

# **Office of Integrative Activities National Science Foundation**

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## ***Overview of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program***

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**<http://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/programs/mri/>**

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# ***National Science Foundation***

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- **Is an Independent Agency of the Federal Government.**
- **Was established in 1950 to promote and advance scientific progress in the United States by sponsoring scientific research and by supporting selected activities in science and engineering.**
- **Does not conduct research itself.**

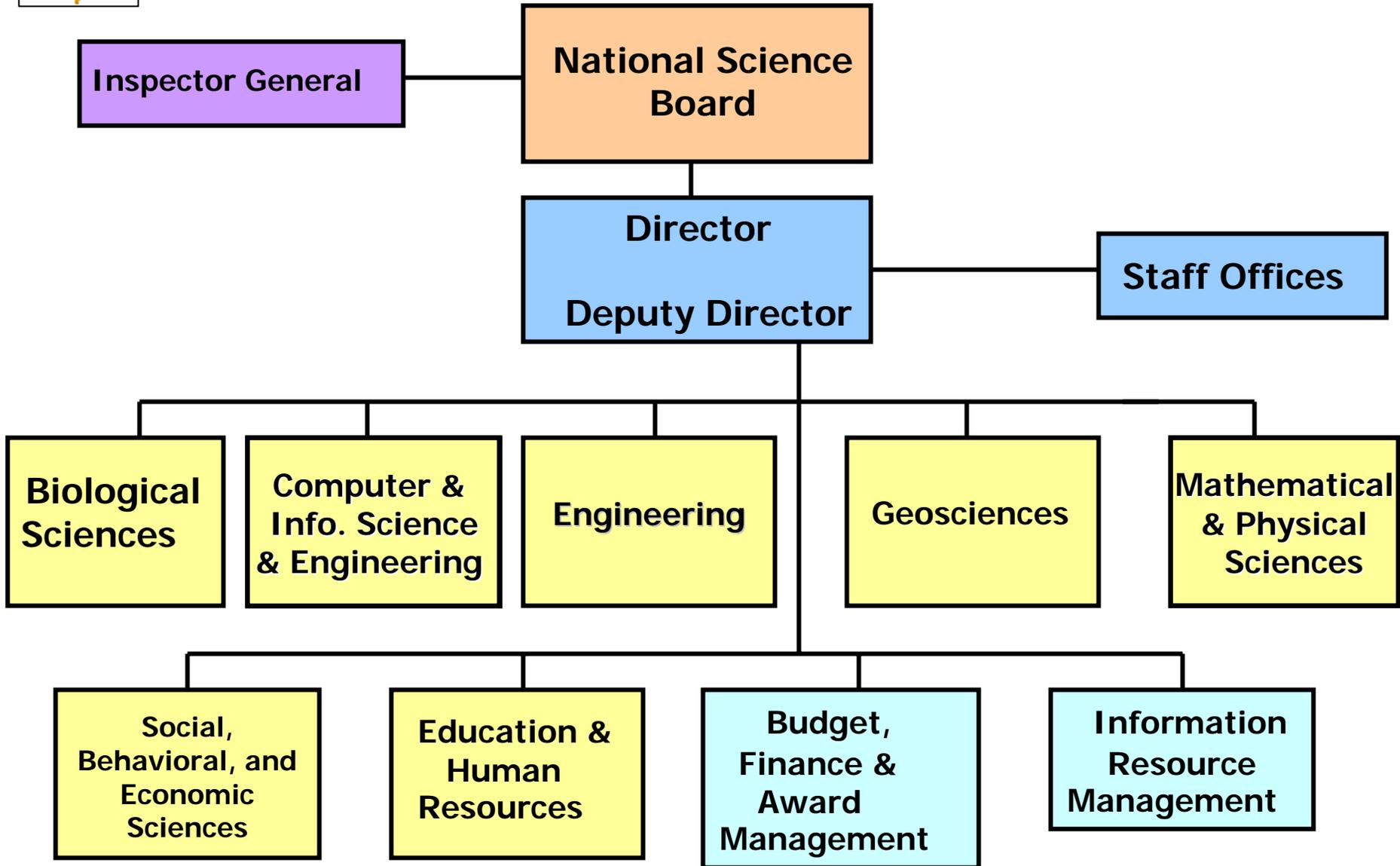


*Enabling the nation's future  
through discovery, learning  
and innovation.*





# National Science Foundation



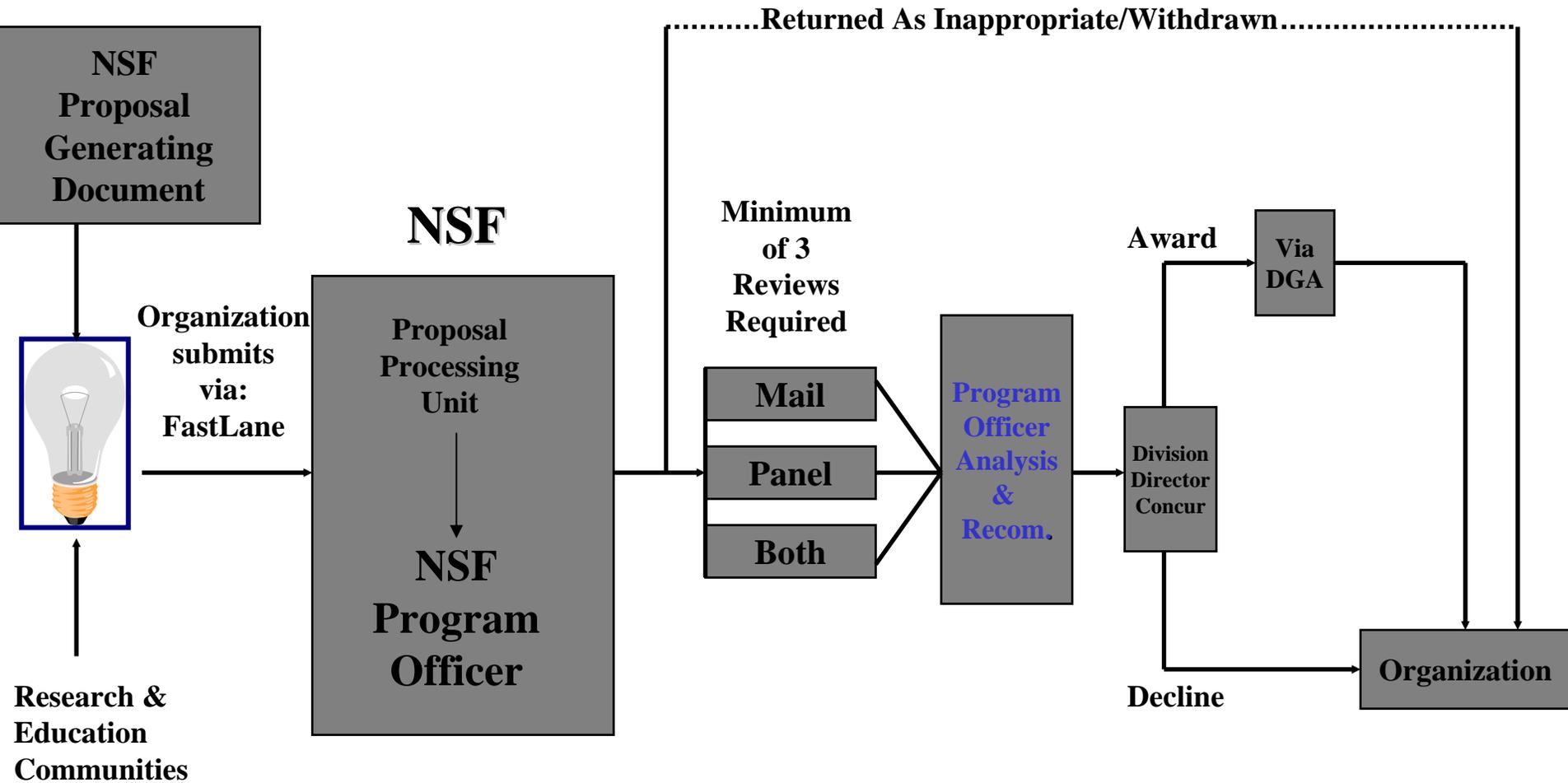
# *What to Look for in a Program Announcement*

