

RWFI E-NOTE MONTHLY

REGIONAL WORKFORCE INITIATIVE • JULY 2018

Welcome Message

Greetings NETL RWFI stakeholders,

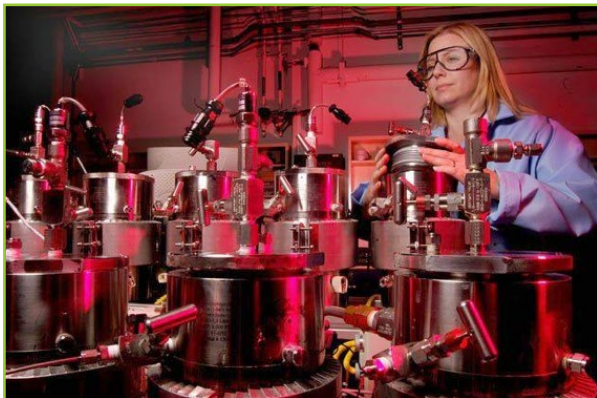
In this month's E-Note you will find new funding announcements from the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Labor — the latter of which announces the Women in Apprenticeship and Non-Traditional Occupations Technical Assistance award and the DOL's popular YouthBuild program funding for youth pre-apprenticeship training.

Additionally, on **Wednesday, August 8, 2018**, the NETL RWFI will host a webinar on *The Future Energy and Advanced Manufacturing Workforce* in which we will focus on the latest jobs and workforce data for the Appalachian region (as well as national trends) from the recently released *2018 U.S. Energy and Employment Report*. We will also feature information from a RAND report on the *skills necessary for meeting job demand in the oil and natural gas industry* and an overview of NETL's own energy market analysis capacity and how it is used to inform technological and econometric strategic planning for the region. More information can be found in this month's RWFI E-Note as well as in the attached PDF invitation and agenda. Registration is limited, so **REGISTER HERE NOW!**

Feel free to reach out to us at NETL.RWFI@netl.doe.gov if you have any suggestions for information to present in future E-notes.

– Sincerely, The NETL Regional Workforce Initiative Team

Workforce Funding Announcements



Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST)

National Science Foundation, **Deadline, August 8, 2018**

The ITEST program supports research on the design, development, implementation, and selective spread of innovative strategies for engaging students in technology-rich experiences that (1) increase student awareness of STEM occupations; (2) motivate students to pursue appropriate education pathways to

STEM occupations; or (3) develop disciplinary-based knowledge and practices, or promote critical thinking, reasoning skills, or communication skills needed for entering STEM workforce sectors. ITEST projects may adopt an interdisciplinary focus that includes multiple STEM disciplines, focus on a single discipline, or focus on one or more sub-disciplines. Projects that actively engage business and industry partners to better ensure that PreK-12 experiences foster the knowledge and skill-sets needed for emerging STEM occupations are strongly encouraged. Depending on the availability of funds, ITEST anticipates making approximately 2-4 Exploratory awards with durations up to two years and total budgets up to \$400,000 each, 6-12 Strategies awards with durations up to three years and total budgets up to \$1,200,000 each, and 1-2 Successful Project Expansion and Dissemination awards with durations of three to five years and total budgets up to \$2,000,000 each.

Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations (WANTO) Technical Assistance Grant Program

U.S. Department of Labor, **Deadline, August 16, 2018**

This program is intended to provide technical assistance (TA) to employers and labor unions to encourage employment of women in apprenticeable occupations and nontraditional occupations (A/NTO), specifically by developing (establishing, expanding, or enhancing) pre-apprenticeship or nontraditional skills training programs designed to prepare women for careers in A/NTO; providing ongoing orientations for employers, unions, and workers on creating a successful environment for women in A/NTO; and/or setting up support groups and facilitating networks for women in A/NTO, to improve their retention. Applicants may propose to provide technical assistance to support women's participation and success in the full range of industries in which women are traditionally underrepresented or disproportionately concentrated in the lower-wage occupations. Such industries include but are not limited to advanced manufacturing, energy, healthcare, information technology, and transportation. Only Community-Based Organizations as defined in Section III.C.1 of the FOA are eligible to apply for these grants. For more information on applying contact Beasley.Erika@dol.gov, Grants Management Specialist.

