



# MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** March 31, 2000

**TO:** **Community College Presidents**  
**College Tech Prep Contacts**

**FROM:** **Stephen L. Athans**  
Associate Director for Tech Prep  
NC Community College System  
5021 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh NC 27699-5021  
Phone: 919-733-7051 ext. 447 E-mail: athanss@ncccs.cc.nc.us

**SUBJECT:** NSF Advanced Technological Education (ATE) Grants

For more detailed information, please refer to the following website: [www.nsf.gov/pubs/2000/nsf0062/start.htm](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2000/nsf0062/start.htm) The NSF is seeking two year colleges to submit proposals for the ATE grants. There is approximately \$41 million for 75 grants. These grants are tailored-made for community colleges and would be a great way to get additional funding for your Tech Prep efforts. Below is an excerpt from the website that summarizes the grants:

“All projects supported by the ATE program must be guided by a coherent vision of technological education--a vision that recognizes the needs of the modern workplace, of students as lifelong learners, and for articulation of educational programs at different levels. The program especially encourages efforts that:

- develop innovative educational approaches in core science, mathematics, and technology courses at the secondary school and college levels, so that students with diverse needs can acquire strong backgrounds that enable them to complete programs in technological fields and continue in future academic work;
- implement the national science, mathematics, technology, and industry standards in education;
- recognize current and projected occupational requirements and give prospective technicians insight into real-world work environments;
- serve the needs of not only first-time students but also returning students and workers seeking new career opportunities or new skills;
- link educators and educational programs in two-year colleges, four-year colleges and universities, secondary schools, and industry;
- aim to spur major changes and significant improvements beyond the grantee institution and to produce educational materials that can be used nationally; and
- address one or more of the four themes that DUE and ESIE have targeted for special emphasis--i.e., teacher preparation, professional development for faculty and teachers (including workplace experiences), integration of current and emerging technologies into education, and increasing diversity within the technical workforce.

In addition, the ATE program seeks to enhance educational opportunities for postsecondary students by encouraging comprehensive articulation agreements between two-year and four-year institutions. Through these articulation partnerships, the program focuses specifically on strengthening the science, mathematics, and technology preparation of K-12 teachers and on facilitating the transition of students from SMET associate's degree programs to related bachelor's degree programs, especially those having a strong technological basis.”

Deadlines are: May 25, 2000, for preliminary proposals; Oct. 19, 2000, for formal proposals.

Good luck!