



*Achieving Excellence in Workforce Education*

# NSF ATE Mentoring and Other Opportunities

---

WEBCAST/PODCAST  
OCTOBER 18, 2024  
1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

[ccpi-stem.org/webcasts-podcasts/](https://ccpi-stem.org/webcasts-podcasts/)



PRINCE GEORGE'S  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Welcome and Introductions

---

## Today's Speakers and Moderator

- Elaine Craft, PI Mentor-Connect, Florence-Darlington Technical College, SC, PI and Co-PI of other ATE grants
- Pam Silvers, Co-PI Mentor-Connect, Florence-Darlington Technical College SC, Retired Professor, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College
- Dr. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch, PI Mentor Up, PI National Center for NextGeneration Manufacturing
- Dr. Elizabeth K. Hawthorne, PI FORCCE-ATE, Co-PI CCPI-STEM, Senior Professor Emerita of Computer Science and Cybersecurity, Union College, NJ



## Today's Topics

---

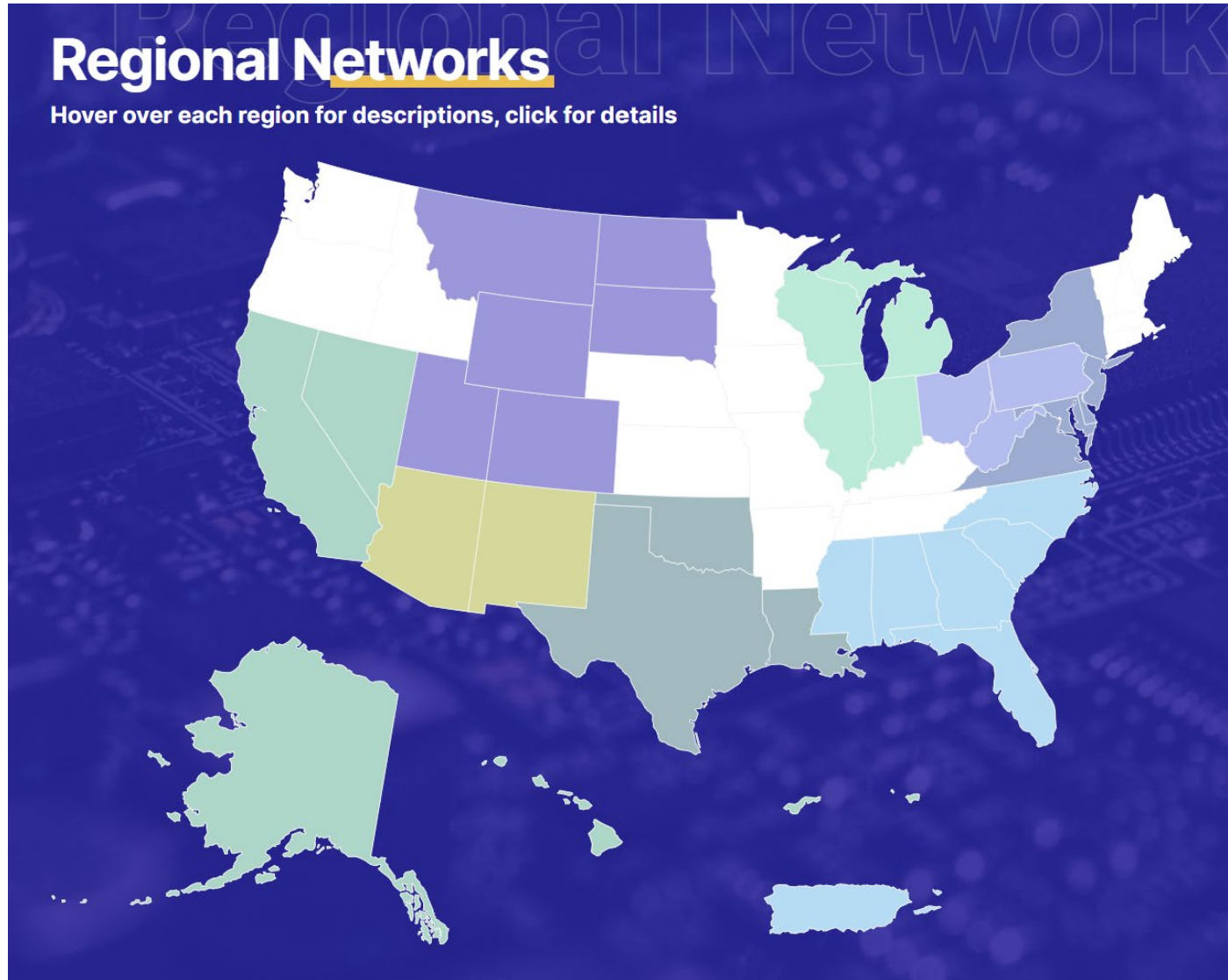
1. Overview of CCPI-STEM, Dr. Charlene Dukes, Co-PI CCPI-STEM
2. NSF ATE Instructional Modules by CCPI-STEM
3. How can the National Science Foundation ATE program help your institution?
4. Why connect with an ATE mentoring initiative?
5. Mentoring initiatives to help community colleges apply for ATE grants
  1. Mentor-Connect
  2. Mentor Up
6. Questions & Answers & Poll



