

NDSU Advance FORWARD

Leap Lab Renovation Grant Program Call for Applications for 2015-2016

Application Deadline: April 24, 2015

Purpose: The goal of the NSF ADVANCE program is to “increase the representation and advancement of women in academic science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) careers, thereby contributing to the development of a more diverse science and engineering workforce.” The Leap Lab Renovation Grant is intended to help female STEM faculty to improve lab infrastructure to advance their research programs. *Funds are available for lab renovation only, not for equipment or instrumentation.*

Award Period: All funds must be used by February 26, 2016.

Total Number of Awards: 1-5 annually

Total funds available for the program: \$100,000

Source of Funding: NSF ADVANCE Grant HRD-0811239, and ND EPSCoR through NSF grant #EPS-0447679.

Eligibility: Assistant, Associate, and not-yet-tenured Professor ranks of NDSU women faculty in STEM disciplines may apply. Priority will be given to Assistant Professors who have recently received a third year review. Associate Professors will be given priority status if two years past their promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor and have at least two years before they intend to apply for promotion to Professor. Priority will also be given to those who were hired at Associate Professor rank and have at least two years before they intend to apply for promotion to Professor. Associate Professors who previously received a Leap Lab Renovation Grant at the Assistant Professor rank are eligible to apply, but will not fall into the priority category. Team applications for shared space are accepted, however the PI and all Co-PIs must meet eligibility criteria, and only the lead PI will be considered for priority status.

NDSU Advance FORWARD proposes to increase advancement of women faculty in core STEM disciplines, including the biological sciences, agricultural sciences, computer sciences, earth sciences, mathematical sciences, physical sciences, psychology, sociology and engineering. The NSF's list of STEM degree programs can be found at <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/nsf08321/pdf/nsf08321.pdf>, and serves as a guide as to which disciplines fall under STEM by NSF standards. Classification as STEM can be ambiguous; therefore *the onus is on the applicant to clearly describe how her research area is categorized as STEM*. Proposals that are not clearly STEM in nature will not be considered.

Application Format: Application materials, saved as *one* PDF file, must include:

- Advance FORWARD Leap Lab Renovation Grant Program application form. Be sure all information is filled in correctly.
- Project Description: Not to exceed 3 pages, include details of the renovation proposed, a description of the research to be completed in the renovated space, and why the renovation would be needed in order to conduct this research.
- Curriculum Vitae – Not to exceed 2 pages per investigator (shall include education background, professional experience, honors and awards, and publications). All grant proposals funded, pending and declined must be listed and may be included on additional pages. Clearly indicate which proposals have been submitted while at NDSU.
- Attach copies of renovation cost estimates.

Application Submission: Applications should be submitted by email to ndsuforward@ndsu.edu. The subject line must read “Leap Lab Renovation Grant Application.” Your department chair/head, dean, and all team members must be carbon copied on the submission email message.

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An application will not be considered if:

- The applicant is not eligible
- The research area is not clearly in STEM
- The applicant has received prior Leap Lab Renovation Grant support at the same rank (as PI)
- The applicant submits more than one application per round (as PI)
- Instructions are not followed correctly

Obligations:

- All funds must be used within the award period.
- Awardees must submit a brief synopsis on the use of Grant at the end of the award period.
- Awardees must participate in program assessment.
- All scholarship resulting from this award must acknowledge support from the NDSU Advance FORWARD program sponsored by the National Science Foundation, *HRD-0811239* and *#EPS-0447679*.

Review Process: Proposals will be screened for compliance by representatives of the NDSU FORWARD office. Compliant proposals will be sent to at least two external reviewers. External reviewers will be selected for technical expertise related to the research area proposed. An NDSU internal review committee will evaluate the proposals, the external evaluators' feedback, and make the award decisions. Special care will be taken to prevent conflicts of interest. Identities of all reviewers will remain confidential. Compliant applicants will receive internal and external review summaries. The evaluation forms are posted on the FORWARD web site for your guidance as you prepare your proposal.

External Reviewer Criteria

- Scientific and intellectual merit.
- Qualifications of the PI to carry out the proposed project.
- Soundness of the budget.
- Overall quality of the application.

Internal Review Committee Criteria

- Priority status.
- Statement of purpose and potential for positive impact on achievement of career goals and successful promotion and/or tenure of the PI.
- Evaluation of the external reviewers' feedback.
- Soundness of the budget justification.
- Overall quality of the application.

Contacts: Direct inquiries to Canan Bilen-Green (canan.bilen.green@ndsu.edu, 1-7040) and Charlene Wolf-Hall (charlene.hall@ndsu.edu, 1-6387).

About the NDSU Advance FORWARD Program. Funded by a five-year, \$3.7 million National Science Foundation Institutional Transformation award, the NDSU Advance FORWARD Program seeks to study and address issues of recruitment, retention, and advancement of women faculty within the STEM disciplines. The specific goals of the program are to (1) improve the climate across the campus and narrow the gap between men's and women's perceptions of the campus climate; (2) employ targeted recruiting strategies to recruit women faculty; (3) retain more women faculty through their probationary period and the promotion/tenure process; (4) support women associate professors as they move to full professor and hire advanced rank women to build a critical mass; and (5) promote and hire women faculty into academic leadership positions.