



## CI-STEP REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: PEER MENTORING

Announcement of Awards for  
**Central Indiana STEM Talent Expansion Program**

The *Central Indiana STEM Talent Expansion Program (CI-STEP)* at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis seeks faculty proposals for Peer Mentor(s) in their STEM courses. The program has set a target of increasing the number of STEM graduates at IUPUI by 10% per year (an increase of an additional 782 stem graduates by 2015). Proposals are due by December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to the Principal Investigator of the CI-STEP grant, Dr. Jeff Watt, [jwatt@math.iupui.edu](mailto:jwatt@math.iupui.edu). The Peer Mentor(s) may begin the semester immediately following announcement of the award. The awards for the *Central Indiana STEM Talent Expansion Program* are supported by the National Science Foundation.

Proposals are welcome from all STEM disciplines. Proposals are especially encouraged from faculty representing courses with high DFW rates and high enrollment numbers. Courses eligible for CI-STEP Peer Mentoring should be in the pipeline to degree for a STEM major. If you have a question as to whether your course qualifies under the grant's definition of STEM please contact Jeff Watt.

### ELIGIBILITY

All full- and part-time faculty members at IUPUI are eligible. Individual faculty members who teach a non-Gateway STEM major course is eligible to apply for a Peer Mentor. Proposals that have high DFW rates and/or high enrollment will be given priority consideration.

### FUNDING

As a base, one Peer Mentor per 100 enrolled students will be funded at \$1,500 per semester per Peer Mentor (10 hours/week @ \$10/hr). Variations of this will be considered like reduced hours or additional Peer Mentors for more intensive courses.

### APPLICATION/IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

Peer Mentor(s) should be implemented into the course the semester immediately following announcement of the award (Spring 2013).

### PROJECT PROPOSAL

All applications must follow the format below.

Applications must be received by December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 and must include:

1. Cover Sheet
2. Course details and Peer Mentor format description
3. Certification page

**Submit your proposal via e-mail to: CI-STEP Awards Review Committee, c/o Jeffrey Watt [jwatt@math.iupui.edu](mailto:jwatt@math.iupui.edu)**

## **COVER SHEET**

Title of the Project  
Principal investigator(s)  
Department(s)  
Date

## **PROPOSAL CONTENT**

Within in the text of your proposal, please include:

- Size of class (number of students impacted).
- Current DFW rate for course as well as past 5 years DFW rates if available
- Current course aid offered to your students (i.e. professor office hours, recitation, lab, OnCourse discussion sessions, JiTT, etc.)
- Number of Peer Mentors requested
- Number of hours mentor(s) will be required to work
- Proposed format of Peer Mentor intervention (i.e. in class, open office hours, or other)
- Name of potential Peer Mentor(s)

In addition to the above information, please provide a detailed description of how you plan to integrate your Peer Mentor(s) into your course or department, your plan for assessment and evaluation, and your requested budget (typical Peer Mentor makes ~\$10/hr).

The Bepko Learning Center and CI-STEP have partnered to offer all CI-STEP Peer Mentors the opportunity to participate in a 2 day intensive training workshop. Please indicate in your proposal if you would want your Peer Mentor(s) to participate in this training.

## **IN CONCLUSION**

CI-STEP is open to making individualized Peer Mentoring plans for your specific needs, so we encourage you to write your proposal in the format that you feel will best serve your students and retain them in your course, department and major. CI-STEP will also work closely with each award to provide evaluation and assessment aid. If a positive effect is achieved, there is an expectation of departmental support to continue the Peer Mentoring in the course after the conclusion of the grant. The ultimate goal of CI-STEP is to increase graduation rates in STEM disciplines by increasing student performance and retention. The addition of Peer Mentors in our STEM courses will help us achieve the CI-STEP goal. We thank you for your dedication to your students' success and all that you are doing to help them obtain their STEM degree.

**CERTIFICATION SIGNATURES**

Based on the criteria for eligibility in the *CI-STEP* Award Guidelines, I am eligible to apply. I understand and agree that a written final report, including how the objectives and/or goals have been achieved, is due as stated in the Guidelines. I will provide a copy of my report to the CI-STEP Project Review Committee, and the Head of the Department. I understand that unless there exists a law characterizing some portion of the information submitted as private, proposals will be treated as public information on submission in accordance with the Data Practices Act.

*Applicant Signature* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_

*Approving Administrator Signature* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_