Research and Mentoring for Postbaccalaureates (RaMP) in Biological Sciences

Program Solicitation: NSF 23-514 (Replaces NSF 22-506)

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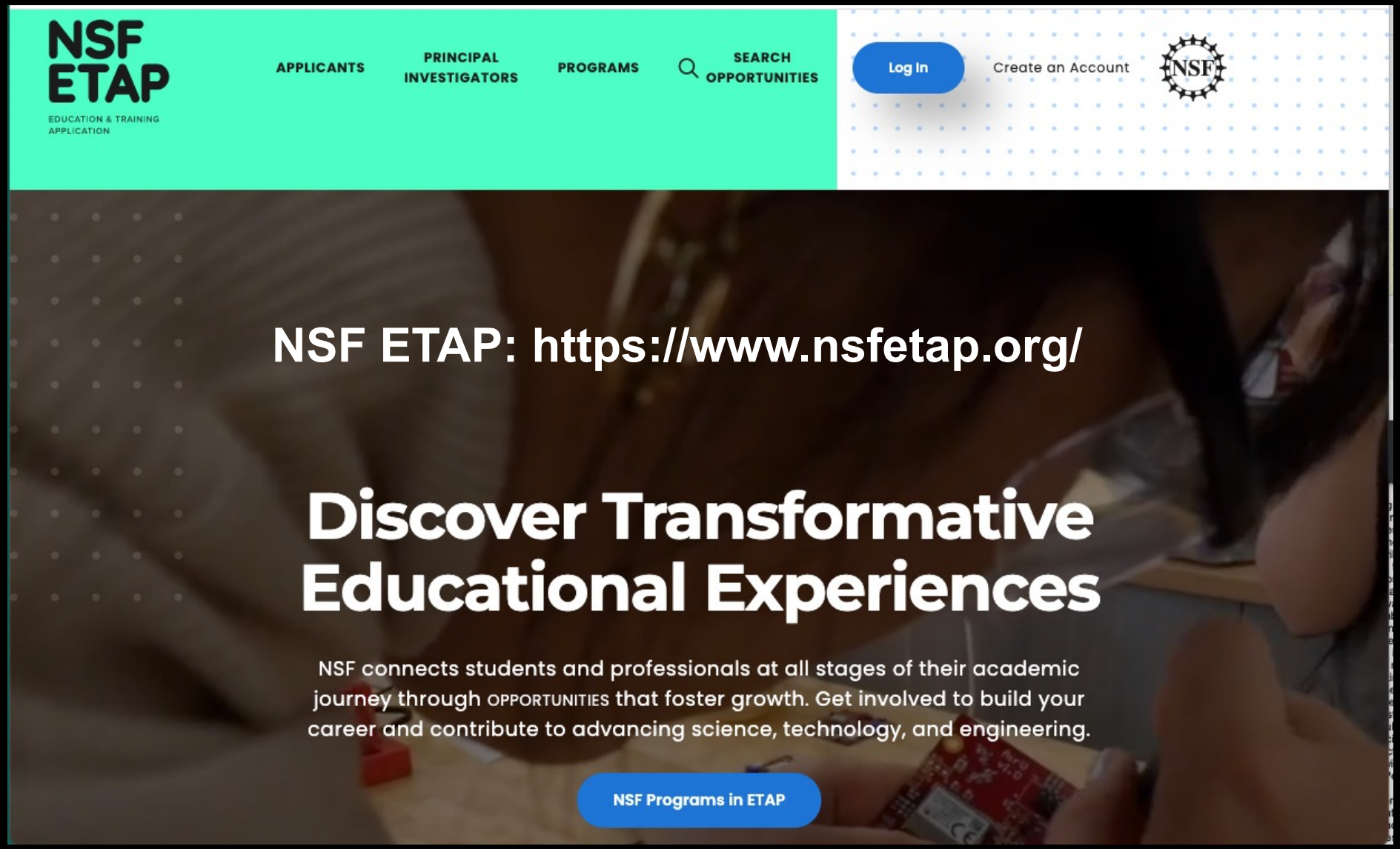
IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REVISION NOTES

