

VUMC Limited Submission Opportunity

Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science: NSF INCLUDES

Applications due August 8, 2024

VUMC: These instructions are for VUMC investigators. VU investigators should apply through [InfoReady](#) and address any questions to VU-LSO@vanderbilt.edu.

VUMC may serve as a **lead organization on only one proposal per project type**, not including conferences, to the [NSF INCLUDES Program](#). For this year's deadline, only the *Network Connectors*, *Design and Development Launch Pilots*, *Collaborative Change Consortia*, and *Conferences* project types are accepting applications. The *Conferences* category is not limited, and faculty interested in applying to this project type do not have to submit an internal application.

NSF INCLUDES is a comprehensive, national initiative to enhance U.S. leadership in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) discovery and innovation, focused on NSF's commitment to ensuring accessibility and inclusivity in STEM fields, as communicated in the [NSF Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years \(FY\) 2022 - 2026](#). The vision of NSF INCLUDES is to catalyze the STEM enterprise to work collaboratively for inclusive change, resulting in a STEM workforce that reflects the diversity of the Nation's population. More specifically, NSF INCLUDES seeks to motivate and accelerate collaborative infrastructure building to advance equity and sustain systemic change to broaden participation in STEM fields at scale. Significant advancement in the inclusion of groups that have historically been excluded from or under-served in STEM will result in a new generation of STEM talent and leadership to secure the Nation's future and long-term economic competitiveness.

With this solicitation, NSF offers support for five types of projects that connect and contribute to the National Network: **(1) Design and Development Launch Pilots, (2) Collaborative Change Consortia, (3) Alliances, (4) Network Connectors, and (5) Conferences.**

****Note:** only the *Network Connectors*, *Design and Development Launch Pilots*, *Collaborative Change Consortia*, and *Conferences* project types are accepting applications for the 2024 program deadline.

The NSF INCLUDES National Network is a multifaceted collaboration of agencies, organizations, and individuals working collectively to broaden participation in STEM. The NSF INCLUDES National Network serves as a testbed for designing, implementing, studying, refining, and scaling collaborative change models and is composed of:

- NSF INCLUDES funded projects
- Other NSF funded projects
- Subcommittee on Federal Coordination in STEM Education (FC-STEM) agencies
- Scholars engaged in broadening participation research and evaluation, and
- Organizations that support the development of talent from all sectors of society to build an inclusive STEM workforce.

All NSF INCLUDES funded projects must operationalize five design elements of collaborative infrastructure - (1) shared vision, (2) partnerships, (3) goals and metrics, (4) leadership and communication, and (5) expansion, sustainability, and scale - to create systemic change that will lead to

the substantially broadened participation of individuals from historically excluded and undeserved groups in STEM.

Limit on Number of Proposals per PI or co-PI:

An individual may serve as a PI or Co-PI on only one NSF INCLUDES proposal per annual due date , not including conferences. A PI or co-PI of an active NSF INCLUDES Alliance may not be a PI or co-PI on a proposal under this solicitation, if the Alliance would still be active at the start of the new award. This limit does not include conference proposals.

Relevant NSF deadlines and considerations for each program type:

NSF Deadlines	Available Project Types	Notes
Oct. 22, 2024	Design and Development Launch Pilots, Collaborative Change Consortia, Network Connectors	The August 8, 2024 internal deadline only applies to these project types
Oct. 31, 2023 - Oct. 30, 2024	Conferences	Not limited; faculty interested in applying to this project type do not have to submit an internal application
Oct 23, 2025	Alliances, Network Connectors	An internal competition for these project types will be held at a later date

See the [solicitation](#) for more information.

Internal Application Process:

Anyone interested in being considered as VUMC's potential nominee must submit the following (in a single PDF) to LSO@vanderbilt.edu by **5 p.m. on August 8:**

1. Description of your project, including a summary budget (2 pages max).
 - Specify the **type of project** for which you are applying (Network Connectors; Design and Development Pilots, or Collaborative Change Consortia)
 - Please include a discussion of the project's:
 - Shared vision for broadening participation and effecting change
 - Goals and metrics
 - Potential for sustainability and scale
 - Proposed list of participating institutions and senior personnel
2. NIH Biosketch or 5-page CV
3. Statement of support from department chair/center director

Any questions about this opportunity or the LSO process may be directed to LSO@vanderbilt.edu