Vanderbilt-Wide Limited Submission Opportunity

NIBIB Enhancing Science, Technology, EnginEering, and Math Educational Diversity (ESTEEMED) Research Education Experiences (R25)

Applications due October 24, 2023

Vanderbilt (VU + VUMC): This is a joint competition for VU and VUMC investigators. All investigators should follow these instructions.

Vanderbilt (VU+VUMC) may submit one application to the NIH Enhancing Science, Technology, EnginEering, and Math Educational Diversity (ESTEEMED) Research Education Experiences (R25) program.

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in research. To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this FOA will support educational activities with a primary focus on:

- **Courses for Skills Development**

- **Research Experiences**

The ESTEEMED program is designed to foster the development of undergraduate freshmen and sophomores from diverse backgrounds to pursue further studies and careers in bioengineering or STEM fields relevant to NIBIB’s scientific mission. Applications are encouraged to propose integrated educational activities that include 3 elements: a summer bridge program for incoming freshmen, and in the freshman and sophomore years, academic year activities and summer research experiences. The ESTEEMED program is intended to expose students to bioengineering research early in their college careers while also providing students didactic, mentoring and career development opportunities. This will prepare students to join, in their junior and senior years, an honors program that promotes STEM and entrance into a Ph.D. program. The ultimate goal is for the participants to pursue a doctoral degree and a subsequent research career in bioengineering or NIBIB-relevant field.

Participants, while in the program, will be allowed $500 per year to travel to relevant scientific meetings. In addition, participants undertaking an off-campus summer research experience will be allowed an additional $1000 for travel to the site if this cost is not covered by other sources. Expenses for local and foreign travel are not allowed.

See the solicitation for more information.

**Internal Application Process:**

Anyone interested in being considered as Vanderbilt’s potential nominee must submit the following (in PDF format) to LSO@vanderbilt.edu by 5:00 p.m. on October 24, 2023.

- Brief (2-page maximum) research plan including summary budget
- NIH Biosketch or 5-page CV
• Statement of support from department chair/center director
  o Statement of support should indicate that the proposed program has approval and support from the director of the participating honors program.

Any questions about this opportunity or the LSO process may be directed to LSO@vanderbilt.edu.