated outstanding and sustained mentoring and effective guidance to a significant number of students at the K-12, undergraduate, or graduate education levels.
- **Institutional Nominees:** Must be eligible to be an NSF grantee. Must be institutions with program activities that have enabled a substantial number of students drawn from populations underrepresented in science, mathematics and engineering (i.e., women, minorities and persons with disabilities) to successfully pursue and complete the relevant degree programs. Efforts may be at the K-12, undergraduate, or graduate levels.
- **Limit on Number of Applications:** Only one application per single institution or for an individual at that institution per each competition.

AWARD INFORMATION

- **Anticipated Type of Award:** Standard Grant
- **Estimated Number of Awards:** Approximately 10 Individual and 10 Institutional awards
- **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$200,000 for the FY 2001 awards

NOMINATION PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

A. Nomination Preparation Instructions

- **Full Nomination Preparation Instructions:** Please see the Call for Nominations submission guidelines for further information.

B. Budgetary Information

- **Cost Sharing Requirements:** Cost Sharing is not required
- **Indirect Cost (F&A) Limitations:** Not Applicable
- **Other Budgetary Limitations:** Not Applicable

C. Deadline/Target Dates

- **Letter of Intent Due Date(s):** None
- **Preapplication Due Date(s):** None
- **Full Application Due Date(s):** April 26, 2001

D. FastLane Requirements

- **FastLane Submission:** Not Required in FY 2001

NOMINATION REVIEW INFORMATION

- **Merit Review Criteria:** National Science Board approved criteria. Additional merit review considerations apply. Please see the Call for Nominations submission guidelines for further information.

AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

- **Award Conditions:** Standard NSF award conditions apply.
- **Reporting Requirements:** Standard NSF reporting requirements apply.

I. INTRODUCTION

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The White House has established the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM) program. The program, administered on behalf of the White House by the National Science Foundation, seeks to identify outstanding mentoring efforts/programs designed to enhance the participation of groups underrepresented in science, mathematics and engineering. The awardees will serve as exemplars to their colleagues and will be leaders in the national effort to more fully develop the Nation's human resources in science, mathematics and engineering. Nominations to honor individuals and institutions are invited for the 2001 competition of these annual awards.

It is expected that each award will be used to continue the recognized activities. The nominees must have served in such a mentoring role for at least five years. Beyond the award, each awardee will be invited to Washington, D.C. for an awards ceremony, recognition events and meetings with leaders in Federal sector education and research, and focused workshops addressing effective mentoring of students from the underrepresented groups. The awardees will be honored at a White House ceremony.

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The submission process requires that the individual, institution or organization be nominated by a colleague, administrator, institution, or student. Nominations may only be considered for one of the two categories of award, either individual or institutional, but not both. Only one nomination in a single selected category may be submitted per institution for each competition. Only one award will be made to a single institution or an individual at that institution per each competition. Nominations for the individual award must clearly delineate the achievements of the individual versus those of the institution or organization; nominations for institutions or organizations must reflect the organizational versus individual achievements. The nomination packet should include:

INDIVIDUAL

- A letter of nomination summarizing activities that constitute the basis for the nomination (not to exceed 600 words);
- A curriculum vita of the nominee (5-page maximum);
- A list of students mentored; and
- Letters of support (a maximum of 5) from colleagues and students attesting to the nominee's demonstrable and sustained achievements in the mentoring of underrepresented students in science, mathematics and engineering. These letters will be available to nominees upon request.

INSTITUTION

- A letter of nomination summarizing activities that constitute the basis for the nomination (not to exceed 600 words);
- A brief institutional or organizational description;
- A list of activities bearing on students mentored; and
- Materials documenting the sustained achievements in mentoring underrepresented students.

All nominees will be notified in writing of their nomination prior to the selection process.

The Nominee must submit a signed copy of the NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF) PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS AND ENGINEERING MENTORING (PAESMEM) PROGRAM INFORMATION FORM (NSF FORM 1376 (4/96)) for White House Clearance. This form and specific instructions for submission can be found on <http://www.ehr.nsf.gov/EHR/HRD/PAESMEMFORM.html>. The review and administration of this form and information will be handled confidentially by the cognizant PAESMEM Program Director.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Nominations for the individual award must clearly delineate the achievements of the individual versus those of the institution or organization; nominations for institutions or organizations must reflect the organizational versus individual achievements. Government employees are not eligible for nomination.

