



From: Faculty Research Development Office  
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition: Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI Program) 19-540

Date: July 16, 2019

UNM Researchers,

The Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI Program) seeks to enhance the quality of undergraduate STEM education at HSIs and to increase retention and graduation rates of undergraduate students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Complete program details can be found at: <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2019/nsf19540/nsf19540.pdf>.

Proposals are due to the NSF on September 18, 2019.

UNM is eligible to submit to the Track 1 proposal type: Building Capacity. Track 1 funds programs up to \$2.5M for up to 5 years and has three priority areas: Critical Transitions; Innovative Cross-Sector Partnerships; and Teaching and Learning in STEM.

**Priority Area 1: Critical Transitions** projects address the retention of undergraduate students in STEM programs. Projects in this priority area should address critical transitions on the way to degree attainment which may include i) the transition from lower to upper-division coursework at individual institutions, ii) the transfer of students from two-year institutions to four-year institutions, and/or iii) the transition from secondary education to undergraduate education of students enrolled in a STEM undergraduate degree-granting program.

**Priority Area 2: Innovative Cross-Sector Partnerships** are expected to develop cross-sector partnerships that lead to increased student engagement in STEM research and learning experiences while also generating knowledge about how cross-sector partnerships contribute to STEM teaching and learning, and workforce development. Partners may include industry, government, academic institutions, non-profit organizations, and local communities.

**Priority Area 3: Teaching and Learning in STEM** supports efforts that generate new knowledge about teaching and learning strategies and curricular models that improve undergraduate STEM education for a culturally diverse student population. It also supports the creation and adaptation of learning materials and teaching strategies to enhance STEM learning and lead to measurable gains and implementable models.

**This is a limited competition for the Track 1 proposal type “Building Capacity” and is limited to one proposal per institution. We will be conducting a two-step internal competition to ensure we have a review committee in place by the pre-proposal deadline. You must complete both steps if you are interested in participating.**

**STEP ONE:** Submit a **statement of interest** to [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu) by **NOON, Tuesday, July 23, 2019** that includes: a tentative project title, targeted priority area(s), and the names and departments of all senior personnel.

**STEP TWO:** Submit a **3-page pre-proposal addressing the components below, plus references, budget overview and PI and Co-PI biosketches in NSF format**. All documents must be submitted as a **SINGLE PDF file, following NSF format requirements by NOON, August 2, 2019, to [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu) with the subject line: NSF IUSE HSI – your name. No late submissions will be considered.**

### 3-Page Pre-Proposal Required Components

- Project title
- Senior personnel names, departments/organizations, and overview of how they will benefit the program.
- Identification of the priority area(s) addressed and a brief description of the proposed program including an explanation regarding how the program will meet the priority area specific objectives highlighted in the solicitation.
- Brief description of the proposed research plan including one or more explicit research question and/or hypothesis that is aligned with and grounded in the research literature. Include an overview of the data to be collected, measurement instruments or procedures to be used in collecting data, and evidence of the reliability and validity of instruments.
- Brief description of the project evaluation including the structure of the evaluation team, relative timeline, and how results will be shared and utilized.
- Brief description of the dissemination plan to share findings of the project with the institution and broad audiences including scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and public audiences.

The NSF will be providing a relevant webinar for interested PIs on Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm ET. Register: <https://nsf2.webex.com/nsf2/j.php?RGID=rda9b52c82f9906d353f86fd24662c18f>

If you have questions, please contact [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu).

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