


# Moving Up!

## How-to Tips for Success with YOUR Next ATE Project Proposal

February 21, 2024

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## Introductions



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## Why Move UP?


- Leverage what you learned with a first proposal
- Expand your horizon
- Achieve a larger vision initiated with first grant



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## When Should You Move Up?

- Have results
- Have partners, or more partners
- See a need
- Desire to sustain momentum initiated with first grant award
- Identify an appropriate funding opportunity



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## Read the Solicitation

~~(NSF 21-598)~~

**Advanced Technological Education (ATE)**

**PROGRAM SOLICITATION**  
NSF 21-598

REPLACES DOCUMENT(S):  
NSF 18-571

 National Science Foundation  
Directorate for Education and Human Resources  
Division of Undergraduate Education

**Full Proposal Deadline(s)** (due by 5 p.m. submitter's local time)

October 14, 2021
October 06, 2022
October 05, 2023

Typically first Thursday in October

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## ATE Projects: Focus Areas

- New Solicitation will retain essence of ATE program
- Tracks might change
- We will discuss general options
- \$\$ amounts might change

**CHANGE AHEAD** ↑

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## ATE Projects: Focus Areas

Funding up to \$650K over 3 years

- Program Development and Improvement (coupled with Professional Development)
- Curriculum and Educational Materials Development
- Professional Development for Educators



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## ATE Projects: Focus Areas (Cont)

Funding up to \$650K over 3 years

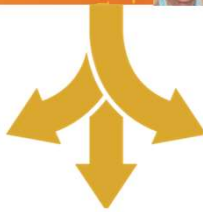
- Instrumentation (with Curriculum Revisions)
- Adapt and Implement
- Business and Entrepreneurial Skills Development for Students
- Leadership Capacity Building for Faculty



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## Other ATE Project Options

- New to ATE (no prior award or last award date > than 7 years ago)
- Consortia for Innovations in Technician Education



Can't decide? ASK

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## Currently Excluded from ATE

- Scholarships
- General STEM education without technician focus
- Specific equipment (next slide)
- Predominantly transfer programs
- Health, veterinary or medical technician programs



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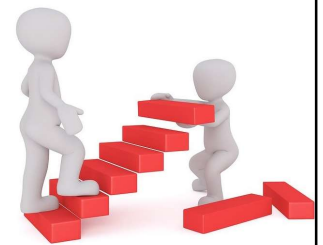
## Equipment Currently Excluded

- Replacement equipment or instrumentation that does not significantly improve instructional capability
- Teaching aids
- Vehicles, trailers, laboratory furnishings, or general utility items
- Maintenance of equipment and related contracts
- Modification, construction, or furnishing of laboratories or other buildings
- Installation of equipment or instrumentation

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## Are You Ready to Move Up?

- Develop a bigger-vision idea to move up
- Read the current program solicitation
- Discuss your idea with others
- Consider the timing



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## Get Input Early

- Ask advice from PIs with multiple awards
- Participate in a mentoring program
- Share one page summary with college personnel, potential partners, and Program Officer



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## Teams

- Build cohesive teams
  - Proposal team – faculty focus
  - Project team – broader college representation
- Mentoring initiatives require team participation



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## Institutional Support

- Focus on institution and partner values and capabilities
- Align to college mission and values
- Work with administrators – so they see the value
- Tie to strategic goal of the college and local economic development – make the case
- Get internal approval



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## Rationale

- Describe a local and regional need for technicians
- Engage with business and industry in meaningful ways
- Support your project idea with literature research
- Align your project with strategic goals of your institution and regional workforce initiatives
- Think about how your new project will complement and add to the ATE portfolio

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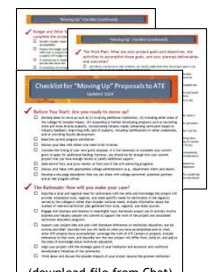
## Results of Prior Support

- Include work of any PI or Co-PI as indicated in PAPPG
  - If NA, you should make a statement regarding no prior support
- Include information about successes and lessons learned
- Address both intellectual merit and broader impacts of past awards
- Include information about the number of people impacted
- Qualitative data is also useful

