



Introduction

The Rural Low-Income Students S-STEM Investigations Network Groups Research Hub (RISING Hub) brings together Rural Serving Institutions to collaborate and conduct research about rural, low-income college students' success in STEM majors and participation in STEM careers. Specific project activities include the Rural Serving Institution Summer Institutes, Network Groups, and research development and dissemination. The overarching goal of the RISING hub is to address the existing gap in rural STEM higher education research about how to support rural, low-income students who face specific challenges in enrolling in, persisting in, and completing STEM degrees.

Thank you for your interest in participating in the RISING Summer Institute and Network Groups (NG). Please complete this application in full to ensure your submission is reviewed accurately.

The priority deadline for consideration is February 28, 2025.

Network Group Description

<u>Commitments</u>	<u>Resources</u>	<u>Benefits</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in 3-day Summer Institute to build capacity to engage related to rural STEM postsecondary education in Starkville MS June 7-9, 2025 • Attend monthly Network Group Meetings with other S-STEM faculty over a 20-month period (Aug 2025-May 2026) • Engage in collaborative research with Network Group colleagues over the 20-month period • Leverage current/recent S-STEM projects as sources of data for learning about rural postsecondary student belonging in STEM, community, and post-secondary education • Develop scholarly products (papers, presentations, outreach) about supports that support rural students in post-secondary STEM programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Financial Support:</u> Receive up to \$2,000 for Summer Institute and \$6,000 for Network Group participation plus travel expenses • <u>Research Support:</u> Network Groups may apply for funds to support research activities (up to \$30,000 per group) • <u>Capacity-Building Opportunities:</u> Workshops and presentations at the Summer Institute; facilitation, mentoring, and support for Network Group participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Professional Networking:</u> Connections with other S-STEM faculty and education scholars with a focus on rural post-secondary STEM student success • <u>Increased Research Capacity:</u> Enhance rural STEM education research skills (e.g., data analysis, qualitative and quantitative research methods, education research, writing for rural and STEM education journals, etc.) • <u>Intellectual and Collaborative Infrastructure:</u> Opportunities to connect with and learn from other S-STEM faculty, share effective practices and help build the knowledge base about rural postsecondary STEM education

Basic Information

Please fill in the following information.

Name:

Title/Position:

Institution/Organization:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Mailing Address:

Current S-STEM Project Information

What is the title of your current S-STEM project?

Please paste the abstract of your current S-STEM project.

What is the NSF award number of your current S-STEM project?

What is the projected end date of your current S-STEM project?

Network Group 2025/2026 Availability

RISING Network Group Participants must be able to attend the 2025 Summer Institute as well as participate actively in monthly on-line meetings and engage in collaborative scholarly activity the next two years (through the 2026-2027 academic year).

Travel and participating stipends will be included.

Can you commit to participate in the June 7–9, 2025 Summer Institute at Mississippi State University?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Can you commit to participating in monthly Network Group meetings with S-STEM colleagues and and engage in collaborative scholarly activity for the two years following the 2025 Summer Institute?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If for some reason you are unable to participate in or are not selected for this round of the RISING Summer Institute and Network Groups, would you be interested in being considered for the next round (2027 Summer Institute, Network Groups 2027–2029)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Goals and Interests

Your answers to the following questions may be used to develop Network Groups focused around shared interests, research goals, and needs.

- Funded by NSF's S-STEM program, this project addresses gaps in rural STEM education research and focuses on supporting rural, low-income, academically talented students by fostering collaboration among Rural Serving Institutions through the RISING Hub.
- The RISING Hub will support research your engagement in research activities through faculty network groups and capacity-building activities.

What interests you about participating in the RISING Summer Institute and Network Groups?

What makes your current or past S-STEM project "rural"? How do you define rural for your project?

Goals/Interests of participating in RISING Summer Institute and Network Groups



On a scale of 1 to 5, to what extent does your project include each of these aspects of belonging?

0

1

2

3

4

5

Belonging in
STEM

☐

0

Belonging in
Higher Education

☐

0

Belonging in
Communities

☐

0

In what ways does your project advance rural belonging in one or more of these areas and/or what aspect(s) of rural belonging could be incorporated into your project? If you are using a different definition or aspect of belonging, please describe that.

Supporting Documents

Please attach a Biosketch (NSF) or abbreviated CV (~ 3 pages).

End

Thank you for your application. Please ensure all sections are complete and attach the requested documents.

We look forward to reviewing your application!

If you have any questions, please reach out to Diana Outlaw
@diana.outlaw@ssrc.msstate.edu

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