

Selected Federal & Foundation Grant Opportunities
August 17, 2015

STEM

NSF Discovery Research PreK-12 (DRK-12)

Agency: National Science Foundation; **Deadline:** December 7; **Number of Awards:** 35-45; **Cost Share:** Not Required; **Purpose:** This National Science Foundation program seeks to significantly enhance the learning and teaching of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) by preK-12 students and teachers, through research and development of innovative resources, models and tools.

Info: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15592/nsf15592.pdf>

Minority STEM Professionals

Agency: Nat'l Science Foundation; **Program:** Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (CFDA Number: 47.076) (Funding Opportunity Number: 12-594); **Eligibility:** Public and private colleges and universities, including community colleges; **Funding:** \$45.6 million for 38 awards; **Deadline:** Nov. 20. **Purpose:** Grantees use these funds to improve the number of minorities graduating with science, technology, education and mathematics (STEM) degrees. Particular emphasis is focused on the following populations: African Americans; Alaskan Natives; American Indians; Hispanic Americans; Native Hawaiians; and Native Pacific Islanders. **Info:** Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Program Team, 703/292-8640; email, LSAMP_national@nsf.gov; for the solicitation: <http://tinyurl.com/oq76j2d>

Early Career Researchers

Agency: Office of Science (Energy Dept.); **Program:** Early Career Research Program (CFDA Number: 81.049) (Funding Opportunity Number: DE-FOA-0001386); **Eligibility:** Unrestricted; **Funding:** \$18 million for 30 awards; **Deadline:** Nov. 19. **Purpose:** The program supports research programs led by outstanding scientists early in their careers. Research areas of interest include advanced scientific computing and biological and environmental research. **Info:** Kimberlie Laing, grant specialist, 301/903-3026; e-mail, kim.laing@science.doe.gov; for the solicitation: <http://tinyurl.com/qjtflh2>

STEM Learning

Agency: Nat'l Science Foundation; **Program:** Advancing Informal STEM Learning (CFDA Number: 47.076) (Funding Opportunity Number: 15-593); **Eligibility:** Unrestricted; **Funding:** \$38 million for 71 awards ranging from \$150,000 to \$6 million each (the sum is \$4 million more than the last competition); **Deadline:** Nov. 4. **Purpose:** The program focuses on improving science, technology, engineering and mathematics or STEM learning in informal environments. AISL funds will go for seven types of projects: (1) Collaborative Planning; (2) Exploratory Pathways; (3) Research in Service to Practice; (4) Innovations in Development; (5) Broad Implementation;

(6) Conferences; and (7) Informal STEM Learning Resource Center Info: Questions, 703/292-8616; e-mail, DRLAISL@nsf.gov; for the solicitation: <http://tinyurl.com/q9ervuo>

Advanced Technological Education (ATE)

Agency: National Science Foundation; **Deadline:** October 8, 2015; **Eligibility:** Universities and Colleges, Non-profit, Non-academic organizations, For-profit organizations, State and Local Governments; **Award Amount:** \$25K-\$4M (depending on project type); **Total Program Funding:** \$64M; **Expected Number of Awards:** 40-55; **Summary:** The Advanced Technological Education (ATE) program focuses on the education of technicians for the high-technology fields that drive our nation's economy. The program involves partnerships between academic institutions and industry to promote improvement in the education of science and engineering technicians at the undergraduate and secondary school levels. The ATE program supports curriculum development; professional development of college faculty and secondary school teachers; career pathways to two-year colleges from secondary schools and from two-year colleges to four-year institutions; and other activities. Another goal is articulation between two-year and four-year programs for K-12 prospective STEM teachers that focus on technological education. The program invites research proposals that advance the knowledge base related to technician education. **Previously Funded Projects:** Northeastern University (MA), Old Dominion University (VA), Daytona State College (FL).

Info: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5464

Advancing Informal STEM Learning

Agency: National Science Foundation; **Deadline:** November 4, 2015
Eligibility: Universities and Colleges, Non-profit, Non-academic organizations, For-profit organizations, State and Local Governments.
Award Amount: Collaborative Planning projects: up to \$150K with duration of 1 year; Exploratory Pathways projects: up to \$300K with duration up to 2 years; Research in Service to Practice projects: from \$300K to \$2M with a duration from 2 to 5 years; Innovations in Development projects: \$500K to \$3M with duration from 2 to 5 years; Broad Implementation projects from \$500K to \$3M with a duration from 2 to 5 years; Conference projects up to \$250,000 with a duration of up to 2 years; and up to 1 Informal STEM Learning Resource Center award up to \$5M with a duration of 5 years.
Total Program Funding: \$28M-\$38M; **Expected Number of Awards:** 49-71 total (10-12 Collaborative Planning awards, 10-12 Exploratory Pathways awards, 6-8 Research in Service To Practice awards, 8-10 Innovations in Development awards, 3-6 Broad Implementation awards, and 5-7 Conference awards will be made. AISL will also fund 5-7 awards made

