



Achieving Excellence in Workforce Education

NSF ATE Grant Success through Mentoring

WEBCAST/PODCAST
JANUARY 26, 2024
1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

ccpi-stem.org/webcasts-podcasts/



Welcome and Introductions

Today's Speakers and Moderator

- Elaine Craft, PI Mentor-Connect, Florence-Darlington Technical College, SC and PI and Co-PI of other ATE grants
- Dr. Elizabeth Teles, Founding Co-Lead of NSF ATE Program, Co-PI Mentor Up, Senior Advisor CCPI-STEM and Mentor-Connect, Former Mathematics Professor, Montgomery College, MD
- Dr. Elizabeth K. Hawthorne, PI FORCCE-ATE, Co-PI CCPI-STEM, Senior Professor Emerita of Computer Science and Cybersecurity, Union College, NJ
 - Moderator



Today's Topics

1. How can the National Science Foundation ATE program help your institution?
2. How can your college leadership assist with the ATE grant preparation process?
3. What is needed for a successful ATE grant proposal?
4. Why connect with an ATE mentoring initiative?
5. Mentoring initiatives to help community colleges apply for ATE grants
6. Questions & Answers & Poll



How can the NSF ATE program help your institution?

- Curriculum development, including programs/certificates/certifications/courses/capstone experiences
- Equipment
- Program(s) aimed at improving student retention and success
- Faculty professional development
- Collaborative program(s) with business and industry
- K-12 student and/or teachers development and outreach programs



How can your college leadership assist with the ATE grant preparation process?

Institutional Capacity Building

- **Championship** – supporting and assisting project team
- **Time and Opportunity** – enable the project PI to develop the proposal
- **Empowerment** – empower offices, such as grants office, accounting, research office, human resources, public relations to assist the proposal team
- **Dissemination** – internal and external
- **Collaborations** – support and/or initiate academic and/or business/industry collaborations



What is needed for a successful ATE grant proposal?

- **Project Champion** – the originator or owner of the project
- **Strong Project Team** – faculty from the same or different departments
- **Executive Advocate** – dean and/or senior administrator to support and assist
- **Supporting Institutional Infrastructure** – support of grants office, research office, HR, accounting, marketing and publications
- **External Partners** – with business and industry, governmental organizations, and educational institutions
- **Other Partners** – consultants, evaluator, technical team



Why Connect with an ATE Mentoring initiative?

- Pairs mentees with mentors with extensive experience in the ATE program. Mentors have had numerous ATE grants and/or are former ATE program officers
- Focuses on successful strategies for project development and proposal preparation
- Guides proposal writing for all sections
- Includes information on budget preparation and evaluation
- Helps with creation of NSF forms, including biosketches
- Provides examples of successful ATE proposals
- Keeps informed about changes to the ATE program solicitation and PAPPG



Three ATE Mentoring Initiatives to Assist Your College

- **Mentor-Connect**
mentor-connect.org



- **Mentor Up**
atementorup.org



- **FORCCE-ATE**
forcce-ate.org



Mentor-Connect Initiative





Mentor-Connect Big Picture!

Mentor-Connect helps colleges develop competitive proposals for NSF ATE grant funding to work on technician education



What Mentor-Connect Does



- Teaches ATE grant proposal preparation strategies
- Guides proposal writing - timeline/accountability
- Advises prospective grantees through the funding process
- Provides technical support for project start-up
- Answers questions about project implementation & grants management
- Stimulates STEM faculty leadership development
- Prepares Mentors to work with prospective grantees





Mentor-Connect

- Largest & longest-funded (since 2012)
- One-on-one mentoring with college teams
- Teams: 2 faculty, grant professional, & administrator
- Longest teaching/mentoring timeline for proposal preparation
- Peer cohorts: in-person workshops + webinars
- No cost for participation (ATE-funded project)
- Guidance extends through negotiation & funding processes
- After-award mentoring during 1st year of project implementation
- Second-Chance & Moving-Up mentoring opportunities



1-1 Mentoring Opportunities & when to apply

- New-to-ATE (colleges and faculty)
(apply July 1 - November 8, 2024 - For 2025 proposals)
- Second-Chance - if a proposal is declined
(rolling application deadline)
- Moving-Up - for subsequent proposal submissions
(apply by April 1)