FY 2018 Regional Innovation Strategies Program

Department of Commerce, Economic Development Agency, **Deadline, August 29, 2018**

EDA's Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (OIE) leads the Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS) Program. EDA currently awards grants that build regional capacity to translate innovations into jobs through (1) proof-of-concept and commercialization assistance to innovators and entrepreneurs and (2) operational support for organizations that provide essential early-stage risk capital to innovators and entrepreneurs. Two OIE RIS funding opportunities are currently open:

- FY18 i6 Challenge is a leading national initiative designed to support the creation of centers for innovation and entrepreneurship that increase the rate at which innovations, ideas, intellectual property, and research are translated into products, services, viable companies, and jobs.
- FY18 Seed Fund Support Program provides funding for technical assistance to support the creation, launch, or expansion of equity-based, cluster-focused seed funds that invest regionally-managed risk capital in regionally-based startups with a potential for high growth.

EHR Core Research

National Science Foundation, **Deadline, September 13, 2018**

The EHR Core Research (ECR) program of fundamental research in STEM education provides funding in critical research areas that are essential, broad and enduring. EHR seeks proposals that will help synthesize, build and/or expand research foundations in the following focal areas STEM learning, STEM learning environments, STEM workforce development, and broadening participation in STEM. The ECR program is distinguished by its emphasis on the accumulation of robust evidence to inform efforts to (a) understand, (b) build theory to explain, and (c) suggest interventions (and innovations) to address persistent challenges in STEM interest, education, learning, and participation. The program supports advances in fundamental research on STEM learning and education by fostering efforts to develop foundational knowledge in STEM learning and learning contexts, both formal and informal, from childhood through adulthood, for all groups, and from the earliest developmental stages of life through participation in the workforce, resulting in increased public understanding of science and engineering. The ECR program will fund fundamental research on human learning in STEM, learning in STEM learning environments, STEM workforce development, and research on broadening participation in STEM.

YouthBuild Program

U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, **Deadline, September 18, 2018**

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), announces the availability of approximately \$85 million in grant funds authorized by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) (Pub. L. 113-128) for YouthBuild. Under this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), DOL will award grants through a competitive process to organizations providing pre-apprenticeship services that support education, occupational skills training, and employment services to at-risk youth, ages 16 to 24, while performing meaningful work and service to their communities. In addition to construction skills training, YouthBuild applicants may include occupational skills training in other in-demand industries. This expansion into additional in-demand industries is the Construction Plus component, a priority in this grant competition.

Recap of Recent NETL Meetings and Regional Events



NETL Co-hosts with Carnegie Mellon on Subsurface Workshop

NETL co-hosted, with Carnegie Mellon University's Wilton E. Scott Institute for Energy Innovation, a collaborative workshop, "Real-Time Decision-Making for the Subsurface," that brought national laboratories, academic institutions, and industry stakeholders together July 17-18 in Pittsburgh. The workshop focused on recent advancements and continued challenges associated with the subsurface. Plenary sessions and interactive breakout groups tackled a variety of timely topics, such as improving resource recovery, developing autonomous monitoring systems, and managing induced seismicity. Participants considered advancements in high-performance computing, predictive modeling, and sensing technologies to develop recommendations for achieving real-time analysis of subsurface data for fossil energy needs. A report will be published later this year.

NETL Hosts Local Contracting Opportunities Seminar

NETL teamed with Government Agency Coordination Offices (GACO) of California University of Pennsylvania and Slippery Rock University to host a Local Contracting Opportunity Seminar Thursday that educated small business representatives on how to do business with a range of government entities. GACO provides training in government contracting procedures and issues through seminars, workshops and counseling. Participants learned about contracting opportunities, vendor registration, procurement policies, certification requirements, and best practices for marketing businesses. Representatives of Allegheny County Purchasing, ALCOSAN, Pittsburgh Public Schools Minority/Women Business, Community College of Allegheny County Purchasing, Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments, and Duquesne University Small Business Development Centers made presentations. Jennifer Scharrer, contracting officer at NETL delivered welcoming remarks. The event was held at NETL's Pittsburgh site.

NETL News

Energy Department Invests \$2.8M to Support Fossil Energy Research at Universities

The U.S. DOE's Office of Fossil Energy has selected seven projects to receive approximately \$2.8 million in federal funding for research and development projects that support fossil energy research at colleges and universities nationwide, including minority institutions. Projects under this initiative educate the next generation of scientists and engineers and help advance innovative and fundamental research focused on coal-based, fossil energy resources. The Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Other Minority Institutions program aims to increase the participation of underrepresented students in such research.