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## Checklist Topics

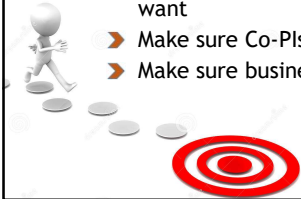
- Before you start
- Rationale
- Results of prior support
- Partners
- Work plan
- Management plan
- Budget and other resources
- Evaluation
- Dissemination
- Sustainability
- Check before you submit
- Items to avoid



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## Moving Up Success

- Have a strong interest in and commitment to what you are proposing
- Ensure it is something both you and your college want
- Make sure Co-PIs are on board
- Make sure business and industry are on board



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## PAPPG

- Reference/Remember the PAPPG
  - Pay attention to latest version of the Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG)
  - NSF #24-1 [www.NSF.gov](http://www.NSF.gov) (search 24-1 or PAPPG)
  - Follow ATE instructions for supplementary documents

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## Use ATE Resources

- Technical assistance webinars and Quick Reference Guides
  - Budget and budget justification
  - Forms
  - Evaluation
- FAQs
- Workshops, seminars and other professional development opportunities
- Help desks

... AND MORE



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## What Mentoring Provides

- Shows ATE grant proposal preparation strategies
- Guides proposal writing including creation of forms
- Advises prospective grantees through the funding process
- Provides information on budget preparation and evaluation
- Provides examples of successful proposals
- Informs about changes in ATE solicitation and PAPPG



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## Get a Mentor



<https://atecentral.net/support>

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Advanced Technological Education Grant Mentoring for Two-Year Colleges

# Mentor Up




The purpose of the project is to increase the number and quality of proposals submitted annually. This will be achieved through 2.5 day intensive workshop accompanied by one-on-one mentoring with experienced Principal Investigators and past NSF Program Officers.

- 2.5 day proposal writing workshop
- Pre-workshop questions
- Mentoring by experienced Principal Investigators and past NSF Program

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Mentor Up

- Instruction via virtual workshop using Zoom
- Support faculty team with grant professional and administrator
- Provides preworkshop, workshop, and postworkshop support
- Continues support during negotiations and/or resubmission
- Encourages Project proposals from all community colleges in all areas of technology
- Provides mentoring for both Moving Up Teams and those new to ATE

*The Mentoring Experience was the most valuable tool I have ever received in regards to grant writing. It made the difference between writing a proposal and presenting a fundable project.*

Bonnie Kelly Wiregrass  
Georgia Technical College

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Mentor Up

- Registration open through April 1, 2024
- Mentor assigned no later than April 15, 2024, and usually sooner
- Virtual Workshop Date: June 5 - 7, 2024
- Stipends for faculty members
- Draft proposal reviewed by former ATE program directors
- Pre-mentoring support available through March 15, 2024

Success Rates for Mentor Up Participants is 72%

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Mentor Up

For more information or to discuss ideas, contact:

- PI: Karen Wosczyzna-Birch @ karenlee@snet.net
- Co-PI: Kathleen Alfano @ kalfano37@gmail.com
- Co-PI: Elizabeth Teles @ ejteles@yahoo.com

Program and Application Information: [atementorup.org](http://atementorup.org)

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Mentoring for ATE Proposal Success



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Mentor-Connect

Since 2012, Mentor-Connect has been helping two-year colleges compete for NSF ATE grant funding

- 261 community colleges
- 71% success rate – 1st submitted proposal
- 41 trained Mentors



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## Mentor-Connect's Broader Scope



- Two in-person workshops + HI-TEC
- Provides technical support for project start-up
- Answers questions about project implementation & grants management
- Stimulates STEM faculty leadership development
- Prepares Mentors to work with prospective grantees

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## To Apply for Mentor-Connect


### Applications

- Moving Up (April 1): For previous mentoring/grant-writing workshop participants
- Second Chance (rolling deadline): For those with declined proposals
- New to ATE (July 1 - November 8, 2024): For 2025 proposals

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## Connect with Mentor-Connect

 [www.Mentor-Connect.org](http://www.Mentor-Connect.org)

 843.676.8541

 [mentor-connect@fdtc.edu](mailto:mentor-connect@fdtc.edu)

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 @Mentor\_Connect

 [LinkedIn.com/MentorConnect](https://www.linkedin.com/company/MentorConnect)

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## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

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## Contact Us

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