Federal Opportunities for Minority-Serving Institutions

February 14, 2022

This document provides an overview of federal opportunities specifically available to Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs), which are United States higher education institutions based on historical origin or percentage of minority students enrolled. Programs described below are likely of interest to various Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), among other MSIs.

This document only includes programs either currently or previously funded by Congress and omits those that have been authorized but have not received appropriations. Some pieces of legislation currently being negotiated in Congress, such as the Build Back Better Act, include new MSI-focused programs but have yet to be authorized or appropriated. Lewis-Burke will continue updating clients on new opportunities in this space as they are created and applications are solicited.

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The HSI Division of the Department of Education (ED) offers three grant programs. An HSI designation is granted by ED when an institution has 25 percent of its undergraduate full-time students identifying as Hispanic.

- **Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program** – This program is authorized under Title V, Part A of the Higher Education Act (HEA) to expand educational opportunities for Hispanic students, increase their enrollment in institutions of higher education and attainment of post-secondary degrees, as well as improve educational and institutional quality. The fiscal year (FY) 2020 application deadline was **February 24, 2020**. It is anticipated that ED recompetes this program in FY 2022. *Source: [https://www2.ed.gov/programs/idueshsi/index.html](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/idueshsi/index.html)*.

- **Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans (PPOHA) Program** – This program is authorized under Title V, Part B of HEA and seeks to increase the attainment of postsecondary degrees by Hispanic and low-income students. PPOHA provides grants to improve the quality of and expand post-baccalaureate programs for Hispanic students. The program has not been competed since fiscal year (FY) 2019, when it had an application deadline of **July 26, 2019**. *Source: [https://www2.ed.gov/programs/ppoha/index.html](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/ppoha/index.html)*.

- **Hispanic-Serving Institutions - Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics (HSI STEM) and Artication Programs** – Authorized by Title III, Part F of HEA, this program is intended to increase the number of Hispanic and low-income students in STEM fields. Additionally, HSI STEM encourages articulation agreements between two-year and four-year institutions in which credits apply to associate degrees and transfer to bachelor’s degrees. This program was most recently competed in FY 2021, with an application deadline of **June 14, 2021**. Prior to FY 2021, it most recently competed in FY 2016. *Source: [https://www2.ed.gov/programs/hsistem/index.html](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/hsistem/index.html)*.

- **The Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISI) Program** – Authorized by Title III, Part A of HEA, the AANAPISI program offers grants to eligible institutions to improve their capacity to serve Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander students, as well as low-income individuals. The fiscal year (FY) 2021 deadline was **June 28, 2021**. *Source: [https://www2.ed.gov/programs/aanapi/index.html](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/aanapi/index.html)*.

- **The Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Division** offers several grant programs meant to support undergraduate and graduate education at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Predominately Black Institutions (PBIs). An overview of some programs offered by this division is below.
  
  - **Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Program** – Authorized by Title III, Part B of HEA, this program provides institutional support to HBCUs to expand their academic, fiscal, and administrative capabilities. The most recent application deadline was **July 30, 2020**. *Source: [https://www2.ed.gov/programs/iduestitle3b/index.html](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/iduestitle3b/index.html)*.
  
  - **Predominantly Black Institutions (PBI) Competitive Grant Program** – Authorized by Title III, Part F of HEA, this program supports programs at PBIs to strengthen programs focused on the following areas: STEM, health, internationalization/globalization, teacher preparation, and improving educational outcomes for African American males. The FY 2021 deadline for this program was **June 28, 2021**. PBIs can also receive formula grants from ED to be used to improve their capacity to serve middle and low-income students. *Source: [https://www2.ed.gov/programs/pbi/index.html](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/pbi/index.html)*.
• A full list of funding offered through the Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Division is available at [https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/idues/index.html](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/idues/index.html).

ED’s Institutional Service office also provides grant funding for predominantly minority enrollment institutions through the Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program (MSEIP).

