



## Announcing Engineering PLUS Alliance 2023 Regional Hub Leader Request for Proposal

The [Engineering PLUS Alliance](#) is excited to begin accepting proposals for leadership and expansion of its Regional Hubs. Specifically, we are inviting any public or private college or university, including Community Colleges and Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) to apply to serve as the host institution in the new region to submit proposals to lead the expansion to a third Regional Hub and thus play a key role in fulfilling our mission to change the face of engineering in the United States.

Funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Engineering PLUS Alliance is working with partners to accelerate the number of undergraduate and graduate degrees awarded to women and BIPOC students by 2026. To achieve this ambitious national goal, we hypothesize that networked communities are needed to build an inclusive infrastructure that will drive the transformative, systemic and sustainable change needed to achieve 100K undergraduate and 30k graduate engineering degrees awarded annually to these populations by 2026.

Thus, the Engineering PLUS Alliance seeks to expand and create a third regional hub within the United States to provide networking opportunities, professional development and training, and resources to surface and scale evidence-based practices and programs across the network. The host institution of each region is a sub-awardee on this prestigious grant and receives annual funding of up to \$180,000. To date, nearly 60 institutions have joined the Alliance located in the New England and Midwest Regional Hubs.

This partnership should both build upon regional efforts such as the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) in STEM to accelerate the mission of the Engineering PLUS Alliance and be aligned with the strategic goals of the institution(s). Partnerships with LSAMPs are critical to scaling up the Engineering PLUS Alliance. LSAMPs are NSF-funded consortia of multiple degree-granting institutions in a region. As noted, organizations from other sectors, including non-LSAMP institutions, will be participants. LSAMPs develop programs for: 1) individual student retention and progression to baccalaureate degrees; 2) successful transfer of underrepresented minority students from two-year to four-year 8 institutions' STEM programs; 3) undergraduate research experiences for LSAMP students; and 4) seamless transition of students into STEM graduate programs.

### Webinar and Q & A Dates

- Tuesday, November 14 from 12:00-1:00PM ET
- Wednesday November 15 from 12:00-1:00PM ET.

### Webinar Registration Registration Form

### Materials for Application:

- Written rationale of involvement in the Engineering PLUS Alliance and why you should lead our third Regional Hub
- Letters of Collaboration with other institutions of relationship in your area who may be willing to join
- LSAMP Affiliation
- All other programs and grants applicants have led (as PI/Co-PI, or other project lead designation)
- List of involved contacts or senior leadership involved
- Letter from their Dean of Engineering, or equivalent in support of application
- Examples of previous work or initiatives supporting marginalized or underrepresented communities

### Submission Deadline

January 15, 2024; 11:59PM PT

### Directed to

KF Flynn

[k.flynn@northeastern.edu](mailto:k.flynn@northeastern.edu)



# ENGINEERING PLUS

NSF's Eddie Bernice Johnson INCLUDES Alliance Engineering PLUS (Partnerships Launching Underrepresented Students)  
*This work is supported by the National Science Foundation under award HRD-2119930. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.*





## Who We Are:

[The Engineering PLUS Alliance](#), funded at \$10 million over 5 years, is one of 17 NSF Eddie Bernice Johnson INCLUDES Alliances and the only Alliance focused on engineering. NSF INCLUDES is a nationwide initiative designed to build U.S. leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) by increasing the participation of individuals from groups that have been historically underrepresented in STEM. The Alliance aims to recruit over 400 engineering institutions and community colleges into Regional Hubs, train more than 400 [stEm PEER](#) change agents, and engage 300 industry partners.

We envision the potential for solutions to be strongly informed by the widespread adoption of high-impact practices proven to increase diversity in engineering education. This systemic change, at scale, will result in the achievement of the Alliance's goal to dramatically increase the number of BIPOC and women engineering graduates annually to 100,000 B.S. and 30,000 M.S./Ph.Ds within five years, while simultaneously increasing the diversity of our nation's workforce.

