NSF 13-068

Dear Colleague Letter - for Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Supplemental Funding

Date: 02/28/13

Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering
Division of Computing and Communications Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22230

The NSF Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) invites its grantees to submit requests for Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) supplemental funding. Interested grantees are encouraged to submit their REU supplemental funding requests by April, 2013.

For single investigator projects, CISE REU supplemental funding requests should typically be for no more than two students for one year. Research teams funded through multi-investigator projects may request support for a larger number of students, commensurate with the size and nature of their projects. For example, for projects involving four principal investigators, REU supplemental funding is typically requested for about four undergraduates for one year.

As a guide for budget development, CISE REU supplement support averages about $8,000 per student per year; this guideline is neither a floor nor a ceiling. As described in the solicitation, indirect costs (F&A) are not allowed on Participant Support Costs in REU Site or REU Supplement budgets. Note that the REU solicitation's longstanding "administrative allowance" of 25% of the participant support stipend amount in lieu of indirect costs has been discontinued.

In these trying economic times, REU stipend support is one way to retain talented students in undergraduate education, while providing meaningful research experiences. The participation of students from groups underrepresented in computing -underrepresented minorities, women and persons with disabilities -is strongly encouraged. Other factors influencing the funding decision include the status of the project and the number of REU requests submitted by any one principal investigator across all of her/his CISE grants.

Investigators are encouraged to refer to the program solicitation "Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU): Sites and Supplements, " http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2013/nsf13542/nsf13542.htm for detailed information concerning submission requirements. Grantees with questions may also contact the CISE program officer managing their grant.

In the event that requests for REU support exceed funds available in CISE, requests will be considered in the order in which they are received.