  - **Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program (MSEIP)** – This program supports institutions with over 50 percent minority student enrollment with grants to increase underrepresented minorities (particularly minority women) in science and engineering programs. The FY 2021 application deadline was **July 6, 2021**.  
    *Source: [https://www2.ed.gov/programs/iduesmsi/index.html](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/iduesmsi/index.html)*.

The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) at ED has previously instituted special programs to support MSIs and diverse student and faculty development. MSIs should consider applying to any of the relevant education and special education research funding opportunities available at [https://ies.ed.gov/funding/](https://ies.ed.gov/funding/).

  - **Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences Program** – This initiative encourages applications from minority-serving institutions and other institutions partnered with MSIs to support innovative approaches for training and mentoring of students and researchers from diverse backgrounds for success in education research careers. For FY 2022, IES competed three topics under the Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences: Early Career Mentoring for Faculty at MSIs; Postdoctoral Research Training; and Methods Training for Education Research. Applications were due on **September 9, 2021**.  
    *Source: [https://ies.ed.gov/funding/ncer_rfas/training.asp](https://ies.ed.gov/funding/ncer_rfas/training.asp)*.

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Along with advancing the frontiers of research into the future, securing global leadership, and establishing the new Translation, Innovation and Partnerships (TIP) Directorate, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity is one of the core pillars of NSF Director, Dr. Sethuraman Panchanathan’s (Panch), vision for NSF. NSF and its governing body, the National Science Board (NSB), continue to convene discussions and workshops to examine NSF programs, policies, and procedures to increase the agency’s activities around broadening participation and the diversity of the NSF research and education community. As well as programs to support MSIs, NSF continues to establish new programs to promote broadening participation to increase participation of individuals traditionally underrepresented in STEM. Many NSF solicitations, particularly center-level competitions encourage participation from MSIs.

  - **Computer and Information Science and Engineering Minority-Serving Institutions Research Expansion Program (CISE-MSI Program)** – This program aims to increase engagement from MSIs in CISE-funded research projects. Through the CISE-MSI program, NSF will support 10-17 awards across the categories below:
    * Thread 1: **Research Capacity Building Planning Projects (RCBP)** – Includes: Enhancement and Development (RCBP-ED) – Track 1A; and Research-Focused Projects (RCBP-RF) – Track 1B. NSF will support up to four awards, up to $400,000 for two years.
    * Thread 2: **Demonstration Projects (DP)** – NSF will support up to 10 awards, up to $600,000 for three years.
    * Thread 3: **Research Partnerships Enhancement Projects (RPEP)** – NSF will support two to three awards up to $1.2 million for up to four years.
Proposals are due: **February 11, 2022 (and annually thereafter)**; **NOTE:** For this program, MSIs include HBCUs, HSIs, and TCUs as defined by the U.S. Department of Education and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. **Additional Information:** The CISE-MSI program page is available at [https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/computer-and-information-science-and-engineering-minority-serving](https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/computer-and-information-science-and-engineering-minority-serving). The CISE-MSI program solicitation is available at [https://www.nsf.gov/ pubs/2022/nsf22518/nsf22518.htm](https://www.nsf.gov/ pubs/2022/nsf22518/nsf22518.htm).

- **(NEW) Build and Broaden 3.0 (B2 3.0)** – This program aims to increase proposal submissions, advance research collaborations and networks involving MSI scholars, and support research activities in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic sciences at MSIs. Proposals are due **March 1, 2022**. **Additional information** is at [https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/build-and-broaden-30-enhancing-social-behavioral-and-economic-science](https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/build-and-broaden-30-enhancing-social-behavioral-and-economic-science).

- **Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI Program)** – This program focuses on increasing participation, retention, and graduation rates of underrepresented minorities in STEM fields. There are three tracks available to applicants: Track 1: Planning or Pilot Projects (PPP) and Track 2: Implementation and Evaluation Projects (IEP); and Track 3: Institutional Transformation Projects (ITP). NSF has $22.5 million funding available for the HSI program in FY 2022 (double the FY 2021 funding amount) that will be distributed as follows: 20-40 PPP awards at $200,000 to $300,000 for two years; up to 15 IEP awards at $500,000 to $800,000 for three- to five-year projects; and 3-7 ITPs up to $3 million over five-years. The deadline for PPP, IEP, and ITP is **March 28, 2022**, and **August 31, 2022** for PPP and ITP proposals. **Source:** [https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/improving-undergraduate-stem-education-hispanic-serving-institutions-hsi](https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/improving-undergraduate-stem-education-hispanic-serving-institutions-hsi).