1. **ETAP.** New recruitment, selection, and retention and dissemination plans sections are required. BIO RaMP PIs must use the NSF Education and Training Application (ETAP) to manage postbaccalaureate applications and to collect participant demographic information.
2. **Participant and Non-Participant Costs.** The solicitation now reflects NSF Budget Guidelines concerning "Participant Support" as distinct from non-participant costs (PI, co-PI, Senior Personnel, and other network individuals/partners); please check with institutional guidelines in assessing non-participant costs and email us with questions.
3. **PAPPG.** Any proposal submitted in response to this solicitation should be submitted in accordance with the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) that is in effect for the relevant due date to which the proposal is being submitted. The NSF PAPPG is regularly revised and it is the responsibility of the proposer to ensure that the proposal meets the requirements specified in this solicitation and the applicable version of the PAPPG. Submitting a proposal prior to a specified deadline does not negate this requirement.
4. **DEADLINE: February 16, 2023 (Thursday) by 5:00 p.m.**


NSF ETAP
EDUCATION & TRAINING APPLICATION
APPLICANTS
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS
PROGRAMS
SEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
Log In
Create an Account
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NSF ETAP: https://www.nsfetap.org/
Discover Transformative Educational Experiences
NSF connects students and professionals at all stages of their academic journey through OPPORTUNITIES that foster growth. Get involved to build your career and contribute to advancing science, technology, and engineering.
NSF Programs in ETAP

Research & Mentoring for Postbaccalaureates (RaMP) in the Biological Sciences

The goals of this program include:

1. to establish networks to support full-time research, mentoring, and training for recent college graduates who have had few or no research or training opportunities during college in research fields typically supported by the Directorate of Biological Sciences (BIO);

Research & Mentoring for Postbaccalaureates (RaMP) in the Biological Sciences

The goals of this program include:

2. foster the growth of a globally-competitive and diverse research workforce. To that end, proposals submitted to this program are expected to create strong evidence-based, inclusive and culturally-aware mentorship programs that will advance the goal of creating a competitive and highly representative science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workforce in the U.S. with a focus on the biological sciences.

Research & Mentoring for Postbaccalaureates (RaMP) in the Biological Sciences

The goals of this program include:

3. to train individuals for a range of potential career pathways in the biological sciences including: research-focused M.S. or Ph.D. graduate programs; entry-level positions in industry, federal, tribal, or state agencies, education and research centers, or not-for-profit science-based organizations; or other STEM careers.

Research & Mentoring for Postbaccalaureates (RaMP) in the Biological Sciences

Individuals from groups underrepresented in STEM, first generation college students, and students at under-resourced institutions frequently have limited opportunities to participate in the undergraduate research experiences that are necessary to be competitive for graduate programs or other STEM career pathways. This program will provide postbaccalaureate research experiences for cohorts of trainees, either in ongoing research programs, existing research networks, or in new research projects designed specifically for the RaMP networks.

Key Aspects of the Program

- It is expected that networks will involve and provide clear benefits to investigators (e.g., mentors and co-mentors) from **diverse organizations**.
- Networks are encouraged to leverage **established broadening participation programs**.

Key Aspects of the Program

- **Science Theme**: Proposals should be centered around a cohesive biological research theme.
- **Cohort Mentoring**: Networks are expected to develop evidence-based mentoring programs that are grounded in established practices that will help meet the network goals.
- **Network**: Provide high-quality interactions of postbaccs with research mentors in a wide range of facilities, diverse mentorship, and professional development opportunities.

Network Strategies

- enhancing critical thinking, creativity, interpersonal skills, and overall research skills in a safe research environment with ethically sound research practices;
- improving participants' [career] transition to graduate level programs, industry, federal, tribal, or state agencies, education and research centers, not-for-profit science-based organizations, or other STEM careers;
- providing training in a cohort and network environment with common scientific and professional goals;
- creating an environment that increases participants' science identity, self-efficacy, and sense of belonging in STEM through mentors that have been trained to do so; and
- providing inclusive and comprehensive experiences to develop the next generation of diverse leaders in biological sciences.

