Slide 2
Good afternoon. I'm Tracy Kimbrel, and I'm the lead Program Director managing the program Algorithms in the Field, or AitF. In this webcast, I'll give a brief overview of the program and some of the most important things you need to know about submitting a proposal.

Slide 3
Here is the agenda for today's presentation. I'll start with a brief overview of the AitF program. Next, I'll cover some important aspects of the solicitation including the types of awards to be made, submission requirements, and of course the deadline. I'll cover a few frequently asked questions, and finally I'll invite further questions from the audience and answer them with help from my colleagues.

Slide 4
As Rao mentioned, Algorithms in the Field encourages closer collaboration between two groups of researchers: first, theoretical computer science researchers, who focus on the design and analysis of provably efficient and provably accurate algorithms for various computational models; and second, applied researchers including a combination of systems and domain experts who focus on the particular design constraints of applications, computing devices, or computer systems. Each proposal must have at least one co-PI interested in theoretical computer science and one interested in any of the other areas typically supported by CISE. Proposals are expected to address the dissemination of both the algorithmic contributions and resulting applications, tools, languages, compilers, libraries, architectures, systems, data, etc.

Slide 5
Here are some highlights from the AitF solicitation. Please note that while I'm spotlighting key pieces of information you need to know in order to submit a proposal, this is not a substitute for reading the full solicitation. You can easily find the solicitation by using the search string N-S-F space A-i-t-f.
There are two types of proposals, called full-size and exploratory. Full-size proposals can request up to eight hundred thousand dollars and span up to four years.
Exploratory projects are smaller. These are intended to support preliminary work or work in its early stages on untested but potentially transformative research ideas or approaches.
We expect to make around nine to twelve full-size awards of up to eight hundred thousand dollars and three to six exploratory awards of up to four hundred thousand dollars, subject to availability of funds.
Both types of proposals are due February 9th.

Slide 6
As mentioned previously, each proposal must have two or more PIs bringing different skills to the project because the aim of the program is to support collaborations.

There is a limit for the number of proposals per PI or co-PI. An investigator may participate as PI, co-PI, or senior personnel in no more than two proposals submitted in response to this solicitation

Slide 7
There are 3 types of supplementary documentation required.
First is the collaboration plan, which I will describe in more detail in just a moment.
Next is the data management plan. This is where you should discuss any planned release of applications, tools, languages, compilers, libraries, architectures, systems, data, and so on, which we encourage.
And finally there's the postdoc mentoring plan, which is required in any proposal that includes funds for a postdoc.

Slide 8
Each proposal is required to have a collaboration plan as a separate supplementary document, which must describe the backgrounds and expertise of the PIs and how the PIs plan to collaborate. This document will be evaluated by the panelists or reviewers as part of the proposal review process. It is up to the proposers to make the argument that they provide distinct expertise in this section.
If the collaboration plan is missing, your proposal will be returned without review.

Slide 9
Now, I'd like to invite questions from the audience. The slides and the script for this webcast, as well as an audio recording, will be available via the NSF Events web page. I've also listed the email addresses for the program officers, if you'd like to follow up with a question via email.

Slide 10
While we wait for the questions to come in, I'll answer some frequently asked questions about the AitF program.
The first question is: How can I tell whether my proposed research is a good fit for the program?
As mentioned previously, each proposal is required to have two or more PIs providing different expertise. One must be a researcher interested in theoretical computer science, and one in any of the other areas supported by the Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering. Although we give some examples of possible "field areas" in the solicitation for illustration, these are not exhaustive. We purposely avoid defining "field" or providing a list of targeted fields.

Slide 11
The next question is: Should I discuss my proposal with NSF Program Directors?
Yes, we encourage you to discuss planned proposals with Program Directors to help determine fit to the program. We ask that you refrain from scheduling separate meetings or calls with multiple Program Directors. Once submitted, the substance of proposals will not be discussed by NSF Program Directors, as this would constitute unfair competition, or the perception thereof.

Slide 12
The next question is: Do AitF proposals count against the CISE Core program limits on number of proposals allowed per year?
No, but there is an AitF program limit. No one can be PI, co-PI, or senior personnel on more than two AitF proposals.

Slide 13
If there are no more questions…
That brings us to the conclusion of today's webinar. The slides and the script for this webcast, as well as an audio recording, will be available via the NSF Events web page; the URL is shown.
The email addresses of the AitF program directors are also shown, along with the CISE divisions they belong to. If you can't determine which one to contact based on division or the core programs they manage, just contact me, Tracy Kimbrel as listed in the first bullet.