- **Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP)** – This program aims to strengthen undergraduate STEM education and research at HBCUs to broaden participation in the STEM workforce. Support is available through several tracks including Targeted Infusion Projects (TIP); Broadening Participation Research (BPR) in STEM Education projects; Research Initiation Awards (RIA); Implementation Projects (IMP); Achieving Competitive Excellence (ACE) Implementation Projects; Broadening Participation Research Centers (BPRC); and Other Funding Opportunities include EARly-Concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER), Rapid Response Research (RAPID), conference, and planning grants. Preliminary proposals are due March 22, Letters of Intent are due July 26 and September 12, with full proposals due **October 4, 2022**, for RIAs, **November 10, 2022**, for TIP, BPR, IMP, ACE, and **November 22, 2022**, for BPRC (and annually thereafter). **More information** is at [https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/historically-black-colleges-and-universities-undergraduate-program-hbcu](https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/historically-black-colleges-and-universities-undergraduate-program-hbcu).

- **Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) and HBCU Research Infrastructure for Science and Engineering (RISE)** – CREST provides support to enhance the research capabilities of MSIs through the establishment of centers that integrate education and research. The HBCU-RISE program supports the expansion of institutional research capacity and the production of doctoral students at HBCUs, especially those from groups underrepresented in STEM. CREST and HBCU-RISE support a range of project types. Letters of intent are due annually in December with full proposals due in February for HBCU-RISE and December for CREST. Next year, it is expected that full proposals for CREST will be due **December 2, 2022** and full proposals for HBCU-RISE will be due no later than **February 9, 2023**. **Source:** [https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/centers-research-excellence-science-and-technology](https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/centers-research-excellence-science-and-technology).

- **Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (TCUP)** – TCUP supports Tribal Colleges and Universities, Alaska Native-serving institutions, and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions to promote high-quality
STEM education, research, and outreach. TCUP supports a range of project types with annual deadlines in April, June, September, and December. Source: https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/tribal-colleges-and-universities-program-tcup.

- **Partnerships for Research and Education in Materials (PREM)** – PREM supports partnerships between minority-serving institutions and centers or facilities supported by the Division of Materials Research (DMR). This program is held every three years with the last deadline being **February 5, 2021.** Source: https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/partnerships-research-and-education-materials-prem.

- **Partnerships for Research and Education in Chemistry (PREC)** – Supports partnerships between MSIs and “CHE-supported Centers for Chemical Innovation, NSF's ChemMatCARS, the Molecular Sciences Software Institute (MoISSI), or the Molecule Maker Lab Institute (MMLI).” Proposals were due **January 21, 2022.** More information is available at https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/partnerships-research-and-education-chemistry-prec.

- **Partnerships for Research and Education in Physics (PREP)** – Supports partnerships between MSIs and Division-supported Physics Frontiers Centers to increase the participation of members of underrepresented groups in physics. Proposals were due **January 21, 2022.** More information is available at https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/partnerships-research-and-education-physics-prep.

**National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**

- **Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions/Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Tribal Colleges and Universities** – These annual grants fund humanities education and teaching through the improvement or creation of new programs or resources at HSIs/HBCUs/TCUs. Humanities Initiatives (HI) program opportunities are also available for HBCUs/MSIs and non-MSIs under the HI at Colleges and Universities and the HI at Community Colleges programs. Projects should focus on a core theme or topic area in the humanities. Supported activities include curriculum development, student enrichment, faculty development, and partnerships. Of the last five years, the Humanities Initiatives at HSIs program has funded 13 percent of applicants annually. The Humanities Initiatives at HBCUs program has funded 15 percent of applicants and the Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges has funded 23 percent of applicants annually. Applications for this year’s competitions are due on **May 9, 2022.** For those interested, NEH offers prerecorded webinars and a live Q&A session as well as the option to submit a draft concept for review.

