



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

ECCS 12-001

**Dear Colleague Letter - The Division of Electrical, Communications and Cyber Systems (ECCS) -  
Employment Opportunities for a Program Director Position**

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DATE: January 31, 2012

The Division of Electrical, Communications and Cyber Systems (ECCS), within the Directorate for Engineering at the National Science Foundation, announces a nationwide search for senior-level engineering researcher to fill an open Program Director position in the **Communications, Circuits, and Sensing Systems (CCSS) Program**.

Formal consideration of interested applications will begin **February 15, 2012** and will continue until a selection is made. The division is looking to fill this position during the spring/summer timeframe.

The ECCS Division addresses fundamental research issues underlying component and device technologies, energy and power research, including smart grid, controls, computation, networks, communications and cyber technologies, and supports the integration and networking of complex intelligent systems principles at the nano, micro, and macro scales for a variety of application domains in healthcare, energy, communications, critical infrastructures, environment, homeland security, transportation, and manufacturing. The Division is organized around three broad programs: Electronics, Photonics and Magnetic Device Technologies (EPMD); Energy, Power, and Adaptive Systems (EPAS); and Communications, Circuits, and Sensing Systems (CCSS). The management of these programs involves a team approach by Program Directors within the Division to effect the increasing convergence of disciplinary topics and the need for interdisciplinary approaches to new problem areas. ECCS has a continuing goal to integrate education into all of its program activities. For further information, please visit the ECCS web site at <http://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?org=ECCS>

NSF Program Directors have the primary responsibility for carrying out the Agency's overall mission to support innovative and merit-evaluated activities in fundamental research and education that contribute to the nation's technological strength, security, and welfare. This requires expertise in appropriate disciplines to implement the proposal review and evaluation process for the program, as well as strong skills in written and oral communication, a commitment to high standards, considerable breadth of interest and receptivity to new ideas, strong sense of fairness, good judgment, and a high degree of personal integrity. The position provides a challenging experience and an excellent opportunity to encourage and support engineering research and education. The individual will work with other Program Directors in formulating research strategies, developing collaboration and cooperation across the Foundation and among government, academe and industry, fostering outreach to underrepresented groups, and providing leadership within NSF and the research community.

**The successful candidate will possess broad and demonstrated experience to address emerging research areas in micro-nano-bio systems, including sensors, actuators, and interfaces; hemical, biological, and physical diagnostic systems; implantable and wearable systems; environmental sensing and monitoring; MEMS/NEMS Devices; and system level fabrication, packaging, and assembly.**

Qualification requirements for the position are a Ph.D. or equivalent professional experience in the relevant discipline in engineering or science, plus six or more years of successful research, research administration

and/or managerial experience in academe, industry, or government. The candidate must demonstrate vision and leadership to identify and support long-term research and education that contributes to the mission of the Division and NSF.

The position may be filled under one of the following appointment alternatives:

**Visiting Scientist, Engineer or Educator (VSEE) Appointment** - A VSEE appointment will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Visiting Scientists are on non-paid leave status from their home institution and placed on the NSF 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. Appointments are usually made for one year and may be extended for an additional year by mutual agreement.

**Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Appointment** - Under an IPA appointment, a candidate's home institution receives a grant to cover the appointee's salary and benefits, and the candidate remains an employee of his/her home institution while performing duties at NSF. Persons 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 years.

**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. Temporary appointments may not exceed three years.

Applicants should indicate in their cover letter that they are applying to the CCSS Position. Please submit your application to:

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