Dear Colleagues:

The Division of Industrial Innovation and Partnerships (IIP) announces a nationwide search to fill a Program Director position for the National Science Foundation (NSF) Partnership for Innovation (PFI). Formal consideration of interested applications will begin September 3, 2019 and will continue until a selection is made.

PFI serves as a leading technology translation program, supporting both technology development and customer discovery to advance deep technologies toward commercial impact for the nation. The program has five broad goals, as set forth by the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act of 2017: (1) identifying and supporting NSF-sponsored research and technologies that have the potential for accelerated commercialization; (2) supporting prior or current NSF-sponsored investigators, institutions of higher education, and non-profit organizations that partner with an institution of higher education in undertaking proof-of-concept work, including the development of technology prototypes that are derived from NSF-sponsored research and have potential market value; (3) promoting sustainable partnerships between NSF-funded institutions, industry, and other organizations within academia and the private sector with the purpose of accelerating the transfer of technology; (4) developing multi-disciplinary innovation ecosystems which involve and are responsive to the specific needs of academia and industry; (5) providing professional development, mentoring, and advice in entrepreneurship, project management, and technology and business development to innovators.

In addition, PFI responds to a congressional mandate to support prototype or proof-of-concept development work by participants, including I-Corps participants, advancing innovations at an earlier stage than those funded through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs.
Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program.

PFI also seeks to enhance partnerships between academia and industry in the United States and expand the participation of women and individuals from underrepresented groups in innovation, technology translation, and entrepreneurship.

Program Directors have an unparalleled opportunity and responsibility to ensure NSF-funded research is at the forefront of advancing fundamental knowledge. In support of that, Program Directors are responsible for extensive interaction with academic research communities and industry, as well as interaction with other Federal agencies that may lead to development of interagency collaborations. Within this context, Program Directors solicit, receive and review research and education proposals, make funding recommendations, administer awards, and undertake interaction with research communities in these fields. They are also responsible for service to Foundation-wide activities and initiatives that together accomplish NSF's strategic goals to: 1) Transform the Frontiers of Science and Engineering, 2) Stimulate Innovation and Address Societal Needs through Research and Education, and 3) Excel as a Federal Science Agency. The position requires a commitment to high standards of intellectualism and ethical conduct, a considerable breadth of interest, receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, good judgment, and a high degree of personal integrity. The position requires some travel to support outreach and recruiting activities for the entire IIP Division, as well as specifically for PFI.

Persons wishing to apply for this position are referred to the IIP Divisional web page, https://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=IIP, for a description of the Division; and to the webpage, https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504790&org=IIP&from=home for a description of the PFI program. Persons are also encouraged to contact the current PFI Program Director who are identified on the PFI web pages, for more information.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the Foundation'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. The positions require a commitment to high standards of intellectualism and ethical conduct, a considerable breadth of interest, receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, good judgment, and a high degree of personal integrity.

Candidates must have a Ph.D. in an appropriate science or engineering field, plus after award of the degree, six or more years of successful research, research administration, and/or managerial experience pertinent to the position.

Professional experience in technology research and development activities in individual and collaborative frameworks is desirable. The position requires effective oral and written communication skills, and familiarity with NSF programs and activities is highly desirable. The
incumbent is expected to function effectively both as an individual within the specific NSF program and as a member of crosscutting and interactive teams. The incumbent must also demonstrate a capability to work within NSF and across government agencies to promote NSF activities and to leverage program funds through interagency collaborations.

In addition, experience in identifying and supporting research and technologies with potential for commercialization, promoting partnerships to accelerate technology transfer and developing innovation ecosystems responsive to industry needs are highly desirable. The position requires effective oral and written communication skills and a commitment to high standards of ethical conduct. The position also requires a considerable breadth of interest, receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, attention to detail, good judgment and a high degree of personal integrity.

Program Director positions recruited under this announcement will be filled by the following option:

**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. 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 the negotiated 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. For additional information on NSF's rotational programs, please visit: [https://www.nsf.gov/careers/rotator/](https://www.nsf.gov/careers/rotator/).

Applications will be accepted from U.S. Citizens. Recent changes in Federal Appropriations Law require Non-Citizens to meet certain eligibility criteria to be considered. Therefore, Non-Citizens must certify eligibility by signing and attaching this Citizenship Affidavit to their application. Non-citizens who do not provide the affidavit at the time of application will not be considered eligible.

It is NSF policy that NSF personnel employed at or IPAs detailed to NSF are not permitted to participate in foreign government talent recruitment programs. Failure to comply with this NSF policy could result in disciplinary action up to and including removal from Federal Service or termination of an IPA assignment and referral to the Office of Inspector General: [https://www.nsf.gov/careers/Definition-of-Foreign-Talent-HRM.pdf](https://www.nsf.gov/careers/Definition-of-Foreign-Talent-HRM.pdf).

To apply, email a single PDF document that includes 1) CV, 2) a cover letter explaining the reasons you are interested in the position, 3) Citizen affidavit, as applicable. The cover letter should describe how their experiences fit with the position of PFI Program Officer (referencing
the CV), why this position would be of mutual benefit to NSF and to their institutions, and how they foresee this assignment benefiting their careers. It is preferred that application materials and questions be sent to the Division of Industrial Innovation and Partnerships via email to IIPjobs@nsf.gov "PFI Program Director" in the subject line.

NSF is an Equal Opportunity Employer Committed to Employing a Highly Qualified Staff that Reflects the Diversity of Our Nation.