



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VA 22230

Title: Division of Civil and Mechanical Systems (CMS)
Employment Opportunity--Dear Colleague Letter

Date: June 7, 2005

Dear Colleague:

The Division of Civil and Mechanical Systems (CMS) announce a nationwide search for an individual to serve a one-year appointment as Program Director for the **Infrastructure Management and Hazard Response (IMHR)** Program at the National Science Foundation (NSF). Applications for this position will be accepted through July 15, 2005.

The IMHR program focuses upon multidisciplinary issues concerning the impact of natural, technological, and human-generated hazards upon critical infrastructure systems and society. The program seeks to integrate research from engineering, social, behavioral, political and economic approaches. Research related to preparedness for, response to, recovery from, and mitigation of disasters resulting from natural, technological and human-generated hazards is supported. The goal of the program is to undertake basic research into the wide variety of factors related to the level of risk and vulnerability faced by the nation in order that risks may be reduced and costs of hazardous events maybe lessened. Specific areas of research focus upon such critical infrastructure elements as transportation, communication, water and sanitation, power distribution, and emergency preparedness and response under disaster conditions. Please visit our website at

http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=13353&org=CMS.

The IMHR Program is part of the Infrastructure Systems and Hazard Mitigation Cluster. This cluster includes the following Program Elements: GeoEnvironmental Engineering & GeoHazards Mitigation; Geomechanics & Geotechnical Systems; the George E. Brown, Jr. Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES); Infrastructure Management and Hazard Response; and, Structural Systems & Hazards Mitigation of Structures. The successful candidate is expected to work closely together with the other Cluster Program Managers, especially in the management of NEES.

Qualification requirements include a Ph.D. in a relevant social science or engineering discipline, plus six or more years of active research in the field, research administration and/or substantial managerial experience in academe, industry, or government. The successful candidate is expected to pursue a multi-disciplinary approach to research in the program areas. Also important are knowledge of natural, technological and man-made hazards, hazards preparedness, response and recovery, infrastructure management, as well as effective communication skills (written and oral). The appointee is expected to function effectively both within specific programs and in a team mode, contributing to and coordinating with organizations in the Engineering and Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorates, across the Foundation, and with other Federal, State, and local government agencies. Periodic assignments to leadership positions of inter-divisional, inter-directorate and inter-agency programs may be made. We are particularly interested in attracting women and under-represented minority candidates to these positions.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the Foundation's overall mission: to support innovative and merit-reviewed activities in basic research and education that contribute to the nation's technological strength, security, and welfare. 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. The focus of this search is to identify a scholarly, mentoring and open-minded person to join the present diverse and intellectually integrated team in sharing Engineering Directorate's responsibilities within NSF's overall mission.

This position may be filled under one of the following appointment options:

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 institution and appointed to NSF's payroll as Federal employees. 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 institution or to the carrier.

Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment: Individuals eligibility 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 instance where such assignment would be a mutual benefits to the organizations involved. The individual remains an employee of the home institution and NSF provides funding toward the assignee's salary and benefits.

Temporary Government Employee: Appointment to this position of more than one year, the usual civil service benefits (retirement, health and life insurance) are applicable.

Applications and questions concerning this Program Director position should be directed to:

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