through the EAGER and RAPID mechanisms and 2-4 CAREER awards. Up to 1 Informal STEM Learning Resource Center award is anticipated in FY 2016); **Summary:** The Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL) program seeks to advance new approaches to and evidence-based understanding of the design and development of STEM learning opportunities for the public in informal environments; provide multiple pathways for broadening access to and engagement in STEM learning experiences; and advance innovative research on and assessment of STEM learning in informal environments. The AISL program supports seven types of projects: (1) Collaborative Planning, (2) Exploratory Pathways, (3) Research in Service to Practice, (4) Innovations in Development, (5) Broad Implementation, (6) Conferences, and (7) Informal STEM Learning Resource Center. **Previously Funded Projects:** CUNY Brooklyn College (NY), Wright State University (OH), Plymouth State University (NH); **Info:** https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504793

OTHER

Competitions to Strengthen Regional Economies

Agency: Economic Development Admin. (Commerce Dept.); **Program:** FY 2015 Regional Innovation Strategies Program (CFDA Numbers: 11.020) (**Funding Opportunity Number:** EDA-HDQ-OIE-2015-2004566); **Eligibility:** State, tribal and local governments, public and private colleges and universities and nonprofits; **Funding:** \$10 million for multiple awards up to \$500,000 each; **Deadline:** Oct. 5. **Purpose:** The program fosters the development of regional centers to improve commercialization and entrepreneurship. Regional economic vitality is best accomplished through multi-stakeholder partnerships and collaborations that draw upon public, corporate, university, nonprofit and philanthropic resources. These partnerships and collaborations will lead to the creation of Proof of Concept Centers and Commercialization Centers. A POCC works with very early stage innovations, ideas, intellectual property and research to provide documented evidence that a product or service can be successful. A CC advances later stage innovations, ideas, intellectual property and research. **Types of Awards:** EDA is soliciting applications for two separate competitions: (1) the 2015 i6 Challenge; and (2) Seed Fund Support (SFS) Grants. The i6 Challenge is a leading national initiative designed to support the creation of POCCs and CCs for innovation and entrepreneurship that increase the commercialization of innovations, ideas, intellectual property and research into viable companies. The challenge will award \$8 million in funding. Seed funding may be used for technical assistance, feasibility studies or marketing related to the operation of these centers. This competition will provide \$2 million in grants. **Info:** Questions, oe@eda.gov; for the solicitation <http://tinyurl.com/ne9prm9>

Educating Young Women

Foundation: Lalor Foundation; **Opportunity:** Anna Lalor Burdick Program; **Funding Focus:** Women, health; **Geographic Focus:** National; **Eligibility:** Nonprofits; **Funding:** Multiple awards up to \$50,000 each; **Deadline:** Nov. 1. **Purpose:** The foundation educates young women about human reproduction in order to broaden and enhance their options in life. The program educates young women about healthy reproduction, with a special focus on those who have inadequate access to information regarding sexual and reproductive health. **Info:** Questions, 617/391-3088; e-mail, hblaisdell@gmafoundations.com; for more on the grantmaking: <http://lalorfound.org>

Footwear Company to Support Outdoor Projects

Private Funder: Keen Footwear; **Opportunity:** 2016 KEEN Effect Grant Program; **Funding Focus:** Environment, community development; **Geographic Focus:** National; **Eligibility:** Nonprofits; **Funding:** \$100,000 for 10 awards of \$10,000 each; 2016 Nomination **Deadlines:** March 1 and Aug. 1. **Purpose:** The program supports organizations inspiring responsible outdoor participation as a way to build strong communities, promote creative and sustainable thinking and introduce new audiences to the outdoors. The KEEN Effect encourages KEEN customers and the general public to nominate nonprofits that are aligned with the company's core, outdoor-focused values. Nominations received by March 1 will be considered for the first round of grantee winners announced on Earth Day (April 22). Applications filed between March 1 and Aug. 1 will be considered for the final round of winners, to be announced on Nat'l Public Lands Day (Sept. 26). **Info:** For more on the funding opportunity: <http://www.keenfootwear.com/keen-effect.aspx>

