NOVA TEAM SHARES LABOR MARKET INTELLIGENCE ADVICE

At a recent CCPI-STEM Northeast Regional Network meeting, personnel from Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) explained how to use labor market intelligence (LMI) to inform grant proposals. LMI includes economic, education, and demographic data from multiple sources.

“A grant proposal is a cross between a research paper and a business plan. It needs to make the case for the project being proposed using relevant and meaningful data. LMI data is required for any RFP [request for proposal] from any funder that emphasizes education and training related to industry needs and employment outcomes,” said Teresa Sweeney, director of grants at NOVA.

In addition to grant applications, NOVA uses LMI to inform program offerings, align curricula, monitor labor market demand for graduates, and inform administrators’ and faculty members’ engagement with employers.

To incorporate timely and accurate LMI in grant proposals, Sweeney recommends using data that is less than three years old; reflects the geographic area the project will serve; estimates realistically how many people will be served; and shows the types of jobs.

Read the full article here: bit.ly/49pLYzh

WEBCAST EXPLAINS 3 ATE MENTORING INITIATIVES

CCPI-STEM’s webcast NSF ATE Grant Success through Mentoring explains the benefits of three Advanced Technological Education (ATE) mentoring projects and how community college educators can access them.

All the ATE mentoring projects listed on CCPI-STEM’s Resources webpage share the same goal: to increase the number and quality of ATE grant proposals from community college faculty.

The three projects featured in the webinar report their mentees’ proposals have been funded at rates at of 70% or higher, which is quite favorable compared with the National Science Foundation's agency-wide funding rate of 26%.

“It really makes a difference to join one of these mentoring initiatives. It doesn't matter which one. But if you want to have a better chance at being successful, link up, connect with one of our mentoring initiatives,” said Elizabeth Hawthorne, the webinar moderator. Hawthorne is a co-principal investigator of CCPI-STEM and principal investigator of FORtifying Cybersecurity and Computer Education (FORCCE-ATE).

Here’s a summary of the three projects’ free services and application deadlines.

FORCCE-ATE offers in-person and virtual mentoring from April to October for up to 15 community college teams that are developing cybersecurity and computer-science related grant proposals. Its in-person workshop is from June 10 to 13 at Prince George's Community College. FORCCE-ATE’s application is open now through April 1. It provides travel support and stipends for two faculty members and a dean from each participating college.

Mentor Up is open to all community college educators who are interested in technician education improvements. It provides all-virtual mentoring includes workshop sessions via Zoom on June 5, 6, and 7 and three webinars. It offers pre-mentoring consultations on proposal ideas through March 15 and written reviews of full proposals completed by August. Mentor Up is taking applications now through April 1. It has capacity for 16 teams, and provides stipends for two faculty members per team.

Read the full article here: bit.ly/3IbRf1h