Recently, as part of the bill that funds the National Science Foundation (NSF) for FY 2017, Congress directed NSF to establish a new program to support Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) and encouraged NSF to use this program “to build capacity at institutions of higher education that typically do not receive high levels of NSF funding.” In response, NSF released a Dear Colleague Letter announcing its intention to establish such a program in FY 2018 and inviting the submission of conference proposals to identify challenges and opportunities regarding undergraduate STEM education at 2-year and 4-year HSIs.

In addition to the advice NSF will receive from these conference projects, the agency wishes to further engage the HSI academic community in the conversation. Therefore, NSF plans to hold three virtual listening sessions in mid-August 2017 (details below). Each session will accommodate up to 150 participants, so we ask that each institution limit its participation to no more than 3 faculty/staff members.

The session dates are as follows:

**August 15, 2017 (Tuesday) for two-year colleges only**
**August 16, 2017 (Wednesday) for 4-year institutions only**
**August 18, 2017 (Friday) for both 2-year and 4-year HSIs**

Schedule below shows EDT times for all meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start time (EDT)</th>
<th>End Time (EDT)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>12:10 pm</td>
<td>Meeting starts with: Introductory remarks by NSF staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10 pm</td>
<td>2:50 pm</td>
<td>Open Discussion- with facilitator providing the guiding statement and moderating Q &amp; A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:50 pm</td>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>Closing remarks- NSF staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prior to the sessions, please access ([https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EHRHSICriticalNeeds](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EHRHSICriticalNeeds)) which describes topics that will guide the listening session.

The sessions are audio only and operator-assisted.

WebEx ([https://nsf.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=nsf](https://nsf.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=nsf)) will be used for registration purposes only. If you do not see the event listed please click “Event Center” from the menu bar. Register to one of the three options (August 15- 2 year colleges only, August 16- 4 year institutions, August 18 both 2-year and 4-year institutions). Following registration, instructions for accessing the audio conference will be sent to you via WebEx.
Registration is limited to 150 participants per session. Please select only one date. Registration will be open for up to two weeks or until the registration limits are reached.

For additional information regarding the listening session, please email: nsf-ehr-hsi@nsf.gov. Interested participants who are unable to attend a listening session may access https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EHRHSICriticalNeeds to provide feedback to NSF.

From the

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National Science Foundation
Directorate for Education and Human Resources
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