**Sources:**
- Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic Colleges and Universities - https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/humanities-initiatives-hispanic-serving-institutions

- **Awards for Faculty at Hispanic-Serving Institutions/Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Tribal Colleges and Universities** – These awards support individual faculty and staff members employed or retired from HSIs/HBCUs/TCUs who are pursuing research of interest to the humanities. The model is intentionally flexible; applicants can determine the type of research and the audience. Previous projects
have included written articles, translations, monographs, and digital materials, among others. Of the last five years, the Awards for Faculty programs averaged 143 applications per year, of which approximately 12 percent were funded. The next application deadline is April 13, 2022.

Sources:
- Awards for Faculty at Hispanic Colleges and Universities - https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/awards-faculty-hispanic-serving-institutions
- Awards for Faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities - https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/awards-faculty-historically-black-colleges-and-universities
- Awards for Faculty at Tribal Colleges and Universities - https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/awards-faculty-tribal-colleges-and-universities

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

MSIs are eligible to apply for competitive grant programs at USDA. In addition, there are specific programs designated for 1890s Historically Black Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, 1994 Tribal Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, insular areas, Alaska Native-Serving Institutions, and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions.

- USDA also designates the status of Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities (HSACU) to institutions offering accredited agriculture-related programs where at least 25 percent of the institution’s full-time student enrollment is Hispanic. HSACU status offers access to an endowment, equity grants, institutional capacity-building grants, applied research grants, and extension grants. An 1862 land-grant institution cannot qualify as an HSACU. Source: https://nifa.usda.gov/hispanic-serving-agricultural-colleges-and-universities-hsacu.

- USDA’s Hispanic-Serving Institutions National Program is a program that aims to foster partnerships between USDA and HSIs to “provide increased professional development, workforce development, and exposure opportunities for faculty, staff, and students.” Specifically, the program offers a variety of internship opportunities, engages in outreach to HSIs, and provides scholarships and fellowships. Source: https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/hispanic-serving-institutions.

- USDA E. Kika De La Garza Fellowship Program – Garza fellowships allow faculty and staff from HSIs to come to USDA headquarters in Washington, D.C. for one week in the summer. Fellows learn more about how federal agencies, including USDA, operate, and about opportunities that are available for HSIs and their students. This program is currently accepting applications, to be submitted by March 2, 2022. Source: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2022-hsi-fellowship-application.pdf

- Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program – This is a competitive grants program to enhance the ability of HSIs to provide food and agricultural sciences education. The most recent RFA closed on January 28, 2022. Source: https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/hispanic-serving-institutions-education-grants-program-hsi

- Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) National Internship Program – Established in 1994, USDA provides internship experiences for students from HSIs and other colleges and universities. This program runs three sessions annually and places students across USDA agencies to address USDA’s workforce planning needs; promoting participation in and study of agriculture, food, natural resources, and related disciplines; and exposing students to careers in the federal government.

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Department of Defense (DOD)

- **Department of Defense Research and Education Program for Historically Black Colleges and Minority-Serving Institutions (HBCU/MSI)** – The purpose of the Education Program is to increase research and engineering capacity related to national defense and the number of minority graduates from STEM fields. Successful applications will connect to DOD priorities and current research activities including, but not limited to artificial intelligence, cyber, biotechnology, quantum, materials science, or Fully Networked Command, Control and Communications (FNC3). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis with a current closing deadline of **April 30, 2024**.

- **DOD Research and Education Program for Historically Black Colleges and Minority-Serving Institutions (HBCU/MSI) Equipment/Instrumentation** – This opportunity is an aspect of the program listed above, but this differs by focusing on supporting the acquisition of equipment/instrumentation to augment existing capabilities or develop new capabilities in priority areas of the DOD to enhance research capabilities at MSIs and HBCUs. Applications for the FY 2022 cycle closed on **August 16, 2021**, but the program is expected to be re-competed next year.

