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

Subject: Limited Competition: DOE: Reaching A New Energy Sciences Workforce For High Energy Physics (RENEW-HEP) (DE-FOA-0002949)

Date: January 24, 2023

The DOE SC High Energy Physics (HEP) program hereby announces its interest in receiving applications for the Reaching a New Energy sciences Workforce for High Energy Physics (RENEW-HEP) initiative. This program is intended to support training and research experiences in support of particle physics for members of underserved communities, with the dual goals of : (1) increasing the likelihood that participants from underrepresented populations, such as those present at minority serving institutions (MSIs), will pursue a career in a Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) related field; and (2) supporting investigators and building research infrastructure at institutions that have not traditionally been part of the particle physics portfolio.

This program is informed and influenced by the recommendations in recent reports including the American Institute of Physics TEAM-UP report (AIP TEAM-UP Report webpage, n.d.). Applicants to this FOA should be aware of factors identified within that report that may influence the success or failure of trainees funded through this FOA. Some of the most relevant factors include the creation of an environment conducive to the development of a sense of belonging among participants, success in fostering a strong sense of physics identity among the participants, and the availability of support to “help students advance academically while earning money.” In addition, the longer duration of the traineeships envisioned here can provide opportunities for more senior participants to help mentor incoming participants, an activity that can support the desire to give back to one’s community and further bolsters physics identity.

The award term is expected to be 36 months. Traineeships should typically be one to two years in duration and should typically provide 15 hours of support per week averaged over the academic year and 40 hours during the summer. Traineeships may extend after graduation for one “gap” year for participants who intend to apply or are considering applying to graduate schools; or for initial support for one or two years on entrance to a STEM graduate program. In addition to travel and salary support for trainees, in order to recognize and formalize the role of those involved in mentoring, the proposed inclusion of partial support for academic year and/or summer salary (up to 4 months) for faculty, and/or partial salary support for postdocs (typically 30%) is encouraged.

The award size will depend on the number of meritorious applications and the availability of appropriated funds. It is anticipated that award sizes may range from \$50,000 per year to \$500,000 per year, typically less than \$300,000 per year. DOE anticipates making awards with a project period of 3 years. Continuation funding (funding for the second and subsequent budget periods) is contingent on: (1) availability of funds appropriated by Congress and future year budget authority; (2) progress towards

meeting the objectives of the approved application; (3) submission of required reports; and (4) compliance with the terms and conditions of the award. More details can be found in the [solicitation](#). The deadline for submitting encouraged but *not* mandatory Letters of Intent to the agency is **February 21, 2023**. Full proposals are due **March 31, 2023**.

This is a limited competition. **Each institution is limited to THREE applications as lead.** If you are interested in submitting to this program, please submit a statement of interest with a tentative project title and a brief description (200 words) by **NOON, February 1, 2023** via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). **Because of the short turnaround time (DOE only announced this competition last week), this limited competition will be conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. This means that the first three SOIs we receive will be given the three UNM slots.**

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

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact HSC Limited Competition at HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu for more information.