



Speed-Mentoring Activity (Mentor Guide)

OBJECTIVE: Provide each participant with a “next” grant proposal idea with feedback on his or her idea and pose questions for consideration that will help them develop a competitive “moving up” ATE grant.

TIME (11:30-12:30): 8-10 minutes per grant idea/participant. MAKE SURE ALL WHO HAVE A PROJECT IDEA RECEIVE FEEDBACK, then circle back to participants if/as time permits.

ASK EACH PARTICIPANT to tell you in 3 minutes or less their project idea in terms of:

1. What field/discipline of technician education will the project will target?
2. What are the problems or challenges to be addressed?
3. What major activities or acquisitions will be needed to help solve the problem? (How you will accomplish goals)
4. Who at the institution will be involved? (Key project and support personnel)
5. Who beyond the institution will be involved? (Partners/collaborators)
6. How will you define project success? If the project is successful, what will be different when the grant ends and components of the grant are sustained? (What will be the evidence that project goals have been accomplished?)

***Use follow-up questions as necessary to draw out answers to these questions (2-3 minutes)

MENTOR FEEDBACK:

In 3-4 minutes, provide feedback on each participant’s idea

1. Is the idea a good fit for ATE (fundable)? If not, is there a way to shift the emphasis so that it is appropriate for ATE?
2. Offer positive feedback: What you like about the idea?
3. Is the idea too ambitious (scope too broad/large and/or not likely to be possible in 3-yr. time frame)? Or not ambitious enough (scope and impact/partnerships not broad enough for a moving-up project)?
4. Offer constructive advice: What part of the idea will need more thought and/or research? Job demand data? Industry engagement and other partnerships in place or under development? Have similar ideas been previously funded? Should adapt & implement strategy be considered? Are there strategies or partners you can recommend to move this project idea forward?

Moving Up High Impact Practice Session, NSF ATE PI Conference, Friday, October 26, 2018

Mentor-Connect: Leadership Development and Outreach for ATE, Elaine L. Craft, PI

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