- **Office of Naval Research (ONR) HBCU/MI Faculty Start-up Program in Materials** – The Start-up Program in Materials aims to support minority institutions in efforts to provide start-up funding for new, untenured faculty, who are teaching and researching in a materials science/engineering of importance to the DOD. Funding cannot replace a startup package, but it can be used to enhance a startup package, including the use of funding for equipment, supplies, and lab support. The proposal submission window recently closed on **January 30, 2022**, for FY 22 submission, but is an annual program that will run again next year.

- **Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) HBCU/MI Undergraduate Internship Program** – This NRL HBCU/MI Internship program supports undergraduates at minority-serving institutions through a paid summer internship at the NRL in Washington, DC. Preference is given to students pursuing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers. Currently, the status for the Summer 2022 program in-person/virtual is TBD.

- **Technical Assistance Workshops** – The DOD periodically hosts technical assistance workshops for Minority Serving Institutions to share information about Department funding opportunities and tips for award-winning proposals.

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- **Centers of Excellence** – The Centers of Excellence program, DHS’ flagship program for universities, brings together several institutions to develop research solutions for multi-faceted DHS priorities. Competitions are infrequent but encourage applicants to form partnerships with MSIs on research and education programs. When a new competition is announced, MSIs are encouraged to seek to lead centers or form partnerships with interested consortia.
o **MSI Program** – Through the MSI Program, DHS works to develop a diverse talent pool to bolster the Homeland Security Enterprise workforce. This program supports qualified university students and faculty through the following initiatives:
  
  • **DHS Summer Research Team Program for MSIs** – DHS’s Science and Technology Directorate’s Office of University Programs sponsors this program to bring faculty and students from MSIs to conduct research at DHS Centers of Excellence (Centers). Research must relate to homeland security science, mathematics, and engineering priorities. The research focus areas for this year include border and maritime security, chemical and biological defense, critical infrastructure and resilience, cybersecurity, explosives, and first responders.
  
  • **DHS Scientific Leadership Award Program** – This program supports the development of homeland security science and engineering teaching initiatives, curriculum development, and scholarships at MSIs. According to DHS, “these awards support the development of enduring educational and research capabilities within the MSI communities, which include Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions and Tribal Colleges and Universities. Each Scientific Leadership Award recipient is required to partner with a COE.”

  Additional information on both programs within the MSI Program can be found at https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/minority-serving-institutions-program.

**National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

The NIH only has a few programs explicitly focused on MSIs, however, there are additional programs that focus on supporting the development of a diverse biomedical research workforce.

  o **National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) Research Centers in Minority-Serving Institutions (RCMI)** – NIMHD’s Research Centers in Minority Serving Institutions (RCMI) program seeks to expand the research infrastructure and capabilities at doctorate-awarding institutions serving a significant percentage of minority groups underrepresented in biomedical science. The program includes grants (eligibility varies) in health sciences and/or health professions. 


  • **RCMI Specialized Centers** – The goal of this program is to provide support through a cooperative agreement to institutions that offer doctoral degrees in the health professions or health-related sciences and have a historical and current commitment to educating underrepresented students. The purpose of RCMI Centers is to enhance institutional research capacity and to support research that advances minority health and eliminates health disparities. The current solicitation is closed but we anticipate this program will be re-competited.


  o **Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity** – This NIH Common Fund developed this program to support innovative research projects that would have a major impact in developing interventions to reduce or eliminate health disparities and health inequities. This program spurred out of the NIH UNITE program which is NIH’s initiative to end structural racism in biomedical research. In 2021, the NIH issued two funding opportunities for this new program, including one for investigators at MSIs. We anticipate new solicitations of this award in FY2022.

