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UNIVERSITY OF
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COLORADO

Funding Opportunities

NSF Dear Colleague Letter: The Social and Behavioral Science of Bias, Prejudice and Discrimination

Proposals submitted in response to this DCL should be submitted to existing programs, following their guidelines, including program scope and deadlines or target dates.

Synopsis

This DCL seeks transformative research that contributes to the scientific understanding of the genesis, proliferation, management, mitigation, and societal responses to hate-based violence. The Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) directorate encourages research proposals that expand the breadth and depth of scholarship in this area. SBE highly encourages proposals submitted in response to this DCL to plan their research in partnership with communities directly impacted by bias, prejudice, and discrimination such that the experiences and perspectives of those directly impacted by bias and discrimination are reflected in the approach.

The following three strategic directions are of particular interest to SBE programs:

- 1. Bias, prejudice, and discrimination in under-studied contexts and communities** - Research that investigates forms and sources of bias, prejudice, discrimination, and violence towards and in under-studied populations.
- 2. Situating bias, prejudice, and discrimination in context** - Research that situates bias, prejudice, discrimination, and violence within their geographic, economic, societal, sociocultural, institutional, or systemic/structural contexts would broaden understanding of how these behaviors evolve and are expressed in different environments.
- 3. Development of bias, prejudice, and discrimination** - Research on the developmental origins of bias has traditionally relied on early emergent responses (e.g., looking preferences) to make inferences about more advanced socio-cognitive processes that underlie bias (e.g., moral reasoning about social groups, sensitivity to social justice, social stereotyping, the origins of racial prejudice).

[For additional program information, please click here.](#)

NSF Dear Colleague Letter: Leveraging Innovations From Evolution (LIFE)

Proposals responsive to this DCL should be submitted to one of the programs below.

Synopsis

NSF BIO seeks to speed discovery and understanding of biological innovations that hold significant potential for applications in the bioeconomy, including industrial processes, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, energy production, nature-based solutions to climate change, and planetary sustainability and resilience.

LIFE will necessarily require that scientists bridge cultural and intellectual gaps that currently divide some biological sub disciplines, such as those separating molecular and cell biology from systematics and evolutionary biology. In addition, there is a critical need to develop sustainable collaborations, training, and partnerships between biologists focused on fundamental research and those working to harness biological discovery for use-inspired and applied benefit, including scientists in other fields (e.g., engineers, computer scientists, climate and biodiversity policymakers, chemists, and experts in agriculture and industry).

This DCL encourages proposals that use comparative approaches to identify evolutionary convergent adaptations to life's challenges and the mechanisms that underlie them. Proposals should include relevance of the proposed work to inform applications towards a sustainable global bioeconomy.

Principal Investigators (PIs) are strongly encouraged to reach out to a cognizant Program Officer to discuss the topic before submission. Proposals should be submitted to:

- Integrative Research in Biology (IntBIO) track, or directly to the core solicitation in any of the following divisions:
 - [Division of Environmental Biology](#) (currently NSF 23-549)
 - [Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences](#) (currently NSF 23-548)
 - [Division of Integrative Organismal Systems](#) (currently NSF 23-547)
- [Infrastructure Innovation for Biological Research program](#) (currently NSF 23-578)

[For additional program information, please click here.](#)

Department of Education - International Foreign Language Education (IFLE): American Overseas Research Centers (AORC)

Application Deadline: March 26, 2024

Synopsis

The AORC program provides grants to consortia of institutions of higher education in the US to establish or operate an overseas research center (Center) to promote postgraduate research, exchanges, and area studies. AORC grants may be used for all or a portion of the costs to operate and maintain the overseas Center; organize and manage conferences; develop or acquire teaching and research materials; acquire or preserve library collections; bring scholars and faculty to the Center to teach or conduct research; support the salaries for Center staff and visiting faculty and professional development stipends and fellowships; pay the travel costs for Center staff and project participants; and to publish and disseminate materials for the academic community and the public.

[For complete program information, please click here.](#)

NSF Innovations in Graduate Education

Application Deadline: April 22, 2024

Synopsis

The Innovations in Graduate Education (IGE) Program is designed to encourage development and implementation of bold, new, and potentially transformative approaches to STEM graduate education training. The program seeks proposals that: a) explore ways for graduate students in STEM master's and doctoral degree programs to develop the skills, knowledge, and competencies needed to pursue a range of STEM careers; or b) support research on the graduate education system and outcomes of systemic interventions and policies.