Submitting Institutions

- Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) - Two- and four-year IHEs (including community colleges) accredited in, and having a campus located in the US, acting on behalf of their faculty members. Special Instructions for International Branch Campuses of US IHEs: If the proposal includes funding to be provided to an international branch campus of a US institution of higher education (including through use of subawards and consultant arrangements), the proposer must explain the benefit(s) to the project of performance at the international branch campus, and justify why the project activities cannot be performed at the US campus.
- Non-profit, non-academic organizations: Independent museums, observatories, research labs, professional societies and similar organizations in the U.S. associated with educational or research activities.

Components of Proposal (Project Description)

1. Science Theme
2. Network Structure and Collaborative Framework
3. Recruitment, Selection, and Retention Plan
4. Mentoring Program Plan
5. Broader Impacts
6. Evaluation & Assessment Plan
7. Project Outcomes and Dissemination Plan
8. Data Management Plan (2 pages)
9. Project Management Plan (3 page, supplementary document)
10. Letters of Collaboration (supplementary documents, PAPPG)

Postdoctoral Research Mentoring Plan (1 page) *(only if applicable)*

Organizational Structure/Individuals

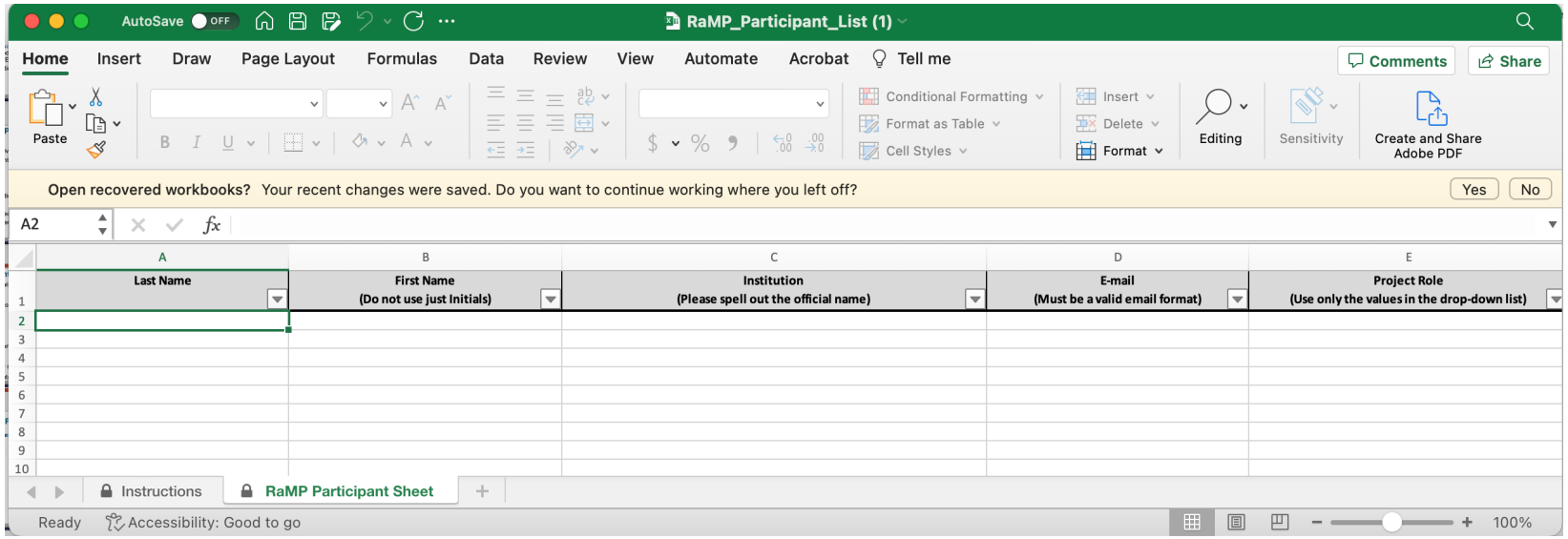
1. Principal Investigator (PI, co-PIs)
2. Project Coordinator
3. Mentors and Co-Mentors
4. Assessor
5. *Postbaccalaureate Participants (Mentees)*

Postbaccalaureates:

- must be U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, or permanent residents of the United States;
- will spend one year developing and executing research projects;
- must have a baccalaureate degree before the start of the fellowship;
- cannot be enrolled in or accepted to graduate school; and
- gain access to diverse career pathways that include research-focused M.S. or Ph.D. programs, industry, federal or state agencies, education and research centers, and other STEM careers.

