Welcome to the MCB Virtual Office Hours, we will begin at 2pm EST!

Please submit questions by selecting the Q&A function available to you on Zoom.
MCB Virtual Office Hour
Question and Answers Session:

Submit your questions via the Q&A function.

Click on the Q&A icon on the bottom of your Zoom screen, shown here:

A Q&A box should appear on your screen. Please enter your question or comment in the box. You may select to submit your question anonymously.

To ensure the appropriate response, please begin the questions with the solicitation name: RaMPS: Question/comment

*For specific questions about your project, please contact a Program Director.
MCB Virtual Office Hour

Today’s Topic

Building STEM Research Capacity: New Opportunities for Students and Faculty (RaMP, BRC-BIO, Transitions/MCA)

Copy of this and past presentations at https://mcbblog.nsfbio.com/office-hours/2/
Today’s Topic 1

Building Research Capacity of New Faculty in Biology (BRC-BIO) (NSF 22-500)
BRC-BIO Working Group

• Bianca Garner, MCB
• Leslie Rissler, DEB
• Roland Roberts, DBI
• Colette St. Mary, IOS

Contact us at: BRC-BIO@nsf.gov
Goals of BRC-BIO

• Enhance research capacity by supporting new faculty of biology at minority-serving institutions (MSIs), predominantly undergraduate institutions (PUIs), and other universities and colleges that are not among the nation’s most research-intensive institutions

• Broaden participation by expanding the types of institutions that submit proposals to BIO

• Expand opportunities to groups underrepresented in biology, including Blacks and African Americans, Hispanics, Latinos, Native Americans, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, and persons with disabilities, especially those serving at under-resourced institutions
Eligibility

• Institutions not among the nation’s most research intensive, Predominantly Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs), including some Minority-serving Institutions (MSIs), and other institutions classified as R2, D/PU, or M1-3

• PIs must be at the Assistant Professor rank (or equivalent), with service at that rank for no more than 3 years by the proposal submission date

• The PI’s appointment must have both research and educational responsibilities

• Members of groups typically underrepresented in the biological sciences are especially encouraged to apply
What do awards support?

- Awards will support **new faculty to initiate and build independent research** programs by enhancing their research capacity.

- Projects **can include biology-focused research collaborations** among faculty within the same institution, across peer-, or research-intensive institutions, or partnerships with industry or other non-academic partners that advance the candidate’s research program.

- Projects should enable the **establishment of sustainable research programs** for faculty and enrich undergraduate research experiences and thereby grow the STEM workforce.
Proposals

• Project Descriptions **limited to 6 pages**
• **Intellectual Merit** section should articulate a compelling overarching research goal for their research program, specific research questions to be addressed by this project, and a brief but feasible research plan
• **All fields supported** by the BIO directorate are eligible
• Research should provide a solid foundation upon which to build a long-term, **sustainable research program**
• **Broader Impacts** section should include how the proposed activities will increase participation of underrepresented students of biology including participation in research
Proposals: Other Documents

• **Required Supplementary Document: Impact Statement** (reviewed)
  • 2 pages describing the likely impact of the project
  • Impact on the career development and the research capacity of the faculty participant(s)
  • Impact on undergraduate research experiences

• **Required Single Copy Document: Institutional Letter of Support**
  • 1 page from the PI's department head (or other senior organizational official)
  • Statement that the PI is eligible for this program
  • Statement of support for the proposed plan of research and teaching
Budgets

• Up to $450,000 in research costs and up to $50,000 in justified equipment costs over 3 years
• Costs may include 50% teaching release time/year + 2 months of summer salary
• Personnel such as undergraduates, post-baccalaureate associates, laboratory technicians and postdoctoral support are allowed
• Other acceptable costs:
  • Research and conference related travel
  • Contractual administrative services as needed
  • Strongly justified subawards to collaborating institutions
Solicitation-Specific Criteria

• The potential of the project to increase the quantity, quality, and capacity of research of the PI
• The potential to increase the diversity and number of students engaged in authentic research experiences
• Institutional support for the activity, as described in the institutional support letter
• If applicable, the nature and impact of the proposed collaborations or partnerships
## Target Dates and Timeline

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2022</th>
<th>Target submission window: January (3-31) and June (1-30)</th>
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<td>thereafter</td>
<td>Target submission window - December and June</td>
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For More Information

• Bianca Garner, MCB
• Leslie Rissler, DEB
• Roland Roberts, DBI
• Colette St. Mary, IOS

Contact us at: BRC-BIO@nsf.gov
MCB Virtual Office Hour

Today’s Topic 2

Research and Mentoring for Postbaccalaureates (RaMP) in the Biological Sciences (NSF 22-506)
RaMP@nsf.gov

View past Office Hours Presentations here
Research and Mentoring for Postbaccalaureates (RaMP) in the Biological Sciences (NSF 22-506)

The goals of this program are:

1. to establish networks to support full-time research, mentoring, and training for recent college graduates who have had few or no research or training opportunities during college in research fields typically supported by the Directorate of Biological Sciences (BIO).

