

Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST)

CREST Supplements and HBCU Research Infrastructure for Science and Engineering (HBCU-RISE)

Program Solicitation

NSF 04-574

Replaces Document NSF 03-579



National Science Foundation

Directorate for Education and Human Resources

Division of Human Resource Development

Full Proposal Deadline(s) (due by 5 p.m. proposer's local time):

March 22, 2005

HBCU-RISE

Supplement Due Date(s):

January 21, 2005

CREST Supplements

REVISIONS AND UPDATES

This revised solicitation announces the fiscal year 2005 HBCU-RISE competition.

The following revisions and updates were incorporated in the previous version of this solicitation.

This solicitation is for fiscal year 2005 CREST supplements and fiscal year 2005 HBCU-RISE proposals. Proposals for the establishment of new CREST centers will not be accepted for the fiscal year 2005 award cycle. HBCU-RISE awards were formerly known as HBCU Doctoral Capacity Building awards.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

General Information

Program Title:

Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST)

CREST Supplements and HBCU Research Infrastructure for Science and Engineering (HBCU-RISE)

Synopsis of Program:

The Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) program makes resources available to significantly enhance the research capabilities of minority-serving institutions through the establishment of centers that effectively integrate education and research. CREST promotes the development of new knowledge, enhancements of the research productivity of individual faculty, and an expanded diverse student presence in STEM disciplines.

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This solicitation requests proposals for CREST supplements and for HBCU Research Infrastructure for Science & Engineering (HBCU-RISE) proposals only. This solicitation does not request proposals for the establishment of new CREST centers.

CREST supplements support the establishment or strengthening of partnerships and collaborations between CREST centers and nationally recognized research centers in areas of mutual research interest and high priority for the CREST institution.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Research Infrastructure for Science and Engineering (HBCU-RISE) supports the development of research capability at HBCUs that offer doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Activities include, but are not limited to, faculty release time, technical support for research, faculty professional development, acquisition or upgrading of research equipment, collaborative research efforts with partner universities and National laboratories.

Cognizant Program Officer(s):

- Victor A. Santiago, Program Director, Directorate for Education & Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, 815 N, telephone: (703) 292-4673, fax: (703) 292-9018, email: vsantiag@nsf.gov
- Toni Edquist, Program Assistant, Directorate for Education & Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, 815 N, telephone: (703) 292-4649, email: tedquist@nsf.gov

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

- 47.076 --- Education and Human Resources

Eligibility Information

- **Organization Limit:**

Proposals for CREST supplements are invited from current CREST centers. A CREST center may have only one active CREST supplement.

HBCU-RISE proposals are invited from Historically Black Colleges and Universities that offer doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines. An institution may have only one active HBCU-RISE award.

- **PI Eligibility Limit:**

Principal Investigators for CREST and HBCU-RISE awards must be United States (U.S.) citizens or nationals, or permanent resident aliens of the U.S. and must be employed by CREST or HBCU-RISE eligible institutions.

- **Limit on Number of Proposals:** 1. Only one supplement proposal per CREST center and one HBCU-RISE proposal per eligible institution may be submitted each fiscal year.

Award Information

- **Anticipated Type of Award:** Standard Grant
- **Estimated Number of Awards:** 10 - Up to 5 CREST supplements and 5 HBCU-RISE standard grants
- **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$500,000 for CREST supplements and \$5,000,000 for HBCU-RISE grants pending the availability of funds

Proposal Preparation and Submission Instructions

A. Proposal Preparation Instructions

- **Full Proposal Preparation Instructions:** This solicitation contains information that deviates from the standard Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) proposal preparation guidelines. Please see the full text of this 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:** Not Applicable.