Cohort Benefits

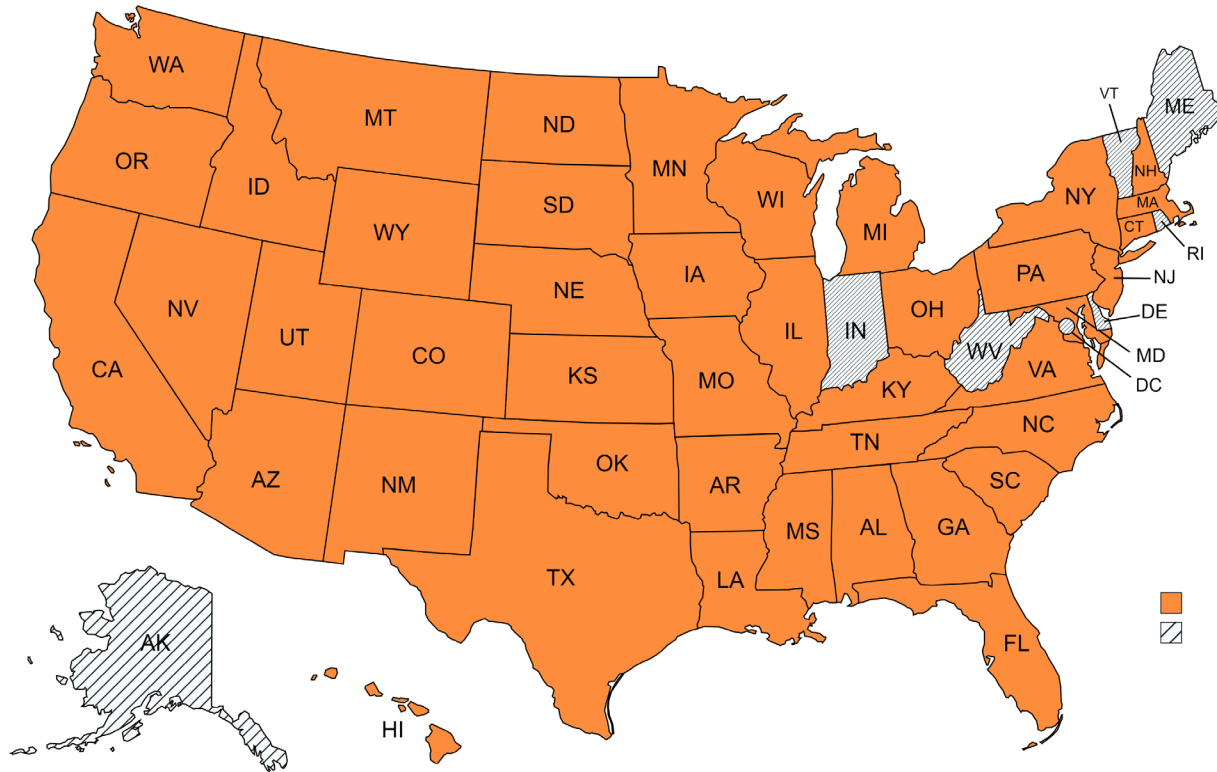
- A 3-day grant-writing workshop - Winter
- An ATE-experienced mentor assigned to each team
- Technical assistance webinars and Quick Reference guides
- 1-day workshop and HI-TEC Conference - Summer
- Online resources and “help desk” support
- Workshop travel support (team of 4)
- Stipends (faculty participants)



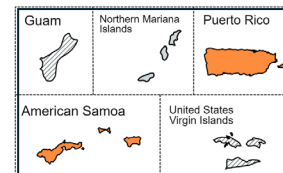
“Mentor Connect fosters belonging to and belonging in the NSF ATE community.”



Mentor-Connect Geographic Impact: 12 cohorts → 43 States → 2 US Territories



Created with mapchart.net



261
College Teams

491
Faculty

317
Grant
Professionals &
Administrators





Participant Success Data

- 86% have submitted NSF ATE proposals
- 72% received new-to ATE grants compared to 26% overall NSF funding rate





www.Mentor-Connect.org



843.676.8541



mentor-connect@fdtc.edu



ATEMentorConnect



@Mentor_Connect



[LinkedIn.com/MentorConnect](https://www.linkedin.com/company/MentorConnect)



Mentor Up Initiative



Mentor Up



The purpose of the project is to increase the number and quality of proposals submitted annually. This will be achieved through 2.5 day intensive workshop accompanied by one-on-one mentoring with experienced Principal Investigators and past NSF Program Officers.