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- **Goal of program**
- **Eligibility**
- **Special requirements**



# NSF Proposal & Award Process & Timeline



**Proposal Receipt at NSF**

**DD Concur**

**Award**

**90 Days**

**6 Months**

**30Days**

**Proposal Preparation Time**

**Proposal Receipt to Division Director Concurrence of Program Officer Recommendation**

**DGA Review & Processing of Award**

# Getting Support in Proposal Writing

- **NSF Publications**
  - Program Announcements
  - Grant Proposal Guide
  - Web Pages
  - Funded Project Abstracts
  - Reports, Special Publications
- **Program Officers**
  - Incumbent
  - Former “Rotators”
- **Mentors on Campus**
- **Previous Panelists**
- **Serve As Reviewer**
- **Sponsored Research Office**
- **Successful Proposals**



# ***MRI: Purpose***

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- The MRI program is designed to increase access to scientific and engineering equipment for research and research training in U.S. academic institutions.
- The MRI program seeks to improve the quality and expand the scope of research and research training in science and engineering, and to foster the integration of research and education by providing instrumentation for research-intensive learning environments.
- The MRI program encourages the development and acquisition of research instrumentation for shared use across academic departments, among research institutions, and in concert with private sector partners.



# MRI: Eligible Institutions

- Ph.D. granting institutions
  - academic institutions that have produced more than 20 Ph.D.s or D. Sci.'s in all NSF supported disciplines during the previous two academic years
- Non-Ph.D. granting institutions
  - two and four year colleges and universities that have produced fewer than 20 Ph.D.s or D.Sci.'s in all NSF supported disciplines during the previous two academic years
- Non-degree granting institutions
  - independent non-profit research institutions, research museums, and legally incorporated consortia of eligible institutions



# ***MRI: FY 2005 Overview***

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- **Instrumentation Acquisition or Development**
- **Two proposals for acquisition or development; a third for development. An institution may be part of a consortium**
- **Award size--\$100,000 to \$2 Million**
  - **(exceptions for non-Ph.D. granting institutions and for mathematical and social, behavioral and economic sciences)**
- **Cost sharing--None required**
- **Deadline for proposal submission: January 27, 2005**



# ***MRI: Evaluation Criteria***

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## **➤ NSB Approved Merit Review Criteria:**

- **Intellectual merit of the proposed activity**
- **Broader impacts of the proposed activity**
  - **including integration of research and education and integrating diversity into the proposed activities**

## **➤ Additional Considerations:**

- **Plans for using the new or enhanced research capability in teaching, training or learning.**
- **For instrument acquisition proposals, management plan. Specifically, reviewers will evaluate whether the plan: 1) includes sufficient infrastructure and technical expertise to allow effective usage of the instrument; and 2) provides institutional commitments for operations and maintenance.**
- **For instrument development proposals, management plan. Specifically, reviewers will evaluate whether the plan has a realistic schedule and mechanisms to deal with potential risks. In addition, the reviewers will evaluate the availability of appropriate technical expertise to design and construct the instrument and the cost of the new technology.**
- **For instrument development, rationale for development of a new instrument.**



# ***MRI: Other Review Considerations***

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- **Integration of Research and Education**
  - **A principle strategy in support of NSF's goals**
- **Integrating Diversity into NSF Programs, Projects, and Activities**
  - **NSF is committed to the principle of diversity**
- **PIs are expected to address these issues in their proposal so that reviewers can fully respond to both NSF merit review criteria.**