The program supports piloting, testing, and validating novel models or activities and examining systemic innovations with high potential to enrich and extend the knowledge base on effective graduate education approaches.

The program addresses both workforce development, emphasizing broad participation, and institutional capacity-building needs in graduate education. Strategic collaborations with the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government agencies, national laboratories, field stations, teaching and learning centers, informal science organizations, and academic partners are encouraged.

[For complete program information, please click here.](#)

NSF Partnership to Advance Conservation Science and Practice

Application Deadlines: April 24, 2024 & December 19, 2024

Synopsis

The objective is to support conservation research that investigates organismal biology, ecology, and/or evolution and is designed to contribute to the development and implementation of evidence-based activities and/or technology solutions to advance biodiversity conservation.

NSF seeks proposals that involve the implementation of conservation activities based on conservation science principles via academic-conservation organization partnerships. The strongest projects will involve ongoing assessment of biodiversity outcomes, for instance via an adaptive management framework, that inform both scientific understanding and conservation actions.

[For complete program information, please click here.](#)

NSF Innovation Corps Hubs Program

Application Deadline: April 25, 2024

Synopsis

I-Corps Hubs are consortia of institutions of higher education with common goals and challenges that collaborate to provide entrepreneurial training to members of the scientific community (students, postdocs, faculty, and other researchers). These collaborating institutions span geographic areas and participate in a Hub to achieve operational excellence and to facilitate interactions with stakeholders in their entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem.

Each Hub has a Lead institution to oversee operational management of the consortium and seven initial Partner institutions that contribute to the success of the Hub objectives, activities, and expected outcomes. A Lead institution may be entirely new to the I-Corps program (Track 2).

In order to build and sustain a diverse and inclusive innovation network, strengthen research and education in the sciences and engineering throughout the US, and avoid undue concentration of such research and education in one region or state, **NSF encourages proposers to develop partnerships that cover geographic areas that have not been previously included in current NSF I-Corps Hubs awards ([Hub Map](#)).**

[For complete program information, please click here.](#)

NSF Sustainable Regional Systems Research Networks

Application Deadline: May 15, 2024

Synopsis

The purpose of the SRS RNs competition is to develop and support interdisciplinary, multi-organizational teams working collaboratively to produce cutting-edge convergent research, education, and outreach that addresses grand challenges in sustainable regional systems. Key elements will include new data, methods, and models to understand interactions between natural, human-built, and social systems; improved understanding of interdependencies, mutual benefits, and trade-offs of different wellbeing outcomes for humans and the environment; new and generalizable theories of change relevant to SRS; the co-production of knowledge; and exploration of concepts of social equity in sustainable regional systems across spatial and temporal scales.

SRS RN outcomes will have the potential to inform societal actions for sustainability across urban systems and the connected rural communities that make up regional systems. Subject to availability of funds and quality of proposals, this SRS RN solicitation will support fundamental convergent research, education, and outreach that addresses engineering, chemistry, biology, geosciences, mathematics, statistics, environmental, data, computational, education, and social, behavioral, and economic sciences of sustainable regional systems in partnerships that may embrace universities, colleges, federal, state, and local governments, tribal communities, non-governmental and international bodies, non-profit organizations, industry, practitioners, and other community groups. The award size is up to \$15 million total with a duration of 5 years.

SRS RNs will conduct innovative and pioneering fundamental research and education that is of a scale and complexity that would not be possible within a single organization, center, or through the normal collaborative modes of NSF research support in core programs.

[For complete program information, please click here.](#)

NEH Media Projects

Applications Available: May 14, 2024; Application Deadline: August 14, 2024

Synopsis

The Media Projects program supports the development, production, and distribution of radio programs, podcasts, documentary films, and documentary film series that engage general audiences with humanities ideas in creative and appealing ways. Projects must be grounded in humanities scholarship and demonstrate an approach that is thoughtful, balanced, and analytical.

Media Projects offers three levels of funding: \$75,000 for Development, \$700,000 for Production, and \$1,000,000 for Chair's Special Awards.

[View a webinar](#) with information about Media Projects grants and tips for applying.