- 2.5 day proposal writing workshop
- Pre-workshop questions
- Mentoring by experienced Principal Investigators and past NSF Program

Mentor Up Initiative

Goals

- Broaden knowledge, build capacity, and increase access to ATE
- Increase the number of competitive ATE proposals to October 3, 2024 submission deadline

Activities

- Faculty team, supported by a grant writer and/or administrator, is assigned a mentor no later than **April 15, 2024** and usually soon after acceptance
- Preworkshop, virtual workshop, and postworkshop support is provided
- Continued support is available during negotiations and/or resubmission



- Register online through **April 1, 2024** at atementorup.org
- Mentor assigned no later than **April 15, 2024**, and usually sooner
- Virtual Workshop Date: **June 5 - 7, 2024** (Wed to Fri)
- Stipends for faculty members
 - **\$500** workshop for each of two faculty members
 - **\$250** each upon proposal submission
- Draft proposals reviewed by former ATE program directors, Elizabeth Teles or Kathleen Alfano

New Opportunities in 2024

- Have an idea for an NSF ATE grant proposal that you want to discuss?
 - Fill out form and a mentor will be in contact shortly!
- **Pre-mentoring** – After discussion, a mentor will be assigned who will work with team to develop competitive Mentor Up application
 - Deadline for pre-mentoring is **March 15, 2024**
 - **Stipends available:** \$250 for each of two faculty who participate in pre-mentoring and submit a formal application for Mentor Up June workshop
 - **Note:** Pre-mentoring is **not required** for submission to the full workshop

- **Applications for June 2024 virtual workshop must:**
 - Include one-page project description, a support letter from an administrator, and names of faculty members (and any others) attending virtual workshop
 - No limit on number of participants per community college team, but only two faculty members eligible to receive stipends

For more information or to discuss ideas, contact:

- PI: Karen Wosczyzna-Birch @ karenlee@snet.net
- Co-PI: Kathleen Alfano @ kalfano37@gmail.com
- Co-PI: Elizabeth Teles @ ejteles@yahoo.com

Program and Application Information: atementorup.org

Mentor Up Testimonies

The mentoring that the Mentor Up NSF ATE project provided was pivotal in our work on submitting an NSF grant application. A team of first time Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigators relied on this program and the mentors to guide us along the application process. Without mentoring, new PIs and Co-PIs would not be **able to navigate the process from project concept to awarded grant reality.** [2201539](#)

Shellie Banfield, Santa Fe College, Florida



The Mentoring Experience was the most valuable tool I have ever received in regards to grant writing. It made the **difference between writing a proposal and presenting a fundable project.** [1955010](#)

Bonnie Kelly, Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

*Success Rate
for Mentor Up
Participants is
72%*



FORCCE-ATE: FORTifying Cybersecurity and Computing Education through ATE Grants

FORCCE-ATE
A force for cyber good



FORCCE-ATE Mentoring Initiative

- Focuses on all disciplines of cybersecurity and computing: IT, A.I. & M.L., IIoT, drone security, auto security, smart home security, secure coding, etc.
- Experienced ATE mentors trained with ICF coaching skills
- **Mentor-coach** paired with **Mentee team** from **April through October** (proposal submission deadline) and again through the NSF “tunnel” when mentee team is recommended for funding (3 to 6 months after submission)
- In person workshop **June 10 – 13, 2024** at Prince George’s Community College in Largo, MD, a short metro train ride to Washington D.C.
 - Travel & workshop stipends provided for 2 faculty members and 1 Dean
 - Grant writers welcome, but funded through their college
 - Special sessions for Deans at the workshop



FORCCE-ATE 2023 Cohort Photos & Testimony



FORCCE Mentor-Coaches



**FORCC Mentees & Mentor-Coaches
at 2023 June Workshop @ PGCC**



**Best Professional
Development Ever!**

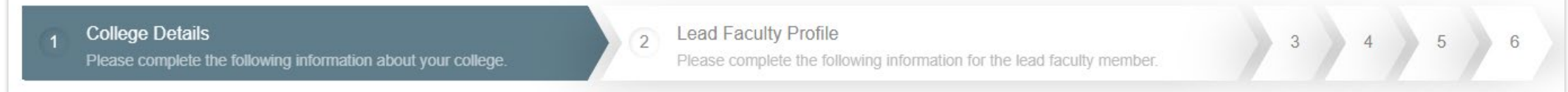


**PRINCE GEORGE'S
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

FORCCE-ATE Online Application

- Teams consist of 2 faculty members, Dean, and optional grant writer
- Online applications accepted through **April 1, 2024** with priority to teams that submit early. Letter of commitment from Senior Administrator, VP or President

