



# EPSCoR in Idaho

## Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

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FROM: Jean'ne M. Shreeve, Idaho EPSCoR Project Director

SUBJECT: NSF EPSCoR Ph.D. Scholars Program for Members of Underrepresented Groups

DATE: March 21, 2007

The NSF-Idaho EPSCoR program seeks nominations for one-year assistantships to aid in retaining Idaho's outstanding female and ethnic minority Ph.D.-seeking students in science and engineering disciplines. Up to seven NSF EPSCoR Scholar awards may be granted for the 12-month period encompassing Summer 2007-Spring 2008, contingent on availability of EPSCoR funding.

Each award to the student will consist of a \$23,980 stipend, plus fringe benefits (including health insurance) and student fees. The total support to the student is estimated to be no more than \$30,540; the exact amount may vary by institution. *NSF-Idaho EPSCoR will fund 50% of the total award (i.e., ~\$15,270) and the recipient's institution must fund the remaining 50% from non-federal sources.* Therefore, the required non-federal match will be approximately \$15,270. A 12-month research assistantship must begin no later than June 1, 2007. All funds must be completely expended *before* May 31, 2008.

Eligible students will have completed at least their first year of Ph.D. studies. Additionally, each eligible student will have been active in science or engineering-based research during the previous academic year and will continue to be involved in this area throughout the 12-month award period. Previous NSF-Idaho EPSCoR Ph.D. Fellowship/Scholar awardees are not eligible for this award.

Faculty members are invited to nominate outstanding students before May 1, 2007 for awards starting June 1, 2007. Letters of nomination should contain compelling statements regarding the student's academic and research record, potential of the student to complete Ph.D. studies with distinction, and an estimate of the student's ability to distinguish herself or himself in a post-Ph.D. research career. Letters of nomination must be accompanied by supporting statements from the student's department head/chair. The nomination must indicate the total award amount and also include a letter of commitment identifying the source of non-federal match described above. Other appropriate documents in support of the nomination may be attached as well. Commitment of continuing non-EPSCoR support in the year following the EPSCoR award will weigh heavily in the nominee's favor.

Please let your faculty know about this opportunity, and direct questions to [rschumak@uidaho.edu](mailto:rschumak@uidaho.edu) or 208 885-5742.