IV. AWARD INFORMATION

A check in the amount of \$10,000 will accompany the award along with a commemorative Presidential certificate. The award will be made to: (1) an individual who has demonstrated outstanding and sustained mentoring and effective guidance to a significant number of students at the K-12, undergraduate, or graduate education level or (2) to an institution that, through its programming, has enabled a substantial number of students drawn from populations underrepresented in science, mathematics and engineering to successfully pursue and complete the relevant degree programs. It is expected that each award will be used to continue the recognized activity. The nominees must have served in such a mentoring role for at least five years.

V. NOMINATION PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

A. Nomination Preparation Instructions

Applications for nomination should be sent to the address below. A nomination application may not be processed until the complete nomination application has been received by NSF. The nomination deadline is April 26, 2001:

National Science Foundation
Presidential Awards for Mentoring
Human Resource Development
Room 815
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22230

FAX: (703) 292-9018

B. Budgetary Information

Cost sharing is not required for applications submitted under this Call for Nominations.

Indirect Cost (F&A) Limitations: Not Applicable

Other Budgetary Limitations: Not Applicable

C. Deadline/Target Dates

Applications submitted in response to this Call for Nominations must be submitted by 5:00 PM, local time on the following date(s):

April 26, 2001

D. FastLane Requirements

Nominators are not required to prepare and submit their applications for this Call for Nominations through the FastLane system.

VI. NOMINATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. NSF Nomination Review Process

Reviews of all nominated applications 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 nominators 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 nominee. Special efforts are made to recruit reviewers from non-academic institutions, minority-serving institutions, or adjacent disciplines to that principally addressed in the application.

Nominated applications 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 application. Each reviewer will be asked to address only those that are relevant to the application 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 nominee (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?

Nominators should address the following elements in their applications 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.

Additional Review Criteria

SELECTION CRITERIA. Nominees will be evaluated by the following:

- The number and diversity of students mentored to high school graduation, the baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral degree levels;
- The success of students mentored in pursuit of degree objectives and attendant quality of academic performance;

- Demonstrated achievement in assisting students to understand how the educational system works and promoting their advancement in the educational continuum in science, mathematics or engineering;
- Affording students effective academic/research experience, sustained academic support systems, and strategies leading to successful matriculation and degree completion in science, mathematics and engineering fields;
- Substantive achievements in changing the educational system to enable improved performance and advancement for underrepresented groups; and
- Demonstrated innovation that is replicable.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR INSTITUTIONS

- Demonstrated institutional sustainability in structural changes or special programs that have increased student retention and/or graduation rates;
- Demonstrated quality of institutional life that fosters the establishment of viable networks that facilitate learning, contacts, and career development;
- Demonstrated institutional or organizational distinctiveness in the advancement or promotion of the educational and career development of students in science, mathematics and engineering fields; and
- Demonstrated distinctiveness in carrying out the institution's social responsibility to create a more positive learning environment by helping to provide an atmosphere that values diversity among students, faculty, and administrators.

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 sent to the Nominator and Nominee by the Program Director. In addition, the Nominee and Nominator will receive an explanation of the decision to award or decline funding.

B. Review Protocol and Associated Customer Service Standard

All applications are carefully reviewed by at least three other persons outside NSF who are experts in the particular field represented by the nominee. Applications submitted in response to this Call for Nominations will be reviewed by Panel Review.

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

As in the past, it is anticipated that OSTP will contact nominees recommended for awards. The Program Director will contact all nominees that are recommended for declination. This informal notification is not a guarantee of an eventual award. NSF will be able to tell applicants whether their applications have been declined or recommended for funding within six months for 95

percent of the applications. The time interval begins on the Call for Nominations deadline date or from the date of receipt, if the deadline date is 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 applications 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 letter or other agreement. Nominations 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 Nominee 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 Nominee's institution or organization by a Grants Officer in the Division of Grants and Agreements. Nominations and Nominees whose applications 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 nominator. (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 application 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 announcement or other NSF issuance that may be incorporated by reference in the award letter. 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, 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

Within 90 days after the expiration of an award, the Nominee also is required to submit a final project report. Approximately 30 days before expiration, NSF will send a notice to remind the Nominee of the requirement to file the final project report. Failure to provide final technical reports delays NSF review and processing of pending applications for that Nominee. Nominees 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. Nominees will not be required to re-enter information previously provided, either with a proposal or in earlier updates using the electronic system. Nominators can access the FastLane system at <http://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/al/newstan.htm>. For FastLane user support, call 1-800-673-6188 or contact Ms. Victoria Smoot, Financial Operations Specialist, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, Room 815, on (703) 292-4677 or e-mail: vsmoot@nsf.gov.

VIII. CONTACTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

General inquiries regarding CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2001 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring should be made to:

- Marilyn Suiter, Program Director, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, Room 815, telephone: (703) 292-8639, e-mail: msuiter@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. 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.

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.

OMB control number: 3145-0058.