C. Due Dates

- **Full Proposal Deadline Date(s)** (due by 5 p.m. proposer's local time):
March 22, 2005
HBCU-RISE
- **Supplement Proposals:**
January 21, 2005
CREST Supplements

Proposal Review Information

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

Award Administration Information

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

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Division of Human Resource Development (HRD) has primary responsibility within NSF for broadening participation in

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the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. HRD programs reflect NSF's commitment to developing the resources of the scientific and technological community as a whole and ensuring an adequately trained research and development workforce. To meet the challenges presented by the Nation's accelerating needs in STEM, CREST and HBCU-RISE support efforts to strengthen the STEM research and education capabilities of minority-serving institutions. In doing so, HRD programs contribute to attainment of an outcome goal of the NSF Strategic Plan FY 2003-2008: A diverse, competitive, and globally engaged U.S. workforce of scientists, engineers, technologists and well-prepared citizens.

The HRD programs of the ethnic diversity continuum (Tribal Colleges and Universities Program, Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program, Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation, Model Institutions of Excellence, Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate, the Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology) provide coordinated and integrated approaches to developing and leveraging individual talents and institutional infrastructure in order to increase substantially the number of underrepresented ethnic minorities well prepared for participation and leadership in the STEM workforce. Managed synergistically, these programs enable seamless transitions from undergraduate study at the associate and baccalaureate levels to the attainment of doctoral degrees. These programs also strengthen the research vigor and competitiveness of graduate students and faculty at participating institutions.

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

I. Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) supplements support the establishment or strengthening of partnerships and collaborations between CREST centers and nationally recognized research centers in areas of mutual research interest and high priority for the CREST institution.

Supplemental activities supported by NSF include cooperative efforts between the CREST awardee institution and industry, Federal laboratories or other research and development institutions and organizations both within the local region and nationally. CREST supplemental requests may include support for academic, state, for-profit, and non-profit organizations. It may also include individuals employed by such organizations both inside and outside the CREST institution. Cooperative programs among eligible institutions as well as cooperative programs between eligible institutions and other entities are eligible for CREST support. CREST-supported projects must contribute to and support the achievement of CREST objectives outlined in the synopsis for this solicitation. CREST supplemental funding must add substantial, measurable value to the existing science and technology research capability in areas of high institutional priority; and demonstrate strong potential to generate sustained non-CREST funding from federal, state, or private sector sources. In addition, all activities carried out under a CREST award are subject to the restrictions concerning eligible science and engineering disciplines and activities detailed in the Grant Proposal Guide.

II. HBCU Research Infrastructure for Science and Engineering (HBCU-RISE) supports the development of research capability at Historically Black Colleges and Universities that offer doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Supported projects must have a unifying research focus in one of the research areas supported by NSF, a direct connection to the long-term plans of the STEM department, the institutional mission, and plans for expanding the institutional research capability, and increasing the production of doctoral students. HBCU-RISE funding may, for example, be used to support competitive levels of start-up funding for outstanding new faculty hires with research interests related to the project research focus and acquisition of key equipment and instruments including high performance computing and networking capabilities. HBCU-RISE support should not replace other available federal, state, or institutional resources and should add significant value to the existing institutional strategic plan.

Additional Information

Support may be requested for activities that positively impact the quality of research training and the research preparedness of graduate students in STEM disciplines. Multiple investigator projects are encouraged. Collaborative efforts between universities, industry, research centers, and national laboratories are encouraged. Projects should be designed to enable awardee institutions to enhance the integration of education and research.

Each HBCU-RISE supported project shall convene, at least annually, an External Advisory Group. The function of the External Advisory Group is to provide guidance and advice to the HBCU-RISE project and to ensure that project activities are consistent with its vision, goals, and objectives. Potential members of the HBCU RISE External Advisory Group should be identified in the proposal.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

- Only one CREST supplement request may be submitted per CREST center. A CREST center may have only one active CREST supplement.

