

Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Campus Center, Room H-313C, Tele. Ext. 3215

Just posted...

Following are four program announcements issued by Federal agencies over the past week, followed by news of a valuable new search tool that should be of interest to all prospective NIH grant applicants.

• **Strengthening American Infrastructure (SAI), National Science Foundation**

Application due dates: Conference proposals: November 30, 2020. Concept Outlines for EAGER proposals: December 11, 2020.

EAGER Proposals (with authorization to submit): January 15, 2021

URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505847

Posted: November 13. The National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks to stimulate fundamental exploratory, potentially transformative research that strengthens America's infrastructure. Effective infrastructure, whether it be physical, cyber, or social, provides a strong foundation for socioeconomic vitality and broad quality of life improvement. Strong, reliable, and effective infrastructure spurs private-sector innovation, grows the economy, creates jobs, makes public-sector service provision more efficient, strengthens communities, promotes equal opportunity, protects the natural environment, enhances national security, and fuels American leadership. To achieve these goals requires expertise from across the science and engineering disciplines. In particular, knowledge of human reasoning and decision making, governance, and social and cultural processes are essential to efforts to envision, build, and maintain an effective infrastructure that improves lives and society and builds on advances in technology and engineering.

NSF seeks to build research capacity that can address these and many other challenging infrastructure contexts that require a human- and-social-centered approach. SAI supports conference and EAGER proposals that will bring together experts across disciplines to support substantial and potentially path breaking, untested fundamental research grounded in user-centered concepts and offering the potential to substantially improve or transform the design, use, development, cost-effectiveness, or maintenance of U.S. infrastructure. These proposals should include a central focus on at least one SBE program area with the lead PI being an expert in social, behavioral, or economic science. Proposals must also demonstrate an interdisciplinary approach beyond that of any single Program or NSF Directorate. NSF is particularly interested in proposals that integrate a deep understanding of human cognition, perception, information processing, decision making, social and cultural behavior, legal frameworks, governmental structures, and related areas into the design, development, and sustainability of infrastructure. Infrastructure may be of any kind, including cyber, economic, educational, physical, and social.

• **Stephen I. Katz Early Stage Investigator Research Project Grant (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

National Institutes of Health (List of participating Institutes appears below).

Application due dates: January 26, 2021; May 26, 2021; September 28, 2021; January 26, 2022; May 26, 2022;

September 27, 2022; January 26, 2023; May 26, 2023; September 26, 2023.

URL: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-21-038.html>

Posted November 9. The purpose of the new Stephen I. Katz Early Stage Investigator Research Project Grant is to provide a new pathway for Early Stage Investigators (ESIs) who wish to propose research projects in a new direction for which preliminary data do not exist. This research grant program has been named in honor of the late National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) Director, Stephen I. Katz, M.D., Ph.D. The program is open to a broad range of scientific research relevant to the mission of the participating NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs) cited below. Proposed projects must represent a change in research direction for the ESI and should be innovative and unique. A distinct feature for this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is that applications must not include preliminary data. Applications including preliminary data will be considered noncompliant and withdrawn from consideration.

Participating Institutes include: National Cancer Institute (NCI); National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH); National Eye Institute (NEI); National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI); National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI); National Institute on Aging (NIA); National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA); National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID); National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS); National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB); National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD); National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD); National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR); National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK); National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA);

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS); National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH); National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD); National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS); National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); National Library of Medicine (NLM). All applications to this funding opportunity announcement should fall within the respective missions of the Institutes/Centers. The following NIH Offices may co-fund applications assigned to those Institutes/Centers: Division of Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives, Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH). Ed. Note: The National Institute on General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) is presently not included among participating Institutes.

• National Student Design Competition Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Application due date: February 9, 2021

URL: <https://www.epa.gov/P3/18th-annual-p3-awards-national-student-design-competition-focusing-people-prosperity-and-planet-0>

Posted November 13. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as part of its People, Prosperity and the Planet (P3) Award Program – is seeking applications proposing to research, develop, design, and demonstrate solutions to real world challenges. The P3 competition highlights the use of scientific principles in creating innovative technology-based projects that achieve the mutual goals of improved quality of life, economic prosperity and protection of the planet – people, prosperity, and the planet. The EPA offers the P3 competition to respond to the environmental and human health protection needs of people in the United States, including those in small, rural, tribal and/or disadvantaged communities. Please see the P3 Student Design Competition website for more details about this program. Proposed projects must embody the P3 approach, which is that they have the intention and capability to simultaneously improve the quality of people's lives, provide economic benefits and protect the environment.

• Vision and Change in Undergraduate Biology Education, National Science Foundation

Application due date: March 1, 2021.

URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505859

Posted November 10. The National Science Foundation's (NSF's) Division of Undergraduate Education (DUE) in the Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR) acknowledges the need to expand and chronicle educational change efforts across the nation. To this end, DUE invites proposals to study the impact of the Vision and Change (V&C) movement in Undergraduate Biology Education. Specifically, this program seeks to support projects that evaluate a combination of factors such as the awareness, acceptance, adoption, and adaptation of V&C principles and outcomes including changes in curriculum, laboratories, and student retention, completion, and learning. Collectively, results of these projects are anticipated to describe the nature and extent of V&C's use within the undergraduate biology curriculum. The projects could also describe key factors and approaches taken by the V&C community that have the potential to be useful for improving undergraduate education in other scientific disciplines or in interdisciplinary STEM education.

Important News for Prospective NIH Grant Applicants: “Matchmaker”

The National Institutes of Health is vast, and placing your grant application in the most appropriate reviewers' hands is important.

Are you familiar with the agency's “Matchmaker” tool located within the online RePORTER database? Matchmaker is a new extension of the NIH RePORTER system that makes it easy to find similar projects already funded by the NIH – awards you should know about. The Matchmaker search interface is just one box – one field – in which you can place up to 15,000 characters of your scientific text. When you click submit, Matchmaker will analyze your text for relevant terms and concepts and compare those terms and concepts to other funded research projects from the NIH. Once this comparison is complete, Matchmaker will return the one hundred most similar projects, as well as display a graphical bar chart summary of the results by NIH Institute or Center, Activity Code, and Study Section. Below the charts, projects are listed in decreasing similarity, as indicated here by the match score.

Unfamiliar with RePORTER or Matchmaker? No problem, the ORSP would be glad to provide an assist. Drop a line (murphyt@oldwestbury.edu). ORSP can get things started for you or we can schedule a shared-screen Zoom.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs serves the College at Old Westbury in the dual roles of promoting grant-supported scholarly activity and assisting in the administration and management of sponsored programs. Consequently, the Office reports to both the Office of Academic Affairs and the Division of Business & Finance.



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