Combined RaMP Participant List Document

- Includes RaMP **Senior Personnel** (with **mentors** and **co-mentors**)
- Use **template**: https://www.nsf.gov/bio/dbi/RaMP_Participant_List.xlsx



Internal Document
(Not reviewed!)

- Due **February 21st** (2023) by **5:00 p.m.** (the following Tuesday)
- Return to **ramp@nsf.gov**

Budget and Postbaccalaureate Support

- RaMP networks will engage 8-12 postbaccalaureate participants per year for 3 years (to support approximately 30 participants).
- Each participant will be supported by a stipend of at least $32,500 per year.
- The maximum request per eligible network is $3,000,000 for up to 48 months.
- Funds to support research activities, professional development activities, training, travel are detailed in the budget guidelines under proposal preparation.

RaMP Questions & Information

- **Contact email:**
  ramp@nsf.gov
- **Program Site:**
  https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/research-mentoring-postbaccalaureates-biological
- **FAQ NSF 23-045 has been published:**
  https://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf23045
- **DBI Blog:**
  https://dbiblog.nsfbio.com/
- **NSF ETAP:**
  https://www.nsfetap.org/

BIO Blogs

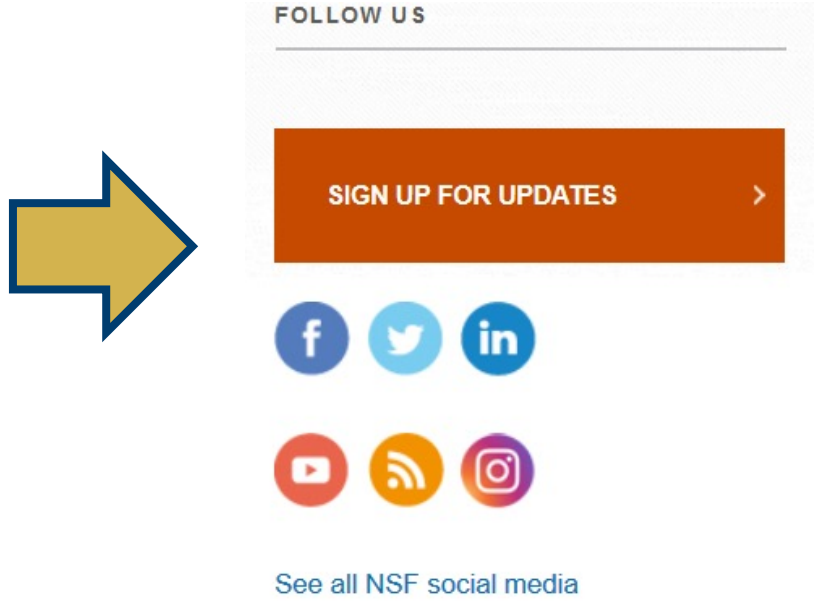
News, features, highlights, and more from OAD and BIO Divisions

- BIO Buzz (OAD): https://oadblog.nsfbio.com/
- **DBInfo (DBI): https://dbiblog.nsfbio.com/**
- DEBrief (DEB): https://debblog.nsfbio.com/
- IOS in Focus (IOS): https://iosblog.nsfbio.com/
- MCB Blog (MCB): https://mcbblog.nsfbio.com/

BIO Newsletter

Sign-up for quarterly emails, including information on new priorities and solicitations, highlights from the community, and more!

Visit www.nsf.gov and scroll down until you see the orange sign-up box, click, and follow the prompts.



Questions and Answers