Grant Title: ADVANCED TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION (ATE)

Grant Number: NSF 07-530

Area of Research: Promote improvement in the education of science and engineering technicians at the undergraduate and secondary school levels.


Amount: ATE Projects: $25,000-300,000 per year, 45 awards; Large Scale Materials Development: Up to $500,000 per year; ATE Small Grants for Institutions: Up to $150,000 each, 15 awards. National Centers: Up to $5,000,000 per award, 2 awards; Regional Centers: Up to $3,000,000 per award, 3 awards; Resource Centers: Up to $1,600,000 per award, 4 awards; Planning Grants for Centers: Up to $70,000 per award, 4 awards; Targeted Research on Technician Education: $100,000-300,000 per year, 5-8 awards.

Length of Support: ATE Projects: Up to 3 years; Large Scale Materials Development: Up to 4 years; ATE Small Grants for Institutions: 2 years; National Centers: 4 years; Regional Centers: 4 years; Resource Centers: 4 years; Planning Grants for Centers: 4 years; Targeted Research on Technician Education: Up to 4 years.

Eligible Applicants: None specified. Two-year colleges and other associate degree-granting institutions are especially encouraged to submit proposals, and all proposals are expected to include one or more two-year colleges in leadership roles.

Agency/Department: NSF; Directorate for Education and Human Resources

Summary: The program involves partnerships between academic institutions and employers 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. A secondary goal is articulation between two-year and four-year programs for K-12 prospective teachers that focus on technological education. Additionally, the program invites proposals focusing on applied research relating to technician education. Two program tracks are listed; ATE Projects and/or ATE Centers. ATE Projects may include activities such as program improvement, professional development for educators, curriculum and educational materials development, teacher preparation, and/or small grants for institution new to the ATE program. ATE Centers may include National Centers of Excellence, Regional Centers of Excellence, or Resource Centers. Targeted Research on Technician Education supports research on technician education, employment trends, the changing role of technicians in the workplace, and other topics that advance the knowledge base needed to make technician education programs more effective and more forward-looking. Each project or center has its own requirements, funding and duration criteria.