To: Distribution List

From: Faculty Research Development Office (FRDO)  
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition: NSF, CyberCorps Scholarship for Service (SFS), (NSF 21-580)

Date: 5/18/2022

Dear UNM Researchers,

The goals of the CyberCorps SFS program are to increase the quantity of new entrants to the government cyber workforce, to increase the national capacity for the education of cybersecurity professionals, to increase national research and development capabilities in critical information infrastructure protection, and to strengthen partnerships between institutions of higher education and relevant employment sectors. The SFS program welcomes proposals to establish or to continue scholarship programs in cybersecurity. All scholarship recipients must work after graduation for a federal, state, local, or tribal government organization in a position related to cybersecurity for a period equal to the duration of the scholarship. A proposing institution must provide clearly documented evidence of a strong existing program in cybersecurity. Such evidence may include ABET accreditation in cybersecurity; designation by the National Center of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity (NCAE-C); or equivalent evidence documenting a strong program in cybersecurity. The SFS program also supports efforts leading to an increase in the ability of the United States higher education enterprise to produce cybersecurity professionals.

The SFS Scholarship award supports up to three years of stipends, tuition, and allowances for students in the general area of cybersecurity. The scholarships provide academic year stipends of $25,000 per year for undergraduate students and $34,000 per year for graduate students. In addition, SFS scholarships cover expenses normally incurred by full-time students in the institution, including tuition and education related fees (does not include items such as meal plans, housing, or parking); and a professional allowance of $6,000 per academic year for SFS Job Fair and other travel, conferences, research materials and supplies, a laptop, books, professional training and certifications, etc. These shall be included in the budget under Participant Support costs.

Because UNM has had an SFS scholarship program in the past, applicants must clearly indicate that they are applying for a renewal in the title and project summary and must provide specific evidence of UNM’s SFS program achievements. Indicators of program success include, but are not limited to, placement statistics, faculty development activities, integration of research and education, mentoring of non-SFS institutions, partnerships with government and relevant employment sectors, and curricular innovations. Specific plans and/or evidence of program sustainability and/or institutionalization efforts including information on students without SFS scholarships who were placed in government jobs and
the retention of SFS scholarship recipients in the federal workforce beyond their initial obligation. If you are interested in applying, FRDO will connect you with the former PI for the program so you can learn more. Additional details about the application can be found at https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2021/nsf21580/nsf21580.pdf. The deadline for full proposals to the agency is July 15, 2022.

This is a limited competition. Each institution is limited to ONE application. Please submit your 200 word statement of interest by NOON on Tuesday, May 31, 2022 via UNM’s InfoReady Review portal. This is a required step, and no late submissions will be considered. Should there be more than one PI interested in applying, we will request three-page preproposals and will run a limited competition.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at limited@unm.edu.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford (CFord@salud.unm.edu) or Cassandra Misenar (CMisenar@salud.unm.edu) for more information.