



**National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22230**

HRD 11-001

Dear Colleague Letter: Division of Human Resource Development, Program Director Position

Division of Human Resource Development
Program Director Positions
Employment Opportunities—Dear Colleague Letter

November 22, 2010

The Division of Human Resource Development (HRD) announces a nationwide search for a Program Director position at the National Science Foundation (NSF). Appointments will usually be made for one year and may be extended for an additional year by mutual agreement.

HRD serves as a focal point for NSF's agency-wide commitment to enhancing the quality and excellence of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and research through broadening participation by underrepresented groups and institutions. The Division's programs aim to increase the participation by underrepresented minorities and minority-serving institutions, women and girls, and persons with disabilities at every level of the science and engineering enterprise. In so doing, these programs contribute to attainment of an outcome goal of the NSF Strategic Plan FY 2006-2011: Cultivate a world-class, broadly inclusive science and engineering workforce, and expand the scientific literacy of all citizens. Programs within HRD have a strong focus on partnerships and collaborations in order to maximize the preparation of a well-trained scientific and instructional workforce for the new millennium. Additional information about the division and its programs may be found at <http://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=HRD>.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the agency's overall mission: to support innovative and merit-reviewed activities in basic research and education that contribute to the nation's technical strength, security, and welfare. Discharging 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. Experience as a reviewer and/or principal investigator is a real advantage.

It is anticipated that a Program Director will be needed for an appointment beginning between January to April 2011.

Applicants must have a Ph.D. in a STEM discipline or a combination of relevant education and equivalent experience in one of the fields and a Ph.D. in a related STEM field. Candidates must have six or more years of successful research, research administration, and/or managerial experience pertinent to the position. Also desirable are knowledge of the general scientific community and strong skills in written and oral communication. All appointees are expected to function effectively both within specific programs and as part of a team, contributing to and coordinating with offices throughout the Foundation and with other Federal and state government agencies and private sector organizations.

Program Director positions recruited under this announcement 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 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. The individual remains an employee of the home institution, and NSF provides funding toward the assignee's salary and benefits.

- **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, and life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year.

For additional information about NSF's rotational programs, please see "**ROTATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS AND EDUCATORS**" on the NSF website at http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps.

Individuals interested in applying for a Program Director position should send a current resume or CV and statement of interest to:

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