  Source: [https://commonfund.nih.gov/healthdisparitiestransformation](https://commonfund.nih.gov/healthdisparitiestransformation)

  o **Individual Predoctoral National Research Service Award (NRSA) F31 Diversity Fellowships (NIH wide)** – This individual predoctoral fellowship provides funding to promote diversity in health-related research by supporting the research training of predoctoral students from diverse backgrounds (see Notice of
NIH’s Interest in Diversity. This funding opportunity follows standard due dates for fellowship grants at NIH. The next due date is April 8, 2022.

Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers (MOSAIC) Postdoctoral Career Transition Award to Promote Diversity (K99/R00) – The MOSAIC program is a part of NIH’s efforts to improve diversity within the biomedical research workforce by supporting the transition of postdoctoral researchers from diverse backgrounds (see Notice of NIH’s Interest in Diversity) to independent research positions at research-intensive institutions. Applicants must have no more than 4 years of postdoctoral research experience at the time of application. This funding opportunity follows standard due dates for research career development grants at NIH. The next due date is June 12, 2022.

Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (NIH-wide Administrative Supplement) — This program provides funding to improve the diversity of the research workforce by recruiting and supporting students, postdoctoral fellows, and other eligible investigators from groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in health-related research. This supplement opportunity is available only to investigators already holding an NIH grant. Applications are typically accepted on a rolling basis and dependent upon Institute/Center.

National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) – Baccalaureate Programs

- Post-Baccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP) — This program supports institutions that promote minorities with baccalaureate degrees to pursue a research doctorate in the biomedical sciences. The award provides institutional support to provide extensive research training through 1-to-2-year apprenticeships. Ultimately, the PREP Awards should help to diversify research-intensive institutions’ doctorate programs. This is a longstanding program at the NIH and we anticipate a new solicitation to be released soon for awards in 2023.
Source: https://www.nigms.nih.gov/training/PREP

- National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) (T34) — The objective of this program is to develop a diverse pool of undergraduates who then complete doctoral degrees in the biomedical sciences. The program is limited to proposals from research-intensive institutions (i.e. those institutions with an average of $7.5 million or more in total costs over the last three fiscal years). Applications are due on May 26, 2022.

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) Enhancing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Educational Diversity (ESTEEMED) Research Education Experiences (R25) — The ESTEEMED program aims to “support educational activities that enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral and clinical research workforce.” This program supports educational activities that focus on research experiences and mentoring activities for underrepresented undergraduate freshmen and sophomores in STEM fields related to bioengineering. The next application due date is June 24, 2022. This program is open to Institutions of Higher Education; MSIs are encouraged.

Additional diversity-related funding opportunities can be found on the NIH Diversity in Extramural Programs website at https://extramural-diversity.nih.gov/guidedata/data.
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

HHS has a multitude of programs aimed at improving minority health outcomes, increasing diversity of the healthcare workforce, and otherwise supporting underrepresented and underserved minorities in healthcare settings. However, there are a limited number of regularly competed funding opportunities or resources that are specifically targeted towards MSIs.

- **Minority Research Grant Program** – The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) supports researchers at MSIs “exploring how CMS can better meet the health care needs of racial and ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, sexual and gender minorities, and rural populations.” The program aims to develop research capacity at MSIs, better understand root causes of health disparities, and disseminate best practices. The program was run in FY 2021 and three grants were awarded.  
  Source: [https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/equity-initiatives/advancing-health-equity/minority-research-grant-program](https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/equity-initiatives/advancing-health-equity/minority-research-grant-program)

- **HRSA Office of Health Equity** – The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Office of Health Equity facilitates MSI engagement with the agency. This includes communication about relevant funding opportunities, participation in grant review panels, technical assistance, and other activities. Additional information: [https://www.hrsa.gov/about/organization/bureaus/ohe/msis.html](https://www.hrsa.gov/about/organization/bureaus/ohe/msis.html)
  - HRSA also occasionally releases solicitations specifically targeted towards MSIs, such as the “Building the HIV Workforce and Strengthening Engagement in Communities of Color” Program. However, these programs are usually not competed annually.
  - Other programs at HRSA not specific to MSIs but focused on minority faculty, care providers, or patients include the Area Health Education Centers, the Faculty Loan Repayment Program, the Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students program, and the Centers of Excellence program.

