

## Grant Opportunities

December 2015

In an effort to better inform faculty and staff about grant opportunities, this report will be updated monthly providing a high-level glimpse at funding possibilities for which projects could be developed that are consistent with BCTC's strategic plan and annual priorities.

### Federal Grants

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**Title:** [Outstanding New Environmental Scientist Award](#)

**Sponsor:** National Institutes of Health

**Due Date:** Letter of Intent Due January 26, 2016; Application Due February 26, 2016

**Maximum Funding Amount and Duration:** \$250K per year (up to 5 years) in direct costs; an additional \$250K for career enhancement over 5 years is also possible.

**Special Notes:** Also available in 2017 and 2018. Submission in 2016 would be difficult due to complexities associated with NIH proposals.

**Description:** The Outstanding New Environmental Scientist Award is intended to identify the most talented Early Stage Investigators who intend to make a long-term commitment to research in the Environmental Health Sciences and assist them in launching an innovative research program focused on the understanding of environmental exposure effects on people's health.

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**Title:** [Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program](#)

**Sponsor:** U.S. Department of Commerce

**Due Date:** February 12, 2016

**Maximum Funding Amount and Duration:** \$5,500 stipend in addition to subsistence and travel; program takes place during summer.

**Special Notes:** It is anticipated that approximately 110 students will be supported.

**Description:** The U.S. Department of Commerce Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program provides opportunities for undergraduates to work in a National Institute of Standards and Technology research setting located in Boulder, CO or Gaithersburg, MD over the summer. Institutions of Higher Education with degree-granting programs in biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, materials science, mathematics, nanoscale science, neutron research, and/or physics are eligible to apply and nominate students. In addition to the application made by the college, nominated students must complete their own application process.

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**Title:** [Partnerships for Innovation: Accelerating Innovation Research – Technology Translation](#)

**Sponsor:** National Science Foundation

**Due Date:** Letter of Intent Due March 1, 2016; Full Proposal Due April 1, 2016

**Maximum Funding Amount and Duration:** \$200K over 18 months.

**Special Notes:** Additional grant competitions in September of 2016 and March of 2017.

**Description:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) Partnerships for Innovation: Accelerating Innovation Research – Technology Translation program helps move previously NSF-funded research results toward commercialization. Please note, the Principal Investigator or co-PI must have had an NSF award that ended within 6 years of the full proposal deadline date or be a current NSF award recipient. The proposed project must be derived from the research results and/or discoveries from this underlying NSF award. From the RFP: "The proposed project should be into the proof-of-concept or early prototype phase with promising results and an identified potential market need or application. The proposed research should address the next stage technology/knowledge gap(s) or barrier(s) that must

be solved/demonstrated as part of the path from basic research discovery to eventual successful commercialization.”

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**Title:** [H-1B TechHire Partnership Grants](#)

**Sponsor:** Department of Labor

**Due Date:** March 11, 2016

**Maximum Funding Amount and Duration:** \$2M to \$5M over 4 years.

**Special Notes:** Funding amount contingent upon proposed participants served. Applicants must secure leveraged resources in the amount of 25% of the total grant request.

**Description:** The U.S. Department of Labor H-1B TechHire Partnership Grant program seeks to train workers with information technology (IT) skills required for well-paying, middle/high-skilled, high-growth jobs across occupations and industries for which employers use H-1B visas to hire foreign workers (e.g. IT, healthcare, advanced manufacturing, financial services, broadband, and educational services). Grants require public/private partnerships that include all of the following:

- The public workforce investment system
- Education and training providers (e.g., community colleges)
- A business-related nonprofit organization, an organization functioning as a workforce intermediary for the expressed purpose of serving the needs of businesses, a consortium of three or more businesses, or at least three independent businesses

Grants should focus on individuals who have barriers to training and employment opportunities, including:

- Youth and young adults who are out of secondary school, between the ages of 17 and 29
- Special populations: individuals with disabilities, individuals with limited English proficiency, or individuals with criminal records

From the RFP, proposed strategies include “...assessment, coaching and counseling, short-term or accelerated training, and longer-term training leading to degrees and/or industry-recognized credentials. All projects will incorporate a strong up-front assessment component that allows for a customization of services and training to meet the needs of the targeted population(s) to become employed, retain their employment, or advance to a new position. Participants will be assessed and provided training and services in one or more of the following three customized intervention tracks to employment:

1. Intensive coaching and other short-term, specialized services culminating in direct job placement into middle- and high-skilled jobs, paid internships, or Registered Apprenticeships.
  2. Short-term or accelerated training that may or may not result in an industry-recognized credential, but will lead to middle- and high-skilled high-growth jobs in H-1B occupations and industries.
  3. Training along a career pathway that leads to an industry-recognized credential and employment in middle- and high-skilled jobs in H-1B occupations and industries.
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## Non-Federal Grants

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**Title:** [Learning and Leadership Grants](#)

**Sponsor:** NEA Foundation

**Due Date:** February 1, 2016

**Maximum Funding Amount and Duration:** \$2,000 for individuals; \$5,000 for groups. Funds must be spent within 12 months of notification.

