The ITEST program seeks to build capacity and innovation in the United States in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce of the future through the design, implementation, scale-up and testing of strategies for K-12 students and teachers, and through research studies about issues related to STEM workforce participation. The goals of the ITEST program are to develop, implement, study, and evaluate strategies that:

- Encourage K-12 students to prepare for and consider careers in information technology
- Equip teachers to prepare and encourage students to enter the STEM workforce
- Build a general knowledge base on approaches, models, and interventions that increase US capacity in the STEM workforce
- Engage students in STEM content and 21st Century skills through the study, design, and implementation of robotics competitions

The ITEST program seeks projects that demonstrate innovative and creative strategies for formal and informal educational learning contexts and is committed to preparing learners to benefit from and contribute to all forms of science and technology.
Award Information

Estimated Number of Awards: 20-30 new awards, pending availability of funds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal Types</th>
<th>Award Amounts</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Grants</td>
<td>Up to $900,000; Up to 3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategies Grants</td>
<td>Up to $1,200,00; Up to 3 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scale-Up Grants</td>
<td>Up to $2,000,000; 3-5 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Projects with robotics competition components may receive up to $1,350,000; Up to 3 years</td>
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</table>

Due Dates

Letters of Intent were due March 11, 2011 and full proposals were due May 13, 2011. The due dates for the next competition have not been determined. The current program solicitation number is NSF 11-525.

Contact Information

For more information about the ITEST program or to discuss submitting a proposal, please contact Daphne Marshall, Senior Program Assistant, at (703) 292-5114, dmarshal@nsf.gov or an ITEST Program Officer.

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To access the program solicitation and to learn more about this program, visit the NSF website at www.nsf.gov and search for ITEST.