- **Office of Minority Health** – The HHS Office of Minority Health (OMH) funds a variety of awards focused on improving health outcomes among racial and ethnic minority populations. Eligibility for these awards is sometimes restricted to MSIs, and often encourages applicants to be or partner with MSIs. Additional information: [https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/](https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/).

Department of Energy (DOE)

DOE is committed to increasing engagement and funding opportunities with Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) and underrepresented groups. The DOE Office of Science has taken the lead in coordinating these efforts and in December 2020, it established a formal working group to lead this effort. Specific actions the group has taken include identifying and developing opportunities to engage MSI faculty in Office of Science-sponsored research funding and increasing the number of applications (and associated proposal success rates) having MSIs as the lead institution submitted to Office of Science-sponsored funding opportunity announcements; developing partnerships to attract and sponsor underrepresented groups in Office of Science-sponsored research; and increasing outreach, engagement, and recruitment of underrepresented students and faculty to Office of Science-sponsored research opportunities at the DOE national laboratories, including those from MSIs.

- **MSI Listening Sessions** — The Office of Science has launched a series of listening sessions at MSIs to seek community input on barriers to participation in Office of Science-sponsored research and opportunities for overcoming those barriers. The listening sessions focused on some key questions, including:
• What aspects or requirements of Office of Science solicitations present barriers to MSI faculty in applying?
• What types of resources or scope elements of a solicitation hold potential to enable MSIs and faculty at MSIs to overcome these barriers?
• How can the Office of Science and DOE National Laboratories better collaborate with academic research institutions, particularly MSIs, to increase the recruitment, retention, and advancement of underrepresented groups in STEM fields supported by the Office of Science at the undergraduate and graduate level?

  o **NNSA Minority Serving Institution Partnership Program** – DOE’s National Nuclear Security Administration provides grants to students of minority-serving institutions in STEM disciplines relevant to nuclear security, nonproliferation, and other emerging science and technology fields of importance to DOE national security missions. NNSA funds minority-serving institutions through consortium-based teams which have access to expertise and capabilities at the NNSA labs and sites. In FY 2021, Congress appropriated $35 million for this program. The next competition is expected in December 2022. 
  Source: [https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/nnsa-minority-serving-institution-partnership-program](https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/nnsa-minority-serving-institution-partnership-program).

  o **Minority Educational Institution Student Partnership Program**— This summer internship program is focused on providing students interested in STEM fields opportunities to work with a mentor from one of the 17 DOE national laboratories, site offices, or DOE Headquarters on scientific research or a focus on policy, business, and government relations. The internship provides financial support, including lodging, round trip airfare, and student stipends. Students gain professional and technical career experience while working side-by-side with an assigned mentor who is a subject matter expert at DOE or the national laboratories. DOE usually releases a request for proposals in January and they are typically due in April. 
  Source: [https://www.energy.gov/diversity/minority-educational-institution-student-partnership-program-meisp-internships](https://www.energy.gov/diversity/minority-educational-institution-student-partnership-program-meisp-internships)

  o **Technical Assistance Workshops** – Upon request, DOE will schedule technical assistance workshops at MSIs to share information about DOE funding opportunities, tips for award winning proposals, and introduce faculty to DOE program managers. In FY 2020, Congress provided $600,000 to DOE to support these outreach activities. For additional information, call the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity at 202-586-8383.

**Department of Transportation (DOT)**

  o **Federal Aviation Administration: Minority-Serving Institution Intern Program** – This program provides students from MSIs internship opportunities throughout the year in fields including air traffic control, computer science, aviation management, business administration, engineering, and information technology (IT). Students are compensated for travel and given a weekly stipend, as well as academic credit. Only students who are juniors or above are eligible to apply and a 3.0 GPA is required. Internships are offered in Spring, Summer, and Fall, so application deadlines are determined based on the semester being applied for.
  Source: [https://www.faa.gov/jobs/students/internships/minority/](https://www.faa.gov/jobs/students/internships/minority/)

  o **Federal Highway Administration: Summer Transportation Internship Program for Diverse Groups** – This internship offers currently enrolled college and university students a ten-week paid internship at the Department of Transportation headquarters and in field offices across the country. This internship program is open to all students who are juniors or above, and those with a 3.0 GPA will be given priority. The program is focused on providing opportunities to traditionally underrepresented groups in the
transportation sector, such as women and persons with disabilities. Applications for the next internship cycle are expected to be released in early January 2023.

