THE QEM NETWORK PLANS NSF PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTIONS

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) The Quality Education for Minorities Network (QEM) announced today that it will conduct a November workshop for Historically Black College and University, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (HBCU STEM) educators and researchers, to give them technical assistance in the process of submitting proposals to the National Science Foundation (NSF). The symposium is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, November 1st and 2nd, in Washington, DC.

“The National Science Foundation’s Division on Research on Learning NSF is sponsoring these sessions, the long-range goal of which is to enhance the grant-writing skills of those staff and faculty members at Historically Black Colleges and Universities who are interested in submitting viable proposals,” said QEM’s president and CEO, Ivory A. Toldson, Ph.D. “The educational institutions that are most successful at being awarded research funding opportunities, are those that have perfected their proposal-writing skills, and have therefore gained the confidence of the Agencies that offer these research grants,” he added.

QEM will provide proposal development assistance to the following seven programs under DRL The Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL), The Discovery Research PreK-12 (DR- K12), The Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST), and STEM + Computing K-12 Education (STEM+C); Computer Science for All (CSforAll), the Education and Human Resources (EHR), and the Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER).
Interested faculty and staff members must apply in two-member teams when applicable that include a STEM faculty member and an education faculty member, researcher, or social-behavioral scientist.

NSF has designed a unique approach for advancing research, development, and field-based improvement strategies they are as follows: **Discovery Research PreK-12** (DR- K12): which invites proposals that address immediate challenges facing preK-12 STEM education, as well as those that anticipate radically different structures and functions of preK-12 teaching and learning. **Advancing Informal STEM Learning** (AISL) supports six types of projects: Pilots and Feasibility Studies, Research in Service to Practice, innovations in Development, Broad Implementation, Literature Reviews, Syntheses, or Meta- Analyses, and Conferences.

In addition, NSF offers the **Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers** (ITEST), which seeks proposals that pursue innovative instructional approaches and practices in formal and informal learning environments. This program encourages close collaboration with strategic partnerships, and **STEM Computing, K-12 Education** (STEM+C). This program focuses on research and development of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to the integration of computing within (STEM) teaching and learning for preK-12 students in both formal and informal settings. Other offerings include **Computer Science for All** (CSforAll) focuses on researcher-practitioner partnerships (RPPs) that foster the research and development needed to bring CS and CT to all schools.

The **EHR Core Research** (ECR) provides funding in critical research areas that are essential, broad and enduring. EHR seeks proposals that will help synthesize, build and/or expand research foundations in the following focal areas: STEM learning, STEM learning environments, STEM workforce development, and broadening participation in STEM. **CAREER**, is a Foundation-wide activity that offers the NSF’s most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the mission of their department or organization. Each of these programs is intended to improve
the capacity of their respective fields to further STEM learning, and are central to NSF’s strategic goals of *Learning* and *Discovery* goals. Please call QEM for more information, (202) 659-1818.

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