NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM)

PROGRAM SOLICITATION
NSF 12-529

REPLACES DOCUMENT(S):
NSF 09-567

National Science Foundation
Directorate for Education & Human Resources
Division of Undergraduate Education

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

August 14, 2012
August 13, 2013
August 12, 2014

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REVISION NOTES

A revised version of the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG), NSF 13-1, was issued on October 4, 2012 and is effective for proposals submitted, or due, on or after January 14, 2013. Please be advised that the guidelines contained in NSF 13-1 apply to proposals submitted in response to this funding opportunity. Proposers who opt to submit prior to January 14, 2013, must also follow the guidelines contained in NSF 13-1.

Please be aware that significant changes have been made to the PAPPG to implement revised merit review criteria based on the National Science Board (NSB) report, National Science Foundation's Merit Review Criteria: Review and Revisions. While the two merit review criteria remain unchanged (Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts), guidance has been provided to clarify and improve the function of the criteria. Changes will affect the project summary and project description sections of proposals. Annual and final reports also will be affected.

A by-chapter summary of this and other significant changes is provided at the beginning of both the Grant Proposal Guide and the Award & Administration Guide.

Please note that this program solicitation may contain supplemental proposal preparation guidance and/or guidance that deviates from the guidelines established in the Grant Proposal Guide.

Letters of Intent are no longer requested.

Indirect Costs: Please note an important change to the treatment of indirect costs that has been incorporated into the NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) program solicitation. To ensure consistency with NSF-wide policies, proposals submitted to this program solicitation are subject to the awardee’s current Federally negotiated indirect cost agreement.

Please note that indirect costs are in addition to the maximum direct cost request of $600,000.

Important Reminders

PAPPG Changes: A revised version of the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG), NSF 11-1, was issued on October 1, 2010 and is effective for proposals submitted, or due, on or after January 18, 2011. Please be advised that the guidelines contained in NSF 11-1 apply to
proposals submitted in response to this funding opportunity.

**Cost Sharing:** The PAPPG has been revised to implement the National Science Board's recommendations regarding cost sharing. Inclusion of voluntary committed cost sharing is prohibited. In order to assess the scope of the project, all organizational resources necessary for the project must be described in the Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources section of the proposal. The description should be narrative in nature and must not include any quantifiable financial information. Mandatory cost sharing will only be required when explicitly authorized by the NSF Director. See the PAPPG Guide Part I: Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) Chapter II.C.2.g(xi) for further information about the implementation of these recommendations.

**Data Management Plan:** The PAPPG contains a clarification of NSF's long standing data policy. All proposals must describe plans for data management and sharing of the products of research, or assert the absence of the need for such plans. FastLane will not permit submission of a proposal that is missing a Data Management Plan. The Data Management Plan will be reviewed as part of the intellectual merit or broader impacts of the proposal, or both, as appropriate. Links to data management requirements and plans relevant to specific Directorates, Offices, Divisions, Programs, or other NSF units are available on the NSF website at: [http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmp.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmp.jsp). See Chapter II.C.2.j of the GPG for further information about the implementation of this requirement. Guidelines for data management in EHR projects can be found at: [http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmpdocs/ehr.pdf](http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmpdocs/ehr.pdf).

**Postdoctoral Researcher Mentoring Plan:** As a reminder, each proposal that requests funding to support postdoctoral researchers must include, as a supplementary document, a description of the mentoring activities that will be provided for such individuals. Please be advised that if required, FastLane will not permit submission of a proposal that is missing a Postdoctoral Researcher Mentoring Plan. See Chapter II.C.2.j of the GPG for further information about the implementation of this requirement.

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**SUMMARY OF PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

**General Information**

**Program Title:**

NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM)

**Synopsis of Program:**

This program makes grants to institutions of higher education to support scholarships for academically talented students demonstrating financial need, enabling them to enter the STEM workforce or STEM graduate school following completion of an associate, baccalaureate, or graduate-level degree in science, technology, engineering or mathematics disciplines. Grantee institutions are responsible for selecting scholarship recipients, reporting demographic information about student scholars, and managing the S-STEM project at the institution.

The program does not make scholarship awards directly to students; students should contact their institution's Office of Financial Aid for this and other scholarship opportunities.

**Cognizant Program Officer(s):**

*Please note that the following information is current at the time of publishing. See program website for any updates to the points of contact.*

- Joyce B. Evans, Lead Program Director, 835 N, telephone: (703) 292-5098, email: jevans@nsf.gov
- Louis J. Everett, Alternate Lead Program Director, 835, telephone: (703) 292-4645, email: leverett@nsf.gov
• Joseph Grabowski, Alternate Lead Program Director, 835, telephone: (703) 292-4653, email: jgrabows@nsf.gov

Applicable Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number(s):
• 47.076 — Education and Human Resources

Award Information

Anticipated Type of Award: Standard Grant or Continuing Grant

Estimated Number of Awards: 80 to 100

Anticipated Funding Amount: $50,000,000 to $70,000,000 annually, for new and continuing activities, pending availability of funds. Awards are not expected to exceed $600,000 in direct costs. Annual budgets are limited to $225,000 in direct costs.

Eligibility Information

Organization Limit:

Proposals may only be submitted by the following:

• Institutions of higher education (as defined in section 101 (a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965) in the United States and its territories that grant associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degrees in the disciplines listed in section IV.C. are invited to submit proposals.

PI Limit:

The Principal Investigator must be a faculty member currently teaching in one of the S-STEM disciplines who can provide the leadership required to ensure the success of the project. Projects involving more than one department within an institution are eligible, but a single Principal Investigator must accept overall management responsibility. Other members of the S-STEM project management team may be listed as Co-Principal Investigators.

Limit on Number of Proposals per Organization:

An Institution may submit one proposal from each constituent school or college that awards degrees in an eligible field. See Section IV.A. for details.

Limit on Number of Proposals per PI:

None Specified

Proposal Preparation and Submission Instructions

A. Proposal Preparation Instructions

• Letters of Intent: Not Applicable

• Preliminary Proposal Submission: Not Applicable

• Full Proposals: