

NSF FACULTY EARLY CAREER DEVELOPMENT (CAREER) PROGRAM

FACT SHEET

This program is a Foundation-wide activity that offers the National Science Foundation's most prestigious awards for faculty members beginning their independent careers. The intent of the program is to provide stable support at a sufficient level and duration to enable awardees to develop careers as outstanding researchers and educators who effectively integrate teaching, learning and discovery. NSF encourages submission of CAREER proposals from eligible junior faculty at all CAREER-eligible organizations especially women, members of underrepresented minority groups, and persons with disabilities.

Eligible Divisions of the National Science Foundation:

Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO)
Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE)
Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR)
Directorate for Engineering (ENG)
Directorate for Geosciences (GEO)
Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPS)
Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE)
Office of Polar Programs (OPP)

Deadline for 2010:

July 20: BIO, CISE, EHR, OCI
July 21: ENG
July 22: GEO, MPS, SBE, OPP

Proposal Details:

Five-Year Support for untenured, tenure-track faculty
- Minimum: \$400k total; (\$500k for BIO)
- no co-PIs

All proposals must have an integrated research and education plan and their core.

Evaluated through two merit review criteria:

intellectual merit
broader impacts

Desirable, but not essential:

international dimension (but only if it makes sense)
collaborations with industry, national labs, schools, and school districts

Eligibility:

PI: hold doctoral degree
be untenured, but in a tenure-track, assistant professor position [as of Oct 1, of year proposal is submitted]
not previously held a CAREER award

Proposal Limit: 1 per year; no more than 3 competitions

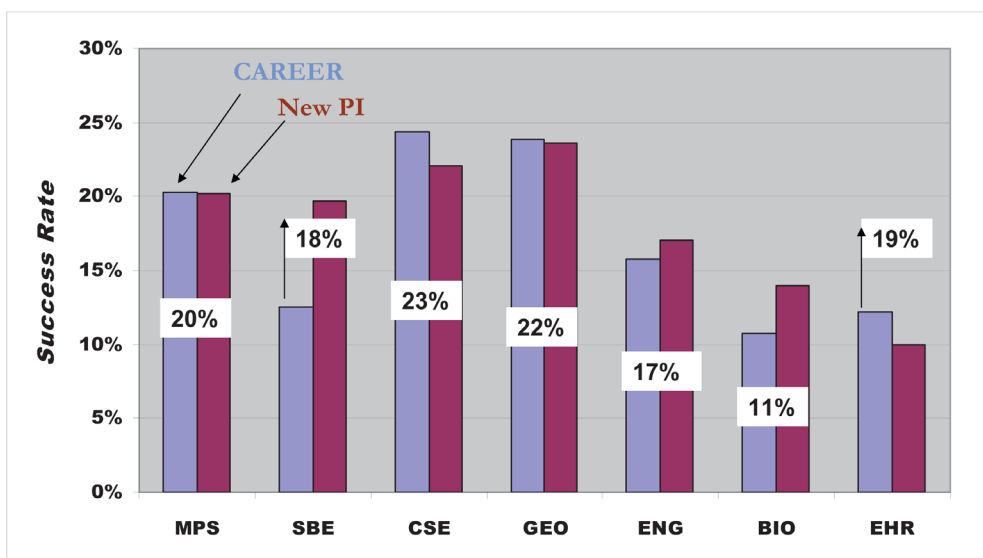
Elements of the Proposal:

Successful proposals must have an integrated research and education plan at their core.

Project Summary	(1 page)
Project Description	(15 pages)
Results from Prior Support (<i>NSF grad fellowship; NSF post-doc, co-PI, etc.</i>)	
Biographical Sketch	(2 pages)
DEPARTMENTAL LETTER	(1-2 pages)
Letters of Collaboration (<i>NOT recommendations</i>)	
Budget	
Budget Justification	(3 pages)

Success Rate: comparable to individual investigator awards ~15-20%

Success Rates (CAREER vs. New PI) in 2006



National Science Foundation

Box = 2008 success rate

Useful Websites:

Program Announcement: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08557/nsf08557.htm>

CAREER FAQs: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08051/nsf08051.jsp>

CAREER Program Officers: <http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/career/contacts.jsp>

NSF Presentation about CAREER award: http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/docs/career_az.pdf

NSF Grant Proposal Guide: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf10_1/gpgprint.pdf

Broader Impacts Information: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/gpg/broaderimpacts.pdf>

NSF Project Evaluation Handbook: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2002/nsf02057/nsf02057.pdf>

Sally's page: <http://www.eg.bucknell.edu/~koutslts/OSR/>

Updated: March 30, 2010