REBLS Seed Grants -- Request for Proposals

The mission of the REBLS (Researchers, Educators, Business Leaders and Students) Network is to bring people together across institutions (academic, schools, businesses, informal learning orgs) to develop, replicate, or scale programs to improve success for underrepresented people in computer science and engineering in high school, higher education, or transitioning into workforce.

We are offering seed grants of up to $10K to encourage new and continuing collaborations between members to fulfill one or more of these three goals:

1. Replicate, scale, or develop a program that fits with this mission and assess its impact (e.g., for examples of projects that have been funded, see: https://www.umass.edu/diversitysciences/institute-diversity-sciences-rebls-network-funding-three-new-pilot-interventions-support-diverse)
2. Develop tools or resources to share widely (e.g., online networking platform to connect teachers to industry partners; professional development webinars; evaluation metrics and assess impacts)
3. Support for professional development training for a small group that will bring the training back to REBLS and train others in the network (“train the trainer” model)

Eligibility
- All projects must be team projects with members from at least 2 different institutions
- Can be an existing or new REBLS working group project
- Projects must be feasible within one year
- The project leads must be based in Massachusetts, but team may include others from outside the state

Application deadlines are staggered throughout the year: Dec. 1 & Mar. 1.
Applications will be reviewed by a panel of 2-3 members of REBLS Leadership (REBLS Principal Investigators and Steering Committee members)

Review Criteria
- Clearly stated goals that address the RFP description above
- Intellectual merit of the proposal (including its unique/particular contribution)
- Feasibility of project
- Reasonableness of budget
- Sustainability

Reporting
Awardees of an REBLS Project seed grant will provide a final report after one year, and periodic updates upon request.

Questions? Email us at rebls@umass.edu
REBLS Seed Grant Application

Please go to the online application form to apply:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScIpCbtNHHbEttx0uhWOKSyVxbxRmHL34M9noNSlzpuDdww6_A/viewform?usp=sf_link

1. List of team members (names, titles, institutions, emails) and role in project.

2. Project description (~3 pages)
   a) Name of project
   b) How does this project meet the mission of REBLS and at least one of the 3 goals listed above
   c) How does the proposed work make a unique/particular contribution to its area of focus?
   d) Role of each team member in this project and contribution to these goals
   e) Project timeline and collaboration plan. Must be feasibly completed within 1 year. How will the team stay organized over time?
   f) Metrics to evaluate the impact of the project.
   g) What are your future plans for the project? How will it be sustained? What other sources of funding will you apply for? (Please be specific)

3. Budget
   a) Amount requested
   b) Attach detailed budget & budget justification