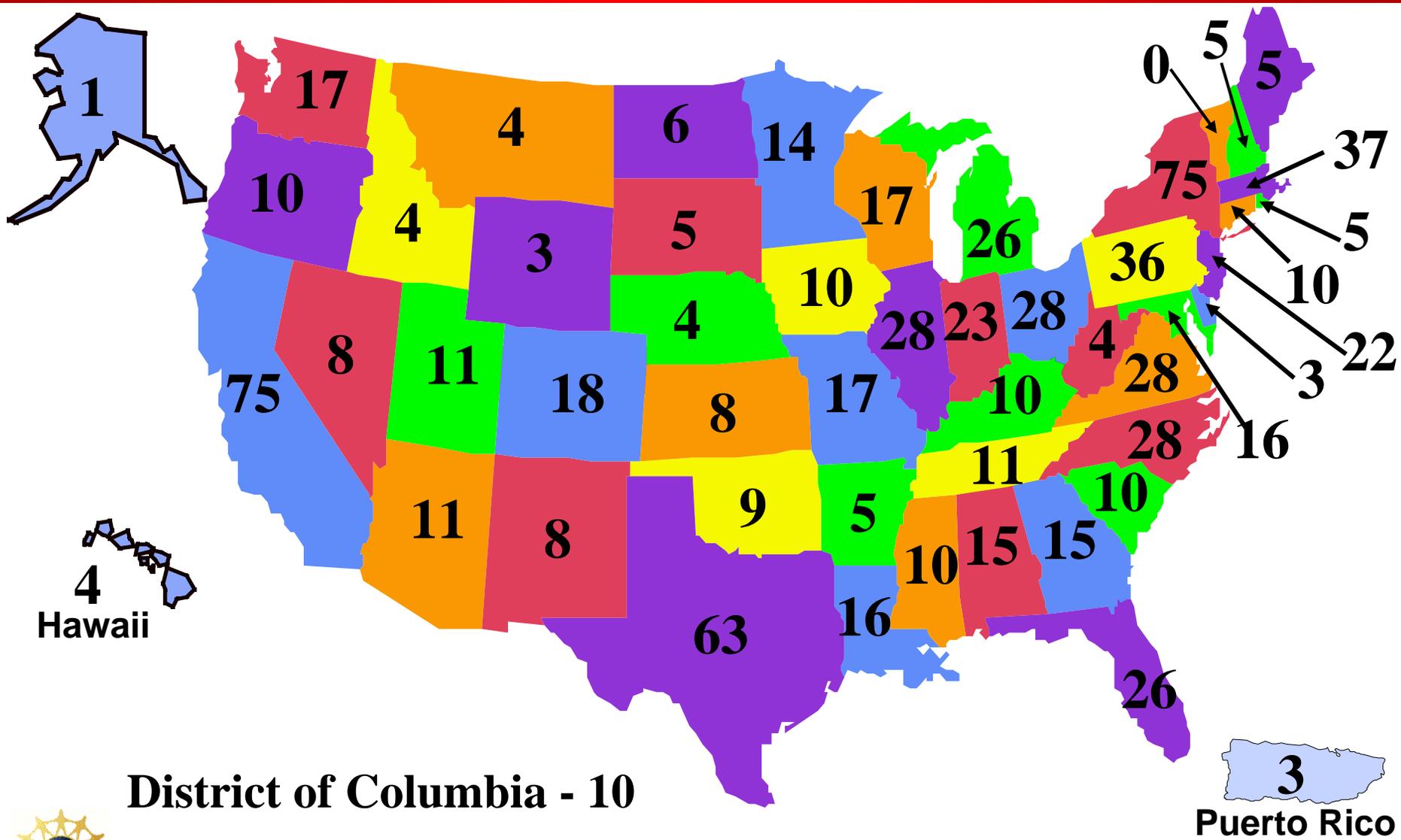
# ***FY 2004\* Snapshot***

- **Number of Proposals Submitted: 837**
- **Dollars Requested: \$420,830,423**
- **Number of Awards: 326**
- **Dollars Awarded: \$112,264,545**
- **Success Rate: 39%**
- **Average Award: \$344,370**
- **Number of States that Participated: 51<sup>^</sup>**
- **Number of Institutions that Participated: 464**
- **Number of Institutions Awarded: 260**

