Announcement from the Office for Sponsored Programs

Request for Interest in proposal submission

Date: August 31, 2012

To: Research Faculty

RE: Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) in Engineering and Computer Science Program Solicitation 11-509

The National Science Foundation has limited the number of submissions to three (3) per institution for the above referenced program solicitation. From the solicitation:

Limit on Number of Proposals per Organization: 3
Three site proposals may be submitted per competition by a U.S. academic institution, College/Department of Engineering, Engineering Technology, or Computer and Information Science as the lead institution.

We would like to determine if there is a need for an internal white paper competition.

The full proposal is due October 1, 2012. The annual due date is the first Monday in October.


Please email Angie Shotts at ashotts@fa.ua.edu indicating interest by 5:00p.m. Friday, September 7, 2012. The subject line should indicate “RET.” Please copy the Associate Dean for Research in your college and include a return receipt request to ensure email delivery and receipt.

Should an internal competition with a white paper submission be necessary, you will be notified of the process and due date for the white paper as soon as possible after deadline for interest notification. Please contact Angie Shotts, Office for Sponsored Programs at 348-8070 or your respective Associate Dean for Research if you have any questions.

Synopsis of Program:
The Directorate for Engineering (ENG) and the Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE), Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) in Engineering and Computer Science program supports the active involvement of K-12 science, technology, engineering, computer and information science, and mathematics (STEM) teachers and community college faculty in engineering and computer science research in order to bring knowledge of engineering, computer science, and technological innovation into their classrooms. The goal is to help build long-term collaborative partnerships between K-12 STEM teachers, community college faculty, and the NSF university research community by involving the teachers and community college faculty in engineering and computer science research and helping them translate their research experiences and new knowledge into classroom activities. Partnerships with inner city schools or other high needs schools are especially encouraged, as is participation by underrepresented minorities, women, and persons with disabilities. This announcement features two mechanisms for support of in-service and pre-service K-12 STEM teachers and community college faculty: RET supplements to ongoing ENG or CISE awards and new RET Site awards. RET supplements may be included in proposals for new
or renewed NSF Directorate for Engineering (ENG) or CISE grants or as supplements to ongoing NSF ENG or CISE funded projects. RET in Engineering and Computer Science Sites are based on independent proposals from engineering or computer and information science departments, schools or colleges to initiate and conduct research participation projects for a number of K-12 STEM teachers and/or community college faculty.