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**

- **Minority University Research and Education Programs Small Projects** – This is a competitive grant program that funds STEM projects at minority-serving institutions by creating “innovative approaches to using NASA-themed content to support higher education teaching and learning.” The target population is students enrolled in a STEM major at a college or university. Awards are provided on a one-year basis but can be renewed for two additional years depending on the program’s success in meeting objectives.  
  *Source: [https://www.nasa.gov/stem/murep/home/index.html](https://www.nasa.gov/stem/murep/home/index.html)*

**Department of Commerce (DOC)**

Like many other federal agencies, DOC’s interest in supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion, specifically through collaborations with MSIs, has increased tremendously under the Biden Administration. The Economic Development Administration (EDA) recently released its updated investment priorities and among the new additions was equity, specifying the need for projects to impact underserved populations and communities within geographies that have been systemically denied opportunities for economic prosperity. Projects that support MSIs meet this criterion. Additionally, the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) was permanently authorized for the first time since its inception through the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (IIJA), and included in that authorization were several efforts to advance partnerships with MSIs. Specifically, the authorization creates rural business centers that are intended to be run by Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other MSIs and the Parren J. Mitchell Entrepreneurship Education Grant program to generate an entrepreneurial curriculum at HBCUs and MSIs across the nation.

- ** Minority-Serving Institutions Program** – The Agency’s Office of Civil Rights operates the program, which works to ensure equal access to all DOC opportunities, contracts and grants, and supports partnerships with MSIs.  
  *Source: [https://www.commerce.gov/cr/programs-and-services/minority-serving-institutions-msi-program](https://www.commerce.gov/cr/programs-and-services/minority-serving-institutions-msi-program)*

- **MBDA Business Centers** – MSIs and HBCUs can partner with minority-owned firms seeking to penetrate new markets and scale their business.  
  *Source: [https://www.mbda.gov/mbda-programs](https://www.mbda.gov/mbda-programs)*

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

- **José E. Serrano Educational Partnership Program with Minority-Serving Institutions (EPP/MSI) Cooperative Science Centers** – The EPP/MSI Cooperative Science Centers (CSC) are focused on increasing the number of students from underrepresented backgrounds who pursue degrees in fields related to NOAA’s mission. There are currently four CSCs that are led by MSIs but include a consortium of partners including MSI and non-MSI institutions. In addition to the centers, the program also offers a scholarship program for interested undergraduate students. *More information about the CSCs is available at [https://www.noaa.gov/office-education/epp-msi/csc](https://www.noaa.gov/office-education/epp-msi/csc) and the undergraduate scholarships can be found at [https://www.noaa.gov/office-education/epp-msi/undergraduate-scholarship](https://www.noaa.gov/office-education/epp-msi/undergraduate-scholarship).*
Department of Interior (DOI)

- **Minority-Serving Institutions Program** – The agency’s Office of Civil Rights operates the program, which looks to support mutually beneficial partnerships between DOI and students and faculty at MSIs. DOI engages in this program through “in-kind services, volunteerism, diverse hiring, grants and contacts.” DOI is particularly interested in recruiting potential employees and partners from MSIs. DOI also has a series of MOUs with the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) and other minority-serving societies and organizations. Additionally, within DOI, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) has a Minority Higher Education Program (MHEP) to support partnerships with MSIs that have degree programs related to the OSMRE mission. The Fish and Wildlife Service also partners with MSIs. **Sources:** https://www.doi.gov/pmb/eeo/doi-minority-serving-institutions-program