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- Only one HBCU-RISE proposal may be submitted per eligible institution. Institutional eligibility for HBCU-RISE is limited to Historically Black Colleges and Universities that offer doctoral degrees in STEM disciplines.
- An institution may have only one active HBCU-RISE (formerly HBCU Doctoral Capacity Building) award.
- HBCU-RISE awardee institutions are eligible for CREST center awards.
- Principal Investigators for CREST and HBCU-RISE awards must be United States (U.S.) citizens or nationals, or permanent resident aliens of the U.S. and must be employed by CREST or HBCU-RISE eligible institutions.
- Priority will be given to those STEM fields where minorities are significantly underrepresented.

IV. AWARD INFORMATION

CREST Supplement Information:

- Up to five **CREST supplements** will be made for a maximum amount of \$100,000 per supplement, in amounts that vary with need and are subject to the availability of funds. A supplement will be an amendment to the existing Cooperative Agreement.

HBCU-RISE Award Information

- Up to five HBCU-RISE awards will be made during this award cycle. Awards will not exceed \$1,000,000 during a three-year period. HBCU-RISE awards will be managed through standard grants. An institution may only have one active HBCU-RISE (formerly HBCU Doctoral Capacity Building) award.

The estimated CREST and HBCU-RISE budgets, number of awards and average award size and duration are subject to the availability of funds.

V. PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

A. Proposal Preparation Instructions

Full Proposal 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). The complete text of the GPG is available electronically on the NSF Website at: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=gpg. Paper copies of the GPG may be obtained from the NSF Publications Clearinghouse, telephone (703) 292-7827 or by e-mail from pubs@nsf.gov.

The following instructions deviate from GPG guidelines.

I. CREST Supplement Proposal Requirements

Proposals for CREST supplements are subject to a limit of eight pages of Project Description and up to four additional pages for Results from Prior NSF Support.

II. HBCU-RISE Proposal Requirements

HBCU-RISE proposals should include an evaluation and assessment plan so that project development and implementation can be monitored at all stages.

Proposers are reminded to identify the program announcement/solicitation number (04-574) in the program announcement/solicitation block on the proposal Cover Sheet. 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:

This document has been archived.

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

C. Due Dates

Proposals must be submitted by the following date(s):

Full Proposal Deadline(s) (due by 5 p.m. proposer's local time):

March 22, 2005

HBCU-RISE

Supplement Date(s):

January 21, 2005

CREST Supplements

D. FastLane Requirements

Proposers are required to prepare and submit all proposals for this announcement/solicitation through the FastLane system. Detailed instructions for proposal preparation and submission via FastLane are available at: <https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/a1/newstan.htm>. For FastLane user support, call the FastLane Help Desk at 1-800-673-6188 or e-mail fastlane@nsf.gov. The FastLane Help Desk answers general technical questions related to the use of the FastLane system. Specific questions related to this program announcement/solicitation should be referred to the NSF program staff contact(s) listed in Section VIII of this announcement/solicitation.

Submission of Electronically Signed Cover Sheets. The Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) must electronically sign the proposal Cover Sheet to submit the required proposal certifications (see Chapter II, Section C of the [Grant Proposal Guide](#) for a listing of the certifications). The AOR must provide the required electronic certifications within five working days following the electronic submission of the proposal. Proposers are no longer required to provide a paper copy of the signed Proposal Cover Sheet to NSF. Further instructions regarding this process are available on the FastLane Website at: <http://www.fastlane.nsf.gov>

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.

The National Science Board approved revised criteria for evaluating proposals at its meeting on March 28, 1997 ([NSB 97-72](#)). All NSF proposals are evaluated through use of the two merit review criteria. In some instances, however, NSF will employ additional criteria as required to highlight the specific objectives of certain programs and activities.

On July 8, 2002, the NSF Director issued [Important Notice 127](#), Implementation of new Grant Proposal Guide Requirements Related to the Broader Impacts Criterion. This Important Notice reinforces the importance of addressing both criteria in the preparation and review of all proposals submitted to NSF. NSF continues to strengthen its internal processes to ensure that both of the merit review criteria are addressed when making funding decisions.