NETL Plays Key Role in DOE's New Lab Partnering Service Web Experience

NETL, the only U.S. DOE national laboratory focused on development of advanced fossil energy technologies and the only government-owned and government-operated national laboratory, is playing a prominent part in DOE's new Lab Partnering Service (LPS) Internet presence that offers technology investors and innovators multi-faceted search capabilities across a range of technology areas resident in the national laboratories. The LPS website is accessible at www.labpartnering.org.

Upcoming Workforce Conferences, Meetings, and Summits



The Future Energy and Manufacturing Workforce Webinar

August 8, 2018, 1-2 pm Eastern Time

A presentation of current regional and national energy & advanced manufacturing jobs & workforce data

The NETL Regional Workforce Initiative (NETL RWFI) invites you to attend The Future Energy and Manufacturing Workforce Webinar, where you will hear the latest results on the current state of the energy and advanced manufacturing workforce for the Appalachian region as well as emerging national trends. You will also hear background on NETL's analysis and partnerships group and the research and innovation mission of NETL. It's hoped that the information briefly covered will be useful for stakeholders in the future planning and implantation of energy and manufacturing workforce strategies. Free Registration Required. **REGISTER NOW!**

Topics Covered

- Current number of jobs and workforce in energy, regionally, and nationally
- Future Job and Workforce growth trends in energy and advanced manufacturing
- Current and future workforce training needs in the Oil and Natural Gas Sector and in the energy and advanced manufacturing field in general

Shaping Our Appalachian Region Summit 2018

East Kentucky Expo Center, Pikeville, Kentucky,
August 30-31, 2018

This year's Summit will feature inspiring keynote speakers who promote innovation and collaboration, economic and community development, and the alignment of the region's work with the *Blueprint for a 21st Century Appalachia*, a visionary plan for Appalachia Kentucky that was created through the input of thousands of people from across the region.

2018 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Annual Conference

Bancorp South Arena and Conference Center, Tupelo, Mississippi, **September 12-14, 2018**

This year's summit, *Appalachia Works: Expanding Opportunities for Our Region's Future*, is hosted by the state of Mississippi. The program will highlight best practices, emerging ideas, and lasting strategies for economic development across Appalachia. It will also be covering hot topics in the Region such as capital access, the opioid crisis, and land reclamation. Plus, new to this year's agenda are focused technical assistance offerings — like skill building workshops and strategy labs with ARC experts.

National Council for Workforce Education (NCWE) 2018 Annual Conference

Clearwater Hilton Hotel - Clearwater Beach, Florida, **September 26-27, 2018**

As an affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges, NCWE provides a national forum for administrators and faculty in workforce education and basic skills — as well as representatives of business, labor, military, and government — to affect and direct the future role of two-year and other post-secondary institutions in workforce education and economic development. NCWE provides the link between policy and workforce education and economic development practice by providing support, research, and critical information to members on current and future trends and policies.

Reports and Resources



New Data Visualization Tool Enables In-Depth, County-by-County Look at Impact of Opioid Epidemic in Appalachia

Appalachian Regional Commission

The *Appalachian Overdose Mapping Tool* integrates overdose mortality rates for each Appalachian county with data on unemployment, poverty, and disability, as well as other socioeconomic variables. Users can compare county-level information with regional and national data and see changes in the data between 2006–2010 and 2011–2015. The mapping tool can also generate fact sheets to assist in community planning and response efforts. The *Appalachian Overdose Mapping Tool* was developed by NORC at the University of Chicago, an objective, non-partisan research institution responsible for many of the most significant research, evaluation, and survey projects done for agencies of the federal government, states, and foundations.

DOE STEM Rising



Sandia materials scientist looks to inspire students through STEM program

For 32 years, Sandia National Laboratories' Black Leadership Committee has brought science, technology, engineering and math to more than 3,000 middle and high school students through the Hands-On, Minds-On Technologies program. *HMTech* began as an after-school program to inspire African-American students to pursue STEM careers. Ten years later, it became a Sandia-sponsored summer program open to all sixth- through 12th-grade students, although its primary target is African-American students.

Summer Students at Brookhaven Lab: They're Here—and More Are Coming!

Approximately 250 students and professors from STEM programs at universities in 33 U.S. states arrived at Brookhaven Lab on June 4, 2018. Hosted by the Lab's Office of Educational Programs, the participants are now with mentors "in the field" — some in labs and offices, others literally in fields on site, studying tick populations, small mammals, box turtles, pollinators, and their habitats.

ABOUT NETL



NETL, owned and operated by DOE, is one of the Department's 17 National Laboratories. NETL supports DOE's mission to advance the national, economic, and energy security of the United States.

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