2. to produce a more diverse workforce and innovative research outcomes that ensure that science benefits all members of our society.

3. to advance novel and potentially transformative research in areas supported by the Directorate of Biological Sciences.
RaMP network structure:

The RaMP network structure is expected to create **scientific and social impact** by advancing biological research, facilitating increased collaboration and communication, increasing training opportunities, and providing **peer support** for postbaccalaureate **mentees and their mentors**.
Key aspects of the program

• **Scientific Theme**: Proposals should be centered around a cohesive biological research theme.

• **Network**: Provide high-quality interactions of postbaccs with research mentors in a wide range of facilities, diverse mentorship, and professional development opportunities.

• **Cohort Mentoring**: Networks are expected to develop evidence-based mentoring programs that are grounded in established practices that will help meet the network goals.

• It is expected that networks will involve and provide clear benefits to investigators (mentors and co-mentors) from diverse organizations.

• Networks are encouraged to leverage established broadening participation programs.
Postbaccalaureates

• must be U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, or permanent residents of the United States.

• will spend one year developing and executing research projects.

• must have a baccalaureate degree in a biology-related field before the start of the fellowship.

• gain access to diverse career pathways: research-focused M.S. or Ph.D. programs, industry, federal or state agencies, education and research centers, and other STEM careers.

Specific efforts to increase participation of underrepresented groups must be included.
Parts of a network proposal

1. A Scientific Theme focus primarily on BIO core research areas
2. Network Structure and Development
3. Mentoring Program
4. Broader Impacts
5. Evaluation and Assessment Plans
6. Data management plan
7. Project management plan

The organization of the network must include:

a. PI/co-PI(s)
b. Coordinator
b. Mentors and co-mentors
d. Postbaccalaureate participants
e. An external assessor
Budget and postbaccalaureate support

• RaMP networks will engage **8-12 postbaccalaureate participants per year** for 3 years (each award is expected to support a total of approximately 30 postbaccalaureate participants).

• Each participant will be supported by a **stipend of at least $32,500 per year**.

• The maximum request per eligible network is **$3,000,000 for up to 48 months**.

• Funds to support research activities, professional development activities, training, travel are detailed in the **budget guidelines** under proposal preparation.

**DEADLINE: January 20, 2022**
RaMP Questions

• Contact email: RaMP@nsf.gov
• Program site: https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/research-and-mentoring-postbaccalaureates-biological-sciences-ramp
Mid-Career Opportunities

NSF 21-508  Transitions to Excellence in Molecular and Cellular Biosciences (MCB program)

Description: Enables mid-career or later-stage scientists (Associate/Full Prof) to pursue exciting new avenues of inquiry and expand or transition their research toward greater impact.

Priorities:
- Strong foundation of prior accomplishment
- Compelling plan for moving the research in new directions
- Cross-disciplinary projects encouraged

Funding: PI salary for sabbatical (6 mo); 2 more years of funding to build new research program; limit: $750,000 total.

Deadline: No deadline.

NSF 21-516  Mid-Career Advancement (multiple NSF directorates)

Description: Provides scientists and engineers (Associate Prof) protected time and resources for cutting-edge research at a career stage replete with constraints.

Priorities:
- Projects demonstrating substantive benefits to scientific and career advancement unlikely without MCA support

Funding: PI salary (6.5 mo), collaborator salary (1 mo); $ 100,000 for research/training.

Deadline: First Monday in February, annually.

MCA webinar on Jan 10th, 1-2 pm EST; Register: https://debblog.nsfbio.com/office-hours/
A solicitation of interest:

• Leading Culture Change Through Professional Societies of Biology (BIO-LEAPS)

• Program Solicitation
  NSF 22-542

• July 1, 2022
MCB Virtual Office Hour

Next:

February 9\textsuperscript{th}, 2022 at 2-3 pm EST

Topic: Crossing Divisions in Biology – Opportunities in Other NSF/BIO Programs (IOS, DEB, DBI)

Feel free to email topic suggestions to:
Lourdes Holloway: lhollowa@nsf.gov or Sonam Ahluwalia: sahluwal@nsf.gov