In an effort to increase compliance with these requirements, the January 2002 issuance of the GPG incorporated revised proposal preparation guidelines relating to the development of the Project Summary and Project Description. Chapter II of the GPG specifies that Principal Investigators (PIs) must address both merit review criteria in separate statements within the one-page Project Summary. This chapter also reiterates that broader impacts resulting from the proposed project must be addressed in the Project Description and described as an integral part of the narrative.

Effective October 1, 2002, NSF will return without review proposals that do not separately address both merit review criteria within the Project Summary. It is believed that these changes to NSF proposal preparation and processing guidelines will more clearly articulate the importance of broader impacts to NSF-funded projects.

The two National Science Board approved merit review criteria are listed below (see the [Grant Proposal Guide](#) Chapter III.A for further information). The criteria include considerations that help define them. These considerations are suggestions and not all will apply to any given proposal. While proposers must address both merit review criteria, reviewers will be asked to address only those considerations that are relevant to the proposal being considered and for which he/she is qualified to make judgments.

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?

NSF staff will give careful consideration to the following 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.

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 Ad Hoc and/or 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.

A summary rating and accompanying narrative will be completed and submitted 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 Principal Investigator/Project Director by the Program Director. In addition, the proposer will receive an explanation of the decision to award or decline funding.

NSF is striving to be able to tell proposers whether their proposals have been declined or recommended for funding within six months. The time interval begins on the closing date of an announcement/solicitation, or the date of proposal receipt, whichever is later. 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 their 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 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 Website at <http://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/>. Paper copies may be obtained from the NSF Publications Clearinghouse, telephone (703) 292-7827 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 Website at http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=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 Website 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.

Within 90 days after the expiration of an award, the PI also is required to submit a final project report. Failure to provide final technical reports delays NSF review and processing of pending proposals for the PI and all Co-PIs. PIs should examine the formats of the required reports in advance to assure availability of required data.

PIs are required to use NSF's electronic project reporting system, available through FastLane, for preparation and submission of annual and final project reports. 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 regarding this program should be made to:

- Victor A. Santiago, Program Director, Directorate for Education & Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, 815 N, telephone: (703) 292-4673, fax: (703) 292-9018, email: vsantiago@nsf.gov
- Toni Edquist, Program Assistant, Directorate for Education & Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, 815 N, telephone: (703) 292-4649, email: tedquist@nsf.gov

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For questions related to the use of FastLane, contact:

- Jamie T. Scipio, Program Specialist, Directorate for Education & Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development, 835 N, telephone: (703) 292-4675, fax: (703) 292-9015, email: 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. 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 Website at <http://www.nsf.gov/home/ebulletin>, and in individual program announcements/solicitations. Subscribers can also sign up for NSF's *MyNSF News Service* (<http://www.nsf.gov/mynsf/>) to be notified of new funding opportunities that become available.

Related Programs

- Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program ([NSF-04-603](#))
- Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Program ([NSF-03-520](#))
- Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate ([NSF-04-574](#))
- Engineering Research Centers ([NSF-04-570](#))
- Partnerships for Innovation ([NSF-04-556](#))
- SBIR/STTR Supplemental Funding for Diversity Collaborations ([NSF-04-046](#))

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, although some programs may have special requirements that limit eligibility.

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 GPG Chapter II, Section D.2 for instructions regarding preparation of these types of proposals.

The National Science Foundation promotes and advances scientific progress in the United States by competitively awarding grants and cooperative agreements for research and education in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering.

To get the latest information about program deadlines, to download copies of NSF publications, and to access abstracts of awards, visit the NSF Website at <http://www.nsf.gov>

- **Location:** 4201 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA 22230

- **For General Information** (NSF Information Center): (703) 292-5111

- **TDD (for the hearing-impaired):** (703) 292-5090

- **To Order Publications or Forms:**

Send an e-mail to: pubs@nsf.gov
or telephone: (703) 292-7827

- **To Locate NSF Employees:** (703) 292-5111

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.

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, Division of Administrative Services, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230.

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