Research Funding Opportunities

**Organization:** NASA Solicitation Name: Early Career Faculty 80HQTR20NOA01-20ECF-B1  **Proposal Deadline:** March 25, 2020

**Summary:** The Space Technology Research Grants (STRG) Program within STMD seeks proposals from accredited U.S. universities on behalf of their outstanding new faculty members who intend to develop academic careers related to space technology. NASA is seeking proposals that plan to pursue innovative, early-stage space technology research in the topic areas specifically enumerated in the solicitation.

The following topics are anticipated for the final appendix: Coordinated Multi-Robots for Planetary Exploration; Advanced Plant/Food Production Technologies for Space Exploration; Enhanced Diagnostics for Characterizing Entry Aerothermal Environments in High-enthalpy Impulse Facilities; Micro or Nano-structuring Multi-layer Insulation Shields for Ultra-low Emissivity.

NASA encourages submission of ECF proposals on behalf of early career faculty members at all U.S. universities and especially encourages proposals submitted on behalf of women, members of underrepresented minority groups, and persons with disabilities. The financial and programmatic support for ECF comes from the Space Technology Research Grants Program within the Space Technology Mission Directorate.


**Organization:** DoD Solicitation Name: Department of Defense (DoD) – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Educational Outreach Programs  **W15QKN-20-R-09H5 Full Proposal Deadline:** March 11, 2020

**Summary:** The U.S. Army Contracting Command - New Jersey (CCNJ), on behalf of the Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Armaments Center (CCDC AC) seeks to enter into a Grant for a Science, Technology, Education and Mathematics (STEM) Outreach Program. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is considered a competitive combined synopsis/solicitation, therefore, this announcement constitutes the only synopsis or solicitation that will be released.

The objective of this FOA, which is being issued in accordance with 10 USC §2192, is to seek application packages from Applicants capable of engaging and improving Grades K-12 Plus (to include colleges, universities, and vocational schools) STEM skills through in person outreach programs and support services on a national level. The requirement for increased STEM professional development is necessary to meet the long term national defense needs of the United States for personnel proficient in such skills.

**Link:** [https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=324298](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=324298)
Organization: NIH Solicitation Name: Innovation Corps (I-Corps)  PA-19-517 Proposal
Deadline: February 3, 2021  Summary: The goal of the I-Corps Program is to accelerate the translation of biomedical research to the marketplace by providing training to SBIR and STTR awardees in the areas of innovation and entrepreneurship. Under this program, the NIH and CDC foster the development of early-stage biomedical technologies, focus on teaching researchers how to gain a clearer understanding of the value of their inventions in the marketplace, and ultimately how to advance their technologies from the research lab into the commercial world. This program is designed to complement activities within the scope of the parent SBIR Phase I (R43) or STTR Phase I (R41) grant or the Phase I portion of an SBIR/STTR Fast-Track grant (R44/R42, respectively), to help accelerate the commercialization of new products and services derived from NIH- and CDC-funded technical feasibility studies.
Through this program, I-Corps teams will participate in an entrepreneurial immersion course. The I-Corps curriculum uses a hypothesis-driven method of customer discovery in order to gain insights into the issues associated with technology commercialization. As part of this program, participants are required to get "out of the lab" and gather information by conducting a large number of interviews (i.e., 100+) with potential customers, strategic partners, and other third-party stakeholders. During the course, I-Corps teams share what they learn with instructors and other teams, gaining new insights into the prospective impact of the technology being developed under the SBIR or STTR grant. Instructors for the course are sourced from the National Science Foundation's National Innovation Network, and each instructor is trained in delivering the I-Corps curriculum. It is anticipated that the feedback and learning gained during the I-Corps program will help inform future Phase II SBIR/STTR projects and commercialization strategies.

Summary: A well-educated science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce is a significant contributor to maintaining the competitiveness of the U.S. in the global economy. The National Science Foundation (NSF) Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) program addresses the need for a high quality STEM workforce in STEM disciplines supported by the program and for the increased success of low-income academically talented students with demonstrated financial need who are pursuing associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
The program seeks to 1) increase the number of low-income academically talented students with demonstrated financial need obtaining degrees in S-STEM eligible disciplines and entering the workforce or graduate programs in STEM; 2) improve the education of future scientists, engineers, and technicians, with a focus on low-income academically talented students with demonstrated financial need; and 3) generate knowledge to advance understanding of how interventions or evidence-based curricular and co-curricular activities affect the success, retention, transfer, academic/career pathways, and graduation of low-income students in STEM. Link: [https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20526/nsf20526.htm](https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20526/nsf20526.htm)