Summer 2018 I-Corps™ National cohorts

NSF is currently recruiting for Summer 2018 I-Corps™ National cohorts.

1. There are four Summer Cohorts – the dates and locations are listed below.
2. You can participate in a Webinar about the National Teams program – dates and instructions are included with this message.
3. You will need to prepare and submit an Executive Summary (ES) -- Instructions for preparing an Executive Summary are included in this message. Please send Executive Summaries to: icorps-apply@nsf.gov
4. Please make sure the ES includes the team’s lineage in order to establish eligibility for the national program. The lineage for ISU teams is NSF Award number 1734820.

1. Summer 2018 Cohorts

   **Summer Cohort #1 San Francisco Bay Area**
   Kickoff (on-site): July (arrive 10) 11-13
   Web sessions (online): Thursdays 1-4pm ET – July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 16
   Lessons Learned (on-site): August 23-24

   **Summer Cohort #2 New York City metro area**
   Kickoff (on-site): July (arrive 15) 16-18
   Web sessions (online): Mondays 1-4pm ET – July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 20
   Lessons Learned (on-site): August 27-28

   **Summer Cohort #3 Austin, Texas**
   Kickoff (on-site): July (arrive 24) 25-27
   Web sessions (online): Tuesdays 1-4pm ET – July 31, August 7, 14, 21, 28
   Lessons Learned (on-site): September 6-7

   **Summer Cohort #4 Washington, DC metro area**
   Kickoff (on-site): July (arrive 29) 30-August 1
   Web sessions (online): Wednesdays 1-4pm ET – August 8, 15, 22, 29, September 5
   Lessons Learned (on-site): September 13-14

2. Next Webinars

   The next webinars are planned for 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the following dates in 2018:
   - **Thursday, May 10**
   - **Thursday, June 7**

   Webinar dates may change, so please double-check close to the scheduled date.
Access the audio portion of the webinar by phone: **(800) 857-5210** (for callers inside the U.S.) OR **(210) 234-7080** (for callers outside the U.S.).
Participant passcode: **3192939**.

Register (required) for the visual portion of the webinar (meeting number **748 294 571**) online: Registration

Register via WebEx.

- Firefox is recommended for Mac users
- If requested, enter your name and email address.
- If a password is required, enter the meeting password: I_C0rp5!
- Click "Join".
- You may download the slides in advance (PDF).

For assistance joining the meeting, use this link and click "Support" on the left navigation bar.

Note for First-Time Users: Use this link to check whether you have the appropriate players installed for UCF (Universal Communications Format) rich media files.

Please be sure to review the solicitation and FAQ before the start of the webinar.

3. **Preparation of the Executive Summary for the I-Corps™ National Program**

1. **Team Formation:**
   Identify a set of at least three I-Corps™ Team members to participate in the I-Corps™ National Cohort:
   - **Entrepreneurial Lead (EL)**
   - **I-Corps™ Teams Mentor (IM)**
   - **Technical Lead (TL)**

   Typically, team members who complete your regional program will constitute the team for the National Cohort. However, occasionally not all three members of your regional team will be able to go to National due to schedule conflicts and other commitments. In that case, it is important for at least the EL or TL from your regional program to be part of the National team for continuity with the new member.

   The **Entrepreneurial Lead (EL)** could be a postdoctoral scholar, graduate or other student, staff member, researcher, or other personnel with relevant knowledge of the technology and a deep commitment to investigate the commercial landscape surrounding the innovation. The Entrepreneurial Lead should also be capable and have the will to support the transition of the technology, should the I-Corps™ Teams project demonstrate the potential for commercial viability.

   The **I-Corps™ Teams Mentor (IM)** will typically be an experienced entrepreneur with proximity to the institution and experience in transitioning technology out of Academic labs. The I-Corps™
Teams Mentor should be a third-party resource and may be recommended by the proposing institution. The I-Corps™ Teams Mentor will be responsible for advising the team on its progress through I-Corps™ and will usually have contacts in the industry area(s) being explored. Other than their direct expenses for program participation, Mentors are not compensated through I-Corps™ Teams awards – Mentors are part of a volunteer cadre of entrepreneurs.

The Technical Lead (TL)/Principal Investigator (PI) will typically be a faculty member, senior research scientist or postdoctoral scholar with deep and direct technical expertise in the actual core technology about which the I-Corps™ team is exploring commercial potential. Typically the TL/PI will also serve as the proposal point of contact.

Teams may have an additional member in the role of co-EL, or co-TL. Teams with more than four members will not typically be supported.

2. **Contents of the Executive Summary:**
Prepare a one to two-page (maximum) Executive Summary that describes the following:
   a. Team Members. Composition and roles (EL, TL, IM, plus any additional co-EL, co-TL or co-IM) of the team members proposing to undertake the commercialization feasibility research and a brief description (one page) of each member's qualifications.
   b. Proposal Principal Investigator. Proposal Principal Investigator (PI) and a brief description of their connection to the team. In most cases the PI will also be the TL. The PI is the person who will be designated as the recipient of the NSF I-Corps™ National Cohort grant. It is important to check with your institution that the person assuming the role of the PI is eligible to receive NSF funding. If the PI is not eligible to receive NSF funding, the Site Lead may assume the role of the NSF PI and manage the award funds.
   c. Lineage. Relevant current/previous NSF awards establishing team eligibility. The lineage is typically an NSF grant number. For your Site, the number is: <YYYY>. If teams from your institution did not go through your regional program but are applying based on NSF research grant funding, they should use the award number for their research grant.
   d. Technology. Brief description of the core technology.
   e. Application/Market. Brief description of the potential commercial application.

When the proposed I-Corps™ Team is applying based on participation in a local or regional NSF-supported I-Corps™ training run by a current I-Corps™ Site or Node, a senior member of that I-Corps™ Site or Node staff must provide a recommendation for the team's consideration in the I-Corps™ Teams program. The technology underlying the effort will need to be consistent with NSF requirements on intellectual merit and represent a significant technical innovation.

3. **NSF Contact:**
Forward the Executive Summary to: icorps-apply@nsf.gov
Once we review your Executive Summary, you will be contacted about next steps.

4. **Telephone Interviews:**
Teams that describe projects with viable commercialization potential will be scheduled to engage in a telephone interview with NSF's I-Corps™ Management Team. The purpose of this conference call is to assess the proposing team's capabilities and commitment to the program.
At the conclusion of this initial call, teams may be invited for a second telephone interview that includes both the NSF I-Corps™ Management team and instructors of the I-Corps™ Teams Curriculum. At the successful conclusion of both conference calls, teams may be invited to submit full proposals.