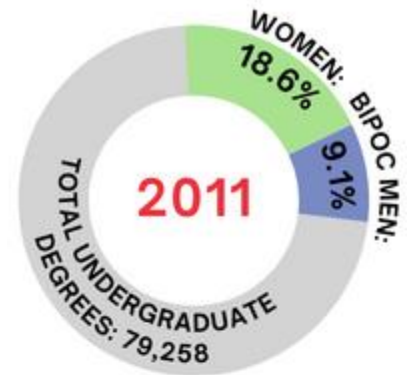
## Regional Hubs

The Engineering PLUS Alliance seeks to establish a network of between three and five Regional Hubs, expanding from the first two ([New England Regional Hub](#) and [Midwest Regional Hub](#)) by collaborating with the Urban Massachusetts LSAMP (UMLSAMP), the Northeast LSAMP (NELSAMP), the Louis Stokes Midwest Regional Center of Excellence (LSMRCE) and other LSAMP alliances and non-LSAMP institutions.

The Engineering PLUS Network will work with NACME (National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering), the National GEM Consortium, and NAMEPA (National Association of Multicultural Engineering Program Advocates), to create regional foci of engineering affinity student society chapters.

We will also identify opportunities to integrate engineering undergraduate and engineering graduate students into local LSAMP Alliances and non-LSAMP institutions to coalesce into a Regional Hub. The combined LSAMP, non-LSAMP and integrated engineering-organizations efforts will form the Engineering PLUS Regional Hub Network.

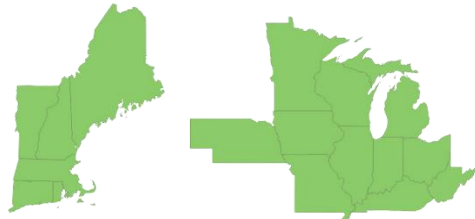
Currently, there are nearly 60 total institutions within the Regional Hub Network with a goal of 400 partnering colleges and universities.





## **The Regional Hubs are responsible for:**

- Expanding the number of Engineering PLUS regional member institutions
- The establishment and strengthening of the working relationships between institutions and Engineering PLUS Alliance, with a focus in broadening the participation of women and BIPOC in engineering;
- Providing opportunities to mid-career education professional engaged or driven to improving the preparation, participation, and contributions of women and BIPOC through the stEm (E for our Engineering focus) PEER (Practitioners Enhancing Engineering Regionally) Academy
- Supporting members implement best practices at their institution and in their region
- Cementing faculty/leadership buy-in at regional institutions for scaling up best practices
- The members will, in turn, serve as institutional Ambassadors to lead and leverage activities that align with the overarching goal of Engineering PLUS by significantly increasing the number of women and BIPOC students graduating with BS and MS/Ph.D degrees in engineering by 100K and 30K, respectively, by 2026 across the Alliance.



Institutional commitment is an annual award and is subject to review. The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to solicit proposals from various interested institutions, evaluate candidates against a designed rubric of needs, qualifications, and resources available, and select initial participating institutions and leading institutions for this project. The Engineering PLUS Alliance reserves the right to award institutions as it sees fit.

While this grant has an end date in 2026, the Engineering PLUS Alliance plans to continue its training of leaders, its expansion, and its mission via support from its IPLUS (Industry Partners Launching Underrepresented Students) program as well as continued support from the NSF and additional grants.

### **Resources for Applicants**

#### **Initial 3-Year Lifecycle of a Regional Hub**

- [3-Year Strategic Plan](#)

#### **Samples of Regional Governing Documents**

- New England Regional Hub: [Agreement of Collaboration](#)

#### **Engineering PLUS Recent Newsletters**

- [Gaining Momentum](#)
- [The Flywheel is Turning](#)



## **Request for Proposal Process**

Requests for Proposal should be addressed to:

KF Flynn  
Director, Engineering PLUS Alliance  
[k.flynn@northeastern.edu](mailto:k.flynn@northeastern.edu)

**The RFP process will close on January 15, 2024, at 11:59PM PT**

### **Requirements of Proposals:**

- Written rationale of involvement in the Engineering PLUS Alliance and why you should lead our third Regional Hub
- Letters of Standing Collaboration with other institutions of relationship in your area
- LSAMP Affiliation
- All other programs and grants applicants have led (as PI/Co-PI, or other project lead designation)
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