[For complete program information, please click here.](#)

NEH Public Humanities Projects

Applications Available: May 14, 2024; Application Deadline: August 14, 2024

Synopsis

The Public Humanities Projects program supports projects that bring the ideas of the humanities to life for general audiences through public programming. Projects must engage humanities scholarship to analyze significant themes in disciplines such as history, literature, ethics, and art history. Awards support projects that are intended to reach broad and diverse public audiences in non-classroom settings in the United States. Projects should engage with ideas that are accessible to the general public and employ appealing interpretive formats.

Public Humanities Projects supports projects in three categories: Exhibitions, Historic Places, and Humanities Discussions, and at two funding levels: Planning and Implementation. Proposed projects may include complementary components: for example, a museum exhibition might be accompanied by a website or mobile app.

Project topics may be international, national, regional, or local in focus, but locally focused projects should address topics that are of regional or national relevance by drawing connections to broad themes or historical questions.

[For complete program information, please click here.](#)

Federal Agency Announcements

UNC is Partner on NSF Regional Innovation Engine Award: [Colorado-Wyoming Climate Resilience Engine \(CO-WY Engine\)](#)

The National Science Foundation announced that the [Colorado-Wyoming Climate Resilience Engine \(CO-WY Engine\)](#), in which UNC is a partner, is an inaugural NSF Regional Innovation Engine awardee. The CO-WY Engine will initially receive up to \$15 million for the next two years, totaling up to \$160 million over ten years.

Led by [Innosphere Ventures](#), the CO-WY Climate Resilience Engine seeks to position the region as a frontrunner in developing and commercializing climate-resilient and sustainable technologies. These innovations are anticipated to play a vital role in assisting communities nationwide in monitoring, mitigating and adapting to climate-related challenges, including wildfire management, water resource management, agricultural technology, extreme weather mitigation and earth sensing.

Partners on the project include the Colorado School of Mines, University of Wyoming, University of Colorado Boulder, **the University of Northern Colorado**, and University of Colorado Denver. Workforce development efforts will be led by the community college systems of Colorado and Wyoming, along with Metropolitan State University of Denver and TalentCO. Other support comes from five federal labs, tribal communities, and a collection of industry partners in both states that will be involved in the project.

[Click here for the CO-WY Engine website.](#)

Issuance of 2024 Revised Version of the NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG) (NSF 24-1)

NSF announced that a revised version of the NSF [Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide \(PAPPG\) \(NSF 24-1\)](#) has been issued. The new PAPPG **will be effective for proposals submitted or due on or after May 20, 2024.**

Please review the by-chapter [Summary of Changes](#) provided in the new PAPPG.

NSF will present information about these changes in a **webinar on March 12th at 2PM EST**. Sign up on the [Policy Office outreach website](#) to be notified once registration opens.

NSF and Other Agencies Launch New Federal AI Resources Initiative

The National Science Foundation (NSF) recently announced the launch of the National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource (NAIRR) pilot, a collaborative effort across 11 federal agencies and 25 private sector organizations. The NAIRR pilot will provide access to advanced computing, datasets, models, software, training and user support to U.S.-based researchers and educators in order to strengthen and democratize resources that can power responsible AI discovery and innovation.

[Click here for additional information.](#)

Department of Education Releases 2024 National Educational Technology Plan

The U.S. Department of Education released the 2024 National Educational Technology Plan (NETP): *A Call to Action for Closing the Digital Access, Design and Use Divides*. The 2024 NETP frames three key divides limiting the transformational potential of educational technology to support teaching and learning, including:

- The Digital Use Divide, addressing opportunities to improve how students use technology to enhance their learning, including dynamic applications of technology to explore, create, and engage in critical analysis of academic content and knowledge;
- The Digital Design Divide, addressing opportunities for educators to expand their professional learning and build the capacities necessary to design learning experiences enabled by technology; and
- The Digital Access Divide, addressing opportunities for students and educators to gain equitable access to educational technology, including connectivity, devices, and digital content. This also includes accessibility and digital health, safety, and citizenship as key elements of digital access.

[Click here for more information and to download the plan.](#)

NEH Announces \$33.8 Million in Humanities Awards

The National Endowment for the Humanities announced [\\$33.8 million in grants for 260 humanities projects across the country](#). This funding cycle includes the first round of awards made under NEH's new Public Impact Projects at Smaller Organizations grant program which assists small and mid-sized cultural organizations—particularly those in underserved communities—in strengthening public humanities programming.

[A full list of grants by geographic location is available here.](#)



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