Best Buy Launches National Partnership Competition

Private Funder: Best Buy Foundation; **Opportunity:** 2015 National Partnership Program; **Funding Focus:** Education and youth; **Geographic Focus:** National; **Eligibility:** Nonprofits; **Funding:** Multiple awards, up to \$200,000 each; **Deadline:** Nov. 1. **Summary:** The Best Buy Foundation offers an array of support. The community grants promote programs that give teenagers access to opportunities through technology to help them excel in school and develop 21st century skills. Grants support nonprofit organizations that create hands-on learning opportunities for underserved teens to engage them in learning, experimenting, and interacting with the latest technologies. The overall goal is to provide youth with access to new technologies and help them become interested and fluent in digital learning while developing skills to better prepare them for future education and career success. After-school programs are eligible. Eligible programs must serve a diverse population, build skills in teens ages 13- 18 and show positive results. Grants are awarded for one year and are not intended to be recurring funding. Grant seekers should start by taking the assessment on the foundation's website at www.easymatch.com/bestbuygrants, foundation officials say. The foundation values collaboration. It gave \$10,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ventura County, CA, for a Community Partnership Grant and \$8,000 in a Community Partnership Grant to the YMCA of

Greater Grand Rapids, MI, for program support. **Info:** <http://tinyurl.com/qeb8km5>;
CommunityRelations@BestBuy.com or 866/625-4350.

NEH, Enduring Questions

Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities; **Deadline:** September 10,

2015; **Eligibility:** Any U.S. nonprofit two- or four-year college or university with IRS tax-exempt status; **Award Amount:** Up to \$38K for 18-36 months;

Total Program Funding: Not specified;

Expected Number of Awards: 21; **Summary:** The NEH Enduring

Questions program supports grant faculty members in the preparation of a new course on a fundamental concern of human life as addressed by the humanities. This question-driven course would encourage undergraduates and teachers to join together in a deep and sustained program of reading in order to encounter influential ideas, works, and thinkers over the centuries. The course is to be developed by one or more (up to four) faculty members at a single institution, but not team taught. Enduring Questions courses must be taught from a common syllabus and must be offered during the grant period at least twice by each faculty member involved in developing the course. The grant supports the work of faculty members in designing, preparing, and assessing the new course. It may also be used for ancillary activities that enhance faculty-student intellectual community, such as visits to museums and artistic or cultural events. An Enduring Questions course may be taught by faculty from any department or discipline in the humanities or by faculty outside the humanities (for example, astronomy, biology, economics, law, mathematics, medicine, or psychology), so long as humanities sources are central to the course. **Previously Funded Projects:** Lewis & Clark College (OR), Millsaps College (MS), Carroll University (WI).

Info: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/education/enduring-questions>

Children's Obesity

Private Funder: Children's Obesity Fund; **Opportunity:** 2015 grants; **Funding Focus:** Childhood nutrition; **Geographic Focus:** National; **Eligibility:** Nonprofits; **Funding:** Varies; **Deadline:**

Rolling. **Summary:** To win funding, projects must educate parents, teachers and other caregivers about the rising obesity rates in America. Applicants must also submit projects that will reverse the statistics and dangerous trends and help prevent the next generation from continuing down this alarmingly unhealthy road. The focus is on increasing awareness and understanding of how to raise healthy and happy children and make sure that ensuing generations are strong and live vital, active lives. Grants support a range of healthy living programs. For example, the foundation provided grants to the Goal4Health Youth Soccer League in the San Bernardino area. The soccer league runs from March through June with activities for both kids and parents to promote healthy living and building community. Children participate in weekly soccer practice and games while parents and family members attend

healthy living activities to learn about health, nutrition, and exercise. Goal 4 Health is a part of Loma Linda University's program called Community-Academic Partners in Service. **Info:** <http://tinyurl.com/qcjlbra>

Promoting Economic Literacy

Agency: Calvin K. Kazanjian Economics Foundation; **Summary:** As part of the effort to broaden the understanding of modern day economic system, the Calvin K. Kazanjian Economics Foundation offers grants to help improve financial literacy, especially for disadvantaged children and youth. **Deadline: Sept. 15.** The Foundation provides grants for programs with national impact that address: raising the public's participation in economic education and creating a demand for greater economic literacy; encouraging measurement of economic understanding; developing the application of new strategies for teaching economics, including online and webbased instruction; and helping disenfranchised youth or young adults with children learn to participate in the economic system. **Info:** www.kazanjian.org

Programs for Literacy, Social Services

Foundation: WHO (Women Helping Others) Foundation; **Opportunity:** General grants and literacy/education grants; **Funding Focus:** Social services, women and children (education-literacy programs get priority); **Geographic Focus:** National; **Eligibility:** Nonprofits; **Funding:** Awards vary (since its inception, the foundation has granted over \$3.5 million to over 322 charities in 45 states); **Deadline: Sept. 8.** **Summary:** The foundation supports nonprofits serving the overlooked needs of women and children. Specific projects and programs addressing health and social service needs are the focuses of funding. The foundation will also consider projects of an original or pioneering nature within an existing organization. In order to qualify, organizations must be at least three years old with an operating budget of \$3 million or less, and not dependent on government grants. Youth groups can benefit. For example, the foundation recently gave \$30,00 to Indiana's College Mentors for Kids for programming and it also gave \$10,000 to the Girls Hope of Pittsburgh (PA) for general support