



FY 11 Minnesota STEM Equity Pipeline and MN New Look NTO Projects

Participation Guidelines

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the Minnesota Department of Education are jointly seeking applications from consortia to participate in projects that increase the participation and completion of females in STEM-related or other nontraditional careers. Consortia are invited to apply to become participate as a project site for peer mentoring or as a peer leader for the Minnesota STEM Equity Pipeline (SEPP) or MN New Look Project.

Applications are due by October 22, 2010 and can be submitted on line at the following link: Please be sure to specify if your POS focus will be STEM or another nontraditional career field/pathway. Applicants will be notified of participation by November 3, 2010. Participation will begin October 2010 and continue during the 2010 – 2011 academic year. The STEM Equity Pipeline program is supported by the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity Education Foundation (NAPEEF) and funded by a grant through the National Science Foundation. The MN New Look NTO Project is supported by funds from the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Act of 2006.

For further information, contact:

Eva Scates-Winston
Equity and Collaboration Specialist
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
eva-scates-winston@so.mnscu.edu
651-201-1680

Al Hauge
Transition-Disabled Specialist
Center for Postsecondary Success
Minnesota Department of Education
al.hauge@state.mn.us
651-582-8409

Overview

Team Members

Team members will differ depending on consortium membership and goals, but should include both secondary and postsecondary partners, with a suggestion of at least 4 people representing the participating school district(s) and college in the consortium. Suggestions include but not limited to those personnel who have direct contact or impact on student enrollment and success: *Perkins Coordinators, institutional researchers, professional/faculty development leaders, student support services staff/counselors, campus diversity committee members and teachers/faculty of STEM-related or nontraditional CTE career clusters.*

It is important that at least one member of the team be proficient in data analysis, especially for nontraditional and special populations. Most importantly, teams should include individuals who are in positions of influence/decision makers and/or who are implementers.

Benefits of Participation

Participating Consortium will receive the following during their participation, depending on their needs and interests:

- Training, materials, technical assistance, and professional/faculty development. This will include training in the Five-Step Program Improvement Process and equity for student achievement (SAGE/GESA). Training will be conducted on-site where possible, with follow-up web sessions.
- Equity 101, 102 online training
- Guidance in conducting root cause research, which may include conducting student and faculty surveys, interviews, and/or focus groups to validate a team's hypotheses about the barriers women are facing to entering or completing nontraditional STEM related or other nontraditional career cluster programs of study.
- Liaison training (proposed November 2010) for leadership to support other consortia in successful nontraditional performance in POS implementation
- Limited mileage reimbursement, where available.
- Mini grant support and online resources to meet your nontraditional student population goals.
- A variety of training sessions will be offered will and provide options for participants to choose what technical assistance would be helpful to them.

Expectations of Continued or New Participation

Time commitment: Participants can expect to investment of about approximately 10-12 days over the next year for the following: orientation/kick off meeting, up to 10 days for training and workshops offered (some are optional); 3 – 6 days conducting root cause research and data analysis and developing an implementation strategy. **The pilot sites must be willing to invest human and financial resources to improving nontraditional performance and to integrate program results and planning with the FY12 Perkins plan.**

Expectations of newly participating consortia include:

- Each consortium selected for participation is expected to designate at least one person who will be responsible for working with staff from the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the Minnesota Department of Education to ensure the availability and validity of data from all schools/colleges that are part of this team.
- Complete a performance gap analysis of the STEM related POS area or the selected nontraditional POS of focus for this project
- Participation in the Equity Showcase and training Spring 2011

Current participating teams:

- Must be willing to act as a Mentor/Liaison, which provides peer support, direction and technical assistance to other consortia who are implementing a STEM-related or other nontraditional programs of study and
- Identify another consortia as partner within this role
- Participation in the Equity Showcase and training Spring 2011

Acting as “Extension Agents” – STEM Equity Pipeline Projects only

The members of the project site teams will be expected to share lessons learned as well as train others in the process through a variety of methodologies. These could include conducting workshops at state or regional sponsored professional development, writing articles for state newsletters and publications, conducting online training with others, and working one-on-one with other college and high school teams interested in implementing the process to improve their performance on the Perkins nontraditional core indicators. Every member of the pilot site team should be prepared to assist in this endeavor in the implementation of year two of this project.

Selection criteria

- Documented need for improvement in nontraditional participation and completion rates in STEM-related or nontraditional CTE career pathways
- Clear statement of specific needs and goals for increasing participation and completion in STEM-related or other nontraditional programs of study
- Evidence of commitment from both high school and college consortium representatives to participate in the planning and implementation of this project.
- Evidence of commitment to act as liaison/mentor to other consortia needing peer support and technical assistance

Timeline

October 22, 2010 Applications dues (revision of FY10)

October -November 2010 Training: Mentor-Liaison training (TBD – ITV and/or WebEx)

November 3, 2010 Notification of Participation

November 10, 2010 Kickoff Meeting (in conjunction Minnesota CTE Fall 2010 conference)

December 2010-January 2011 Program Improvement Process/Review Steps 1-3

Winter, 2010 Development of Implementation Plan; consortia planning

Spring 2011 Implementation (or continuation) of pilot project

Spring 2011 Workshops and training offered

Spring, 2011 Presenter at Equity Showcase; FY12 Perkins plan reflects sustainability of the nontraditional performance strategies learned



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