**Special Notes:** These grants are ongoing, with three submission deadlines annually.

**Description:** NEA Learning and Leadership Grants support public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or **faculty and staff (excludes Administrators) in public institutions of higher education** for one of the following two purposes:

- Grants to individuals fund participation in high-quality professional development experiences, such as summer institutes, conferences, or action research.
- Grants to groups fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson plan development, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff.

All professional development must improve practice, curriculum, and student achievement. "One-shot" professional growth experiences, such as attending a national conference or engaging a professional speaker, are discouraged. Decisions regarding the content of the professional growth activities must be based upon an assessment of student work undertaken with colleagues, and must be integrated into the institutional planning process. Grant funds may be used for fees, travel expenses, books, or other materials that enable applicants to learn subject matter, instructional approaches, and skills. Grant funds may not be used to pursue degrees, pay indirect costs or salaries, or **to support travel costs of more than one person.**

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**Title:** [Active Learning Center Grant](#)

**Sponsor:** Steelcase Education

**Due Date:** February 12, 2016

**Maximum Funding Amount and Duration:** Up to \$62K over two years.

**Special Notes:** Up to 15 of these grants are awarded annually.

**Description:** The Active Learning Center Grant invests in visionary educators and educational institutions that promote the advancement of active learning. As a grantmaker, Steelcase Education seeks to identify and support leading educators and educational institutions looking to implement and expand active learning initiatives by leveraging physical learning space. Grants will provide one active learning classroom, including furniture, integrated technology, design review, installation, training, and post-occupancy measurement tools. Grant recipients choose from four types of classrooms designed for 24-32 students. Applicants must commit to providing a dedicated classroom with appropriate square footage, participate in Steelcase Education training, conduct an impact study (including completing an evaluation administered by Steelcase Education and committing to disseminate results), complete an annual report each year, post Steelcase Education signage for the classroom, provide Steelcase Education and an installer with reasonable access for installation, participate in a community of practice, and allow Steelcase Education to name the grantee institution in its communications.

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**Title:** [SPARKS! Ignition Grants for Libraries](#)

**Sponsor:** Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

**Due Date:** February 15, 2016

**Maximum Funding Amount and Duration:** \$10K to \$25K for up to one year.

**Description:** Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries are a special funding opportunity within the IMLS National Leadership Grants for Libraries program. These small grants encourage libraries and archives to test and evaluate specific innovations in the ways they operate and the services they provide. Sparks Grants support the deployment, testing, and evaluation of promising and groundbreaking new tools, products, services, or organizational practices. You may propose activities or approaches that involve risk, as long as the risk is balanced by significant potential for improvement in the ways libraries and archives serve their communities. Successful proposals will address problems, challenges, or needs of broad relevance to libraries and/or archives. A proposed project should test a specific, innovative response to the identified problem and present a plan to make the findings widely and openly

accessible. To maximize the public benefit from federal investments in these grants, the Sparks! program will fund only projects with the following characteristics:

- Broad Potential Impact
- Significant Innovation

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**Title:** [Education, Social Service, Health Care, Civic and Cultural, and Environmental Grants](#)

**Sponsor:** Dr. Scholl Foundation

**Due Date:** March 1, 2016 (Applications may be submitted any time between October 1 and March 1)

**Maximum Funding Amount and Duration:** \$25K over one year.

**Special Notes:** Grant awards range between \$5K and \$25K.

**Description:** The foundation considers applications for grants in the following areas: Education, Social Service, Health Care, Civic and Cultural, and Environmental. However, other worthwhile projects may be considered. The categories above are broad to give flexibility in providing grants. Examples of grants awarded for education in the past include: education programs to fight poverty, scholarship programs, early childhood education and care programs, and equipment for an environmental sciences program.

The foundation does not consider the following for funding:

- Organizations that do not have a valid IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter
  - Political organizations, political action committees, or individual campaigns whose primary purpose is to influence legislation
  - Foundations that are themselves grantmaking bodies
  - Grants for loans, operating deficit reductions, the liquidation of a debt or general support
  - Grants to individuals
  - Grants are rarely made to endowments or capital campaigns
  - Event sponsorships including the purchase of tables, tickets or advertisements
  - More than one request from the same organization in the same year
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*If you have questions or would like more information about a grant opportunity, contact Alan Lawson at 859-246-6626 or [alan.lawson@kctcs.edu](mailto:alan.lawson@kctcs.edu).*