LIMITED SUBMISSION OPPORTUNITY: National Science Foundation (NSF) Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL) program

To apply for this program, please download and submit a Notice of Intent form to ored-rfdteam@uidaho.edu by August 6, 2018

Note: If we receive more NOIs than the number of proposals allowed by this program, we will contact PIs with a request to submit concept papers.

The Research and Faculty Development team in the Office of Research and Economic Development is assessing interest in applying for the National Science Foundation (NSF) Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL) program, a limited submission funding opportunity. The University of Idaho can serve as the lead institution of up to three proposals to this program, so we may need to run an internal review process to determine which proposals can be submitted to NSF. Interested individuals will submit a Notice of Intent form by August 6, 2018, as detailed below.

View the NSF program solicitation here.

**Overview**
The AISL program seeks to advance new approaches to and evidence-based understanding of the design and development of STEM learning opportunities for the public in informal environments; provide multiple pathways for broadening access to and engagement in STEM learning experiences; advance innovative research on and assessment of STEM learning in informal environments; and engage the public of all ages in learning STEM in informal environments.

The AISL program's priorities are: (1) Maximizing Strategic Impact, (2) Enhancing Knowledge-Building, (3) Promoting Innovation, (4) Advancing Collaboration, (5) Strengthening Infrastructure and Building Capacity, and (6) Broadening Participation. Through these priorities, described in more detail throughout the solicitation, the program contributes to STEM engagement and literacy, workforce development, and educational success. It may also narrow the gap between the advancements in scientific discovery and the public's understanding of science.

**Project types (6)**

(1) Pilots and Feasibility Studies
*For investigating approaches to STEM learning and design of learning environments or problems that establish the basis for future research, design, and development of models or approaches.*

(2) Research in Service to Practice, (3) Innovations in Development; (4) Broad Implementation
*Provide opportunities to more fully explore questions and issues for which there are preliminary findings, significant literature, or a practice base. Proposers are cautioned against trying to do too much within a single project. Consider whether the proposed work is in the theory-building, theory-refining, or ready-to-scale stage.*

(5) Literature Reviews, Syntheses, or Meta-Analyses, and (6) Conferences
*Additional mechanisms for building capacity, advancing informal STEM learning, and synthesizing knowledge.*

**Limit on Number of Proposals per Organization: 3**
An institution or organization may serve as lead on no more than three (3) proposals submitted to the November deadline. However, an institution or organization may partner as a subaward on other proposals submitted.

**Limit on Number of Proposals per PI or Co-PI: 3**
An individual may be included as a Principal Investigator (PI)/Co-PI on no more than three (3) proposals submitted to the November deadline.

**Deadlines (Pacific Time):**

| | |
|---|---|
| August 6, 2018, 5:00 p.m. | Notice of intent to apply |
| August 8, 2018 | PIs notified if concept papers are required |
| August 27, 2018, 5:00 p.m. | Concept paper (if necessary) |
| November 07, 2018, 5:00 p.m. | Proposal to NSF |

For additional information, please contact Research & Faculty Development.