

**Deans, Directors, and Department Heads:**

**Please forward this information to the appropriate faculty immediately.**

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## **Institutional Limit on Proposal Submissions**

### **Opportunities for Enhancing Diversity in the Geosciences**

**OEDG Planning Grant Proposals Only**

**NSF 08-605**

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08605/nsf08605.htm>

### **LIMITED SUBMISSION – ONE (1) PER INSTITUTION**

Below is information about the NSF Opportunities for Enhancing Diversity in the Geosciences Planning Grants, NSF 08-605 for 2009. NSF limits the number of proposals an organization can submit, as described above. Therefore, if the number of proposals exceeds that limit, an internal review will be conducted to determine which proposals will be submitted from Mississippi State University.

If you are interested in submitting a proposal to the NSF, please include the information listed below and submit **by 5:00 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2009** to the Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED), electronically to Sandra Harpole at [sharpole@research.msstate.edu](mailto:sharpole@research.msstate.edu) and **copied** to Katie Echols at [kechols@research.msstate.edu](mailto:kechols@research.msstate.edu) in the ORED office:

1. PI/Co-PI Name and Department
2. Title of NSF Grant
3. Title of Proposal
4. Proposal Deadline

Based upon responses, faculty will be notified if there is a need for preproposals. If preproposals are necessary, a committee of faculty members will screen applications and select the nominee(s) to represent the University.

#### **Synopsis of Program:**

The Directorate for Geosciences of the National Science Foundation supports research and education in the Atmospheric, Earth, and Ocean Sciences. The Opportunities for Enhancing Diversity in the Geosciences (OEDG) Program is designed to address the fact that certain groups are underrepresented in the geosciences relative to the proportions of those groups in the general population. The primary goal of the OEDG Program is to increase participation in the geosciences by African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans (American Indians and Alaskan Natives), Native Pacific Islanders (Polynesians or Micronesians), and persons with disabilities. A secondary goal of the program is to increase the perceived relevance of the

geosciences among broad and diverse segments of the population. The OEDG Program supports activities that will increase the number of members of underrepresented groups who:

- Are involved in formal pre-college Geosciences education programs;
- Pursue bachelor, master, and doctoral degrees in the geosciences;
- Enter geosciences careers; and
- Participate in informal geosciences education programs.

***OEDG Planning Grants*** - This new Track supports planning workshops, conferences, symposia and related short-term activities that facilitate either: 1) development of **new** strategic plans to implement systemic, community-wide programs to broaden participation in the geosciences; or, 2) development of **new** partnerships or collaborations between multiple institutions seeking to establish sustainable projects that address the goals of the OEDG program.

**Full NSF Proposal Deadline:** May 1, 2009

**Amount:** OEDG Planning Grant awards are for a maximum duration of 12 months. The maximum allowable funding request under the OEDG Planning Grant Track is \$40,000.