

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**MISSISSIPPI NSF EPSCoR PROGRAM**  
**MODELING AND SIMULATION OF COMPLEX SYSTEMS**  
**INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE**  
**2011-2012**

This Request for Proposals solicits applications from the Mississippi EPSCoR jurisdiction for financial support to foster international exchange. Proposals must be submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the proposed travel.

**BACKGROUND**

The research universities in Mississippi (Jackson State University, Mississippi State University, the University of Mississippi (including the University of Mississippi Medical Center), and the University of Southern Mississippi) have been awarded a five year NSF EPSCoR grant (EPS-0903787) to promote research in Modeling and Simulation of Complex Systems. The three research focus areas within this grant are computational chemistry (CompChem), computational biology (CompBio) and biosystems simulation (BioSim). This award provides support for at least three grants per year for an International Exchange Program.

**INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OBJECTIVES**

The goal of the NSF EPSCoR International Exchange is to foster international collaborations among scientists, to grow our network and to give students the opportunity to gain the skills needed in our highly interconnected global scientific communities and economies. The Exchange will fund travel by Mississippi undergraduate and graduate students and faculty to research institutions in other countries. The planned activities should make the institutions involved more competitive for international collaboration programs sponsored by NSF, USDA, NIH and other funding agencies. See <http://nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=OISE> for a summary of the international activities sponsored by NSF.

These International Exchange grants are intended to stimulate collaborative research with international institutions. Sample activities include a trip that involves meetings with contacts at international institutions to plan future collaborations, students working in the laboratory of an international collaborator, etc. This funding is not typically appropriate for travel to an international conference. Reciprocal visits by faculty and students at collaborating international institutions are encouraged. However, only funding for travel by faculty and students from Mississippi EPSCoR institutions can be supported by this Exchange.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Faculty at Jackson State University, Mississippi State University, the University of Mississippi (including the University of Mississippi Medical Center), and the University of Southern Mississippi who are senior personnel on the EPSCoR award (EPS-0903787) are eligible to apply for these grants for travel for themselves and their students. Investigators other than Senior Personnel are eligible to apply if a faculty member who is Senior Personnel serves as PI or Co-PI on the grant and the focus of the grant aligns with the core research objectives of the EPSCoR Grant. The Senior Personnel member serving as PI or co-PI is not required to be a traveler. Investigators are eligible for a maximum of one award per year.

**FUNDING AMOUNT**

Funding for each proposal should not exceed \$6,000 in total costs including F&A. F&A should be included at the appropriate rate for the traveler's university.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

A written report (1-2 pages) detailing activities during the exchange period must be submitted within 6 months after completion of the travel. It should detail research activities, outcomes, collaborations developed, any grant applications and publication developing from the exchange. A reminder will be sent 1 month before the report is due.

## **COST SHARING REQUIREMENT**

The traveler's university must provide cost share in the amount of 20%. Federal funds cannot be used for cost share.

## **FORMAT OF PROPOSAL**

Applications should be prepared with the following specifications:

Page Size: 8 ½ x 11 inches; Spacing: Single; Font: Times New Roman or Arial, 12 point; Margins: 1”

### **1. Cover Page**

- a. Proposal Title
- b. Principal Investigator
- c. Co-Investigator(s) (Full name, Title, Primary Affiliation, Phone Numbers, Fax Number, E-mail Address)
- d. Indicate who will be traveling and time frame of the exchange.

### **2. Proposal (Maximum of 2 pages)**

- a. Description of Planned Travel (~1 page)
- b. Expected Results (~0.5 page)
- c. Potential for generating competitive funding (~0.5 page) and/or benefit to student participant.

### **4. Budget**

Funds can be used to cover the cost of airfare, lodging, meals and other travel expenses such as in-country transportation. F & A and cost share must be included in the budget.

### **5. Appendices**

- a. Budget & budget justification (1 page maximum)
- b. Letter of support from international collaborator.
- c. NSF 2-page biosketch for each senior investigator.

## **PROPOSAL REVIEW**

Proposals will be evaluated and funding decisions made by the Mississippi EPSCoR Steering Committee for each proposal as it is received. The Steering Committee will work to assure that funds are distributed among the research focus areas and the institutions over the duration the EPSCoR grant. A funding decision will be rendered and communicated to the proposal PI within 2 weeks of receipt of the complete application.

## **SUBMISSION PROCEDURE**

Proposals must be submitted as a single PDF file and sent as an email attachment to:

Dr. Susan Bridges  
Science Coordinator  
Modeling and Simulation of Complex Systems  
Mississippi NSF EPSCoR Program  
Mississippi State University  
Email: [bridges@cse.msstate.edu](mailto:bridges@cse.msstate.edu)  
Tel: 662-325-7505

Deadline: This RFP will remain open until all funds have been obligated for the current year. Applications may be submitted and approved for travel in either the current or following budget year. Proposals must be submitted at least four weeks prior to the proposed travel. Notification will be sent to all senior investigators once funds for a particular year have been exhausted.