Mentee Application



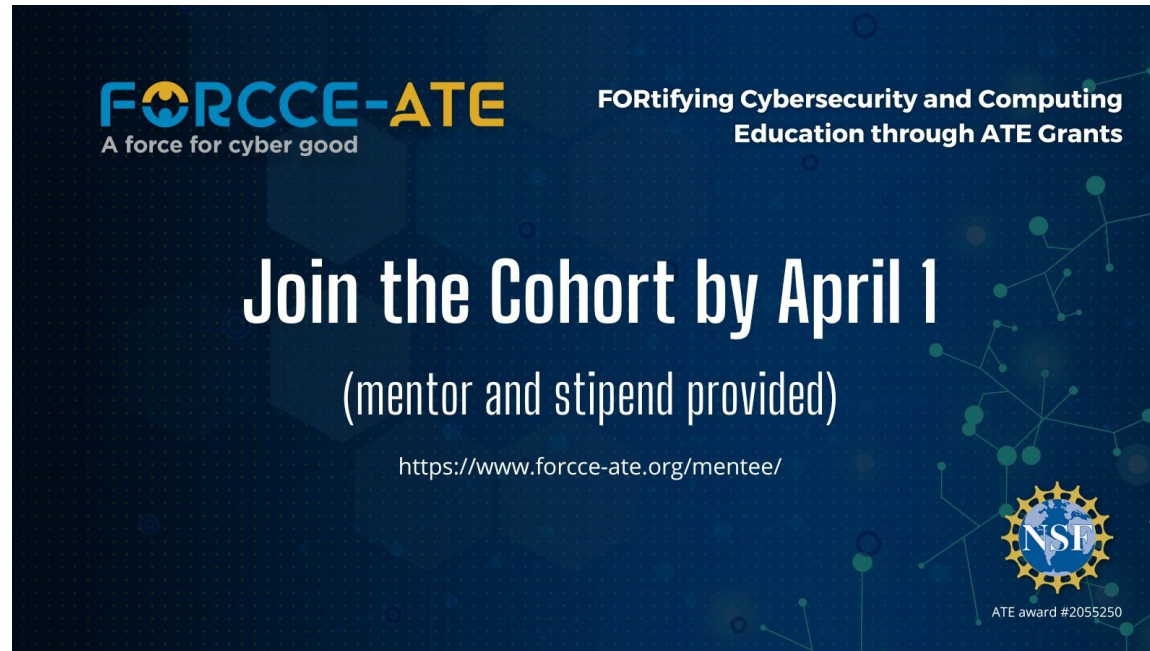
forcce-ate.org/mentee-application/

- For questions contact PI Elizabeth Hawthorne @ ekhawthorne@gmail.com



CCPI-STEM Social Media

Recent LinkedIn Post



Upcoming CCPI-casts & Thought Leaders Dialogue

- **NSF ATE Labor and Economic Impact**
Fri, February 23 @ 1:00 pm ET
 - **NSF ATE Collaborations and Models that Work**
Fri, March 22 @ 1:00 pm ET
 - **CCPI-STEM Fellows: A Unique Opportunity**
Fri, April 26 @ 1:00 pm ET
 - **Second Thought Leaders Dialogue**
Fri, February 9 @ Noon ET
- Visit ccpi-stem.org to RSVP and receive a Zoom confirmation

Upcoming Events

- ✓ First Thought Leaders' Dialogue Report 2023
- ✓ Volume 6, Dec. 2023 CCPI-STEM Presidents Press
- Jan 26, 2024 @ 1:00 pm ET:
CCPI-cast: NSF ATE Grant Success Through Mentoring
RSVP HERE
- ✓ Feb 9, 2024 @ Noon-1:30 pm ET:
The Second Thought Leaders Dialogue RSVP HERE



Questions / Comments / Poll



ccpi-stem.org

leadership@ccpi-stem.org

[linkedin.com/company/community-college-presidents-initiative/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/community-college-presidents-initiative/)