<sup>^</sup>includes Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia; all states but Vermont



# FY 2004\* Proposals by State



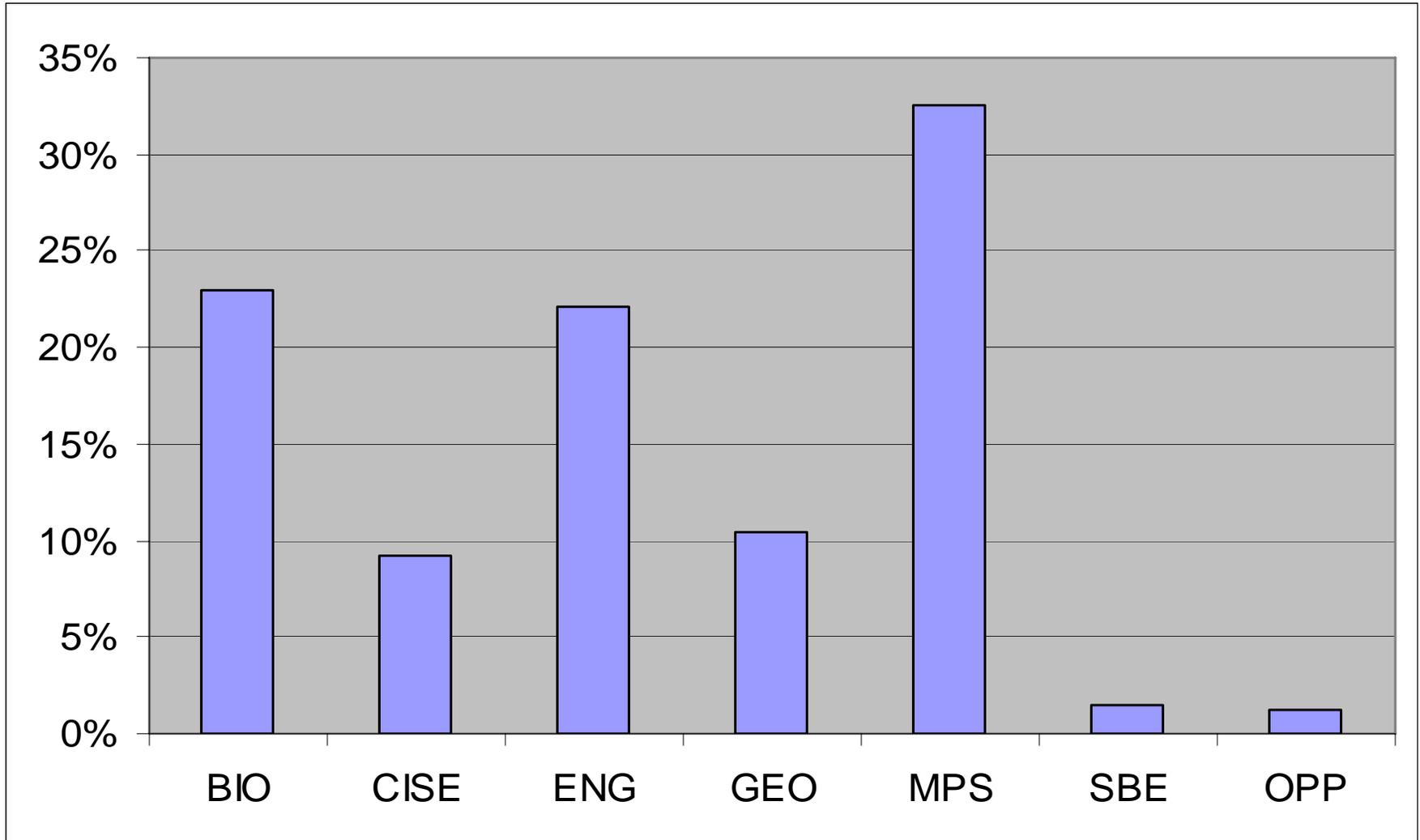
District of Columbia - 10

Puerto Rico - 3





# ***FY 2004\* Awards by Directorate***



# ***MRI Proposal and Award Information by Fiscal Year (FY 1998-2004)***

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b># Proposals</b>	<b>\$ Requested</b>	<b># Awards</b>	<b>Total NSF Funding</b>
1998	479	\$248,512,726	165	\$56,363,744
1999	472	\$261,520,174	166	\$56,772,169
2000	476	\$251,903,360	156	\$53,138,543
2001	741	\$304,336,164	310	\$78,569,885
2002	692	\$296,392,238	279	\$81,624,367
2003	757	\$351,730,466	280	\$91,031,431
2004*	837	\$420,830,423	326	\$112,264,545
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>4,454</b>	<b>\$2,135,225,551</b>	<b>1,682</b>	<b>\$529,764,684</b>



# ***MRI: Non Ph.D. Granting Institutions***

## **➤ FY 2002**

- Number of Proposals Submitted: 251**
- Dollars Requested: \$56,893,260**
- Number of Awards: 130**
- Dollars Awarded: \$24,603,625**
- Success Rate: 52%**
- Average Award: \$189,259**
- Number of States Represented: 45<sup>^</sup>**
- Number of Institutions Represented: 188**

## **➤ FY 2004\***

- Number of Proposals Submitted: 311**
- Dollars Requested: \$160,417,484**
- Number of Awards: 128**
- Dollars Awarded: \$45,432,193**
- Success Rate: 42%**
- Average Award: \$354,939**
- Number of States Represented: 44<sup>^</sup>**
- Number of Institutions Represented: 253**

<sup>^</sup>includes Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia

\*incomplete: 9/28/2004



# ***MRI: Non Ph.D. Granting Institutions***

## **➤ FY 2003**

- Number of Proposals Submitted: 311**
