



National Science Foundation  
4201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, Virginia 22230

## CBET 15001

### **Dear Colleague Letter: Division of Chemical, Biological, Environmental, and Transport Systems (CBET) - Employment Opportunities for Program Director Positions (Open Until Filled)**

Date: April 20, 2015

Dear Colleague:

The Division for the Chemical, Biological, Environmental, and Transport Systems (CBET), within the Directorate for Engineering (ENG), National Science Foundation, announces a nationwide search for engineering professionals to fill Program Director positions.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the Agency's overall mission. To discharge this responsibility requires not only knowledge in the appropriate disciplines, but also a commitment to high standards, a considerable breadth of interest and receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, good judgment, excellent communication skills (both oral and written), and a high degree of personal integrity.

Formal consideration of applications will begin on May 18, 2015 and will continue until selections are made.

Applicants should have a Ph.D. or equivalent training in a field of engineering plus after award of the Ph.D., six or more years of successful independent research or research administration (for IPA, academic rank of associate professor or higher). The position requires a broad knowledge of the relevant disciplinary areas of the Division of Chemical, Biological, Environmental and Transport Systems and knowledge of the general scientific community. Experience working within a team environment and some administrative skills (budget, people) are needed. Appointees are expected to function effectively both within their specific program and as a member of crosscutting and interactive teams. Skills in multidisciplinary research are highly desirable.

The Division of Chemical, Biological, Environmental and Transport Systems seeks applicants for three programs:

- Process and Reaction Engineering
- Combustion and Fire Systems
- Energy for Sustainability

Program Director positions recruited under this announcement may be filled under one of the following appointment options:

**Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment:** Individuals eligible for an IPA assignment with a Federal agency include employees of State and local government agencies or institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments, and other eligible organizations in instances where such assignments would be of mutual benefit to the organizations involved. Initial assignments under IPA

provisions may be made for a period up to two years, with a possible extension for up to an additional two-year period. The individual remains an employee of the home institution and NSF provides the negotiated funding toward the assignee's salary and benefits. Initial IPA assignments are made for a one-year period and may be extended by mutual agreement. For additional information regarding IPA positions, please visit the NSF website at: [http://www.nsf.gov/about/career\\_opps/rotators/ipa.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps/rotators/ipa.jsp).

**Visiting Scientist Appointment:** Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Visiting Scientists are on non-paid leave status from their home institutions and placed on the NSF payroll. NSF withholds Social Security taxes and pays the home institution's contributions to maintain retirement and fringe benefits (i.e., health benefits and life insurance), either directly to the home institutions or to the carrier. Appointments are usually made for a one-year period and may be extended for an additional year by mutual agreement.

**Temporary Excepted Service Appointment:** Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Candidates who do not have civil service or reinstatement eligibility will not obtain civil service status if selected. Candidates currently in the competitive service will be required to waive competitive civil service rights if selected. Usual civil service benefits (retirement, health benefits, and life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year. Temporary appointments may not exceed three years.

For additional information on SF's rotational programs, please see "Programs for Scientists, Engineers, and Educators" on the NSF website at [http://www.nsf.gov/about/career\\_opps/rotators/](http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps/rotators/).

Applications will be accepted from US Citizens. Recent changes in Federal Appropriations Law require Non-Citizens to meet certain eligibility criteria to be considered. Therefore, Non-Citizens must certify eligibility by signing and attaching this [Citizenship Affidavit](#) to their application. Non-citizens who do not provide the affidavit at the time of application will be considered for IPA only. We also ask that you complete and submit the [Applicant Survey Form](#). This will help NSF to ensure that our recruiting efforts are attracting a diverse candidate pool; it will be used for statistical purposes only.

Should you or your colleagues be interested in this position, or wish to nominate suitable candidates, please email a current CV accompanied by a cover letter highlighting the background that specifically relates to the program objectives to:

Maria Burka, Program Director (for **Combustion and Fire Systems**)  
Division of Chemical, Biological, Environmental and Transport Systems  
Directorate for Engineering  
National Science Foundation  
4201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, VA 22230  
Phone: (703) 292-7030  
Email: [mburka@nsf.gov](mailto:mburka@nsf.gov)

Robert McCabe, Program Director (for **Process and Reaction Engineering**)  
Division of Chemical, Biological, Environmental and Transport Systems  
Directorate for Engineering  
National Science Foundation  
4201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, VA 22230  
Phone: (703) 292-4826  
Email: [rmccabe@nsf.gov](mailto:rmccabe@nsf.gov)

Bruce Hamilton, Program Director (for **Energy for Sustainability**)  
Division of Chemical, Biological, Environmental and Transport Systems  
Directorate for Engineering  
National Science Foundation  
4201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, VA 22230  
Phone: (703) 292-4826  
Email: [bhamilto@nsf.gov](mailto:bhamilto@nsf.gov)

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A HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF THAT REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF OUR NATION.**