Grant Title: RESEARCH IN DISABILITIES EDUCATION

Funding Opportunity Number: 09-508. CFDA Number(s): 47.076.

Agency/Department: National Science Foundation, Directorate for Education & Human Resources, Division of Human Resource Development.

Area of Research: Broaden the participation and achievement of people with disabilities in all fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and associated professional careers.


Amount: Award Ceiling: $3,000,000. Award Floor: $200,000. Alliance proposals - up to a total of $3,000,000. Research proposals - up to $450,000. Demonstration, Enrichment or Dissemination proposals - up to $200,000. Innovation through Institutional Integration projects - up to five years, in amounts of up to $250,000 per year. Innovation through Institutional Integration awards will be made as continuing grants. NSF expects to fund 1-2 Alliance proposals, 5-8 Research proposals, 2-14 Demonstration, Enrichment or Dissemination proposals per year, and 12 Innovation through Institutional Integration proposals in each of FY 2009 and FY 2010.

Length of Support: Alliance proposals, Innovation through Institutional Integration projects: Up to five years. Research proposals: Up to three years. Demonstration, Enrichment or Dissemination proposals: Up to two years.

Eligible Applicants: For the Alliance, Research and Demonstration, Enrichment or Dissemination tracks: Non-profit, non-academic organizations associated with educational or research activities, and universities and colleges. Eligibility for Innovation through Institutional Integration (I3) is limited to institutions of higher education accredited, and having a campus located in the US. If the proposal is exclusively for I3 STEM educational or related research, then all categories of proposers identified in the NSF Grant Proposal Guide are eligible to submit.

Summary: The Research in Disabilities Education (RDE) program seeks to broaden the participation and achievement of people with disabilities in all fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and associated professional careers. The RDE program has been funding this objective since 1994 under the prior name "Program for Persons with Disabilities." Particular emphasis is placed on contributing to the knowledge base by addressing disability related differences in secondary and post-secondary STEM learning and in the educational, social and pre-professional experiences that influence student interest, academic performance, retention in STEM degree programs, STEM degree completion, and career choices. Projects also investigate effective practices for transitioning students with disabilities across critical academic junctures, retaining students in undergraduate and graduate STEM degree programs, and graduating students with STEM associate, baccalaureate and graduate degrees. Research project results inform the delivery of innovative, transformative and successful practices employed by the Alliances for Students with Disabilities in STEM to increase the number of students with disabilities completing associate, undergraduate and graduate degrees in STEM and to increase the number of students with disabilities entering our nation's science and engineering workforce. RDE projects contribute to closing the gaps occurring for people with disabilities in STEM fields by successfully disseminating findings, project evaluation results, and proven good practices and products to the public. For Fiscal Year 2010 proposals are being solicited in nine EHR programs that advance I3 goals: CREST, GSE, HBCU-UP, ITEST, LSAMP, MSP, Noyce, RDE, and TCUP.