- Dollars Requested: \$96,539,247**
- Number of Awards: 130**
- Dollars Awarded: \$31,598,088**
- Success Rate: 42%**
- Average Award: \$243,062**
- Number of States Represented: 44<sup>^</sup>**
- Number of Institutions Represented: 235**

## **➤ FY 2004\***

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# ***MRI: Minority Serving Institutions***

## **➤ FY 2002**

- Number of Proposals Submitted: 66**
- Dollars Requested: \$29,600,975**
- Number of Awards: 30**
- Dollars Awarded: \$7,958,117**
- Success Rate: 45%**
- Average Award: \$265,271**
- Number of States Represented: 18<sup>^</sup>**
- Number of Institutions Represented: 41**

## **➤ FY 2004\***

- Number of Proposals Submitted: 56**
- Dollars Requested: \$30,771,608**
- Number of Awards: 24**
- Dollars Awarded: \$8,063,111**
- Success Rate: 43%**
- Average Award: \$335,963**
- Number of States Represented: 16<sup>^</sup>**
- Number of Institutions Represented: 54**



<sup>^</sup> includes Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia

\*incomplete: 9/28/2004

# ***MRI: Minority Serving Institutions***

## **➤ FY 2003**

- Number of Proposals Submitted: 54**
- Dollars Requested: \$16,409,277**
- Number of Awards: 24**
- Dollars Awarded: \$5,506,528**
- Success Rate: 44%**
- Average Award: \$229,439**
- Number of States Represented: 16<sup>^</sup>**
- Number of Institutions Represented: 34**

## **➤ FY 2004\***

- Number of Proposals Submitted: 56**
- Dollars Requested: \$30,771,608**
- Number of Awards: 24**
- Dollars Awarded: \$8,063,111**
- Success Rate: 43%**
- Average Award: \$335,963**
- Number of States Represented: 16<sup>^</sup>**
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