

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
4201 WILSON BOULEVARD  
ARLINGTON, VA 22230

Title: Division of Chemical and Transport Systems (CTS)  
Employment Opportunity for Program Director—Dear Colleague Letter

Date: March 4, 2004

Dear Colleague:

The Division of Chemical and Transport Systems Division (CTS) within the Engineering Directorate announces a nationwide search of a Program Director, *Thermal Transport and Thermal Processing* (TTTP) at the National Science Foundation (NSF).

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the Agency's overall mission: support merit-reviewed education and research activities that enable the nation's capacity to perform. 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, and a high degree of personal integrity.

Qualification requirements include a Ph.D. or equivalent professional experience in thermal sciences or engineering, plus six or more years of successful research, research administration and/or substantial managerial experience in academe, industry, or government. Also desirable is knowledge of the general scientific community, skill in written communication and preparation of technical reports, an ability to communicate orally, and several years of successful independent research of the kind normally expected of the academic rank of professor or associate professor. All appointees are expected to function effectively both within specific programs and in a team mode, contributing to and coordinating with organizations in the Directorate, across the Foundation, and with other Federal and State government agencies and private-sector organizations as necessary. Periodic appointments to leadership of interdivisional, inter-directorate and interagency programs may be made.

We are particularly interested in attracting women and under-represented minorities to these positions.

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

**Intergovernmental Personnel Assignment (IPA) Act:** 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 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.

**Visiting Scientist Appointment.** Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Visiting Scientists are on a non-paid leave status from their home institution and appointed to NSF's payroll as Federal employee. NSF withholds Social Security benefits (i.e., health benefits and life insurance), either directly to the home institution or to the carrier. Appointments are usually made for up to one year 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 status 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, life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year. Temporary appointments may not exceed three years.

In addition to addressing current openings, our intention is to develop a candidate pool for future consideration as other openings at the Program Director level become available in CTS. These needs, as well as those in other ENG divisions, are detailed and updated regularly on the NSF website, <http://www.eng.nsf.gov/jobopportunities/>. We ask your assistance in conveying this information to those of your colleagues who, in your judgment, have a compelling interest in the issues and opportunities facing engineering education and research, would make a strong contribution to the work of the Division, and could meet the stimulating challenges of an appointment with the Foundation. Applications and questions concerning this Program Director position should be directed to:

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