## Key Initiatives of CCPI-STEM

CCPI-STEM initiative focuses on advancing STEM workforce education, and promoting the NSF Advanced Technological Education (ATE) program

- Establishment of community college Regional Networks for advancing STEM workforce education and encouraging academic and business partnerships
- CCPI-STEM Fellows Program
- Development of NSF ATE instructional modules for inclusion in community college leadership graduate programs and leadership institutes
- Dissemination: National, Regional, Local levels
  - e.g., CCPI-casts, Presidents' Press, Conferences, Thought Leaders Dialogues w/ League for Innovation



## How can the NSF ATE program help your institution?

---

- Curriculum development, including programs/certificates/certifications/courses/capstone experiences
- Equipment
- Program(s) aimed at improving student retention and success
- Faculty professional development
- Collaborative program(s) with business and industry
- High school student and/or teacher development and outreach programs



## Why Connect with an ATE Mentoring initiative?

---

- Pairs mentees with mentors with extensive experience in the ATE program
- Mentors have had numerous ATE grants and/or are former ATE program officers
- Focuses on successful strategies for competitive proposal development
- Guides proposal writing for all sections
- Includes information on budget preparation and evaluation
- Helps with [Research.gov](https://www.research.gov), including all the required NSF forms
- Provides examples of successful ATE proposals
- Keeps informed about changes to the ATE program solicitation and PAPPG



# Brief Demo of NSF ATE Training Modules

▶ Module 0 - Overview for Leadership in Community College Grants	✓	+	⋮
▶ Module 1 - Grant Strategy	✓	+	⋮
▶ Module 2 - NSF ATE Grants	✓	+	⋮
▶ Module 3 - Partnerships	✓	+	⋮
▶ Module 4 - The Grant Lifecycle and Tactical Deployment	✓	+	⋮

- ✓ Developed by Shane Kirby, Grants Director, Columbus State Community College
- ✓ Located on Canvas LMS [canvas.instructure.com/courses/6299590](https://canvas.instructure.com/courses/6299590)
- ✓ For access email Beth at [ekhawthorne@gmail.com](mailto:ekhawthorne@gmail.com)
- ✓ Send feedback to Shane at [shaneskirby@gmail.com](mailto:shaneskirby@gmail.com)





## 2 NSF ATE Mentoring Initiatives to Assist Your College

- **Mentor-Connect**  
[mentor-connect.org](http://mentor-connect.org)



- **Mentor Up**  
[atementorup.org](http://atementorup.org)





# Mentor-Connect Initiative

---





# Introductions



**Elaine Craft**

Principal Investigator, Mentor-Connect:  
Leadership Development and Outreach for ATE  
Florence-Darlington Technical College, SC

President, Elaine L. Craft Educational  
Consulting, L.L.C

Email: [elaine.craft@fdtc.edu](mailto:elaine.craft@fdtc.edu)



**Pamela Silvers**

Co-Principal Investigator  
Mentor-Connect: Leadership Development and Outreach for ATE  
Florence-Darlington Technical College, SC

Retired Professor:  
Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College  
Email: [pamela.silvers@fdtc.edu](mailto:pamela.silvers@fdtc.edu)



Mentor-Connect helps you compete for NSF ATE grant funding to improve technician education and develop as leaders





# Mentor-Connect Overview

- Work one-on-one with an experienced Mentor
- Learn in a cohort with others who are new to ATE
- Understand NSF/ATE Requirements
- Develop skills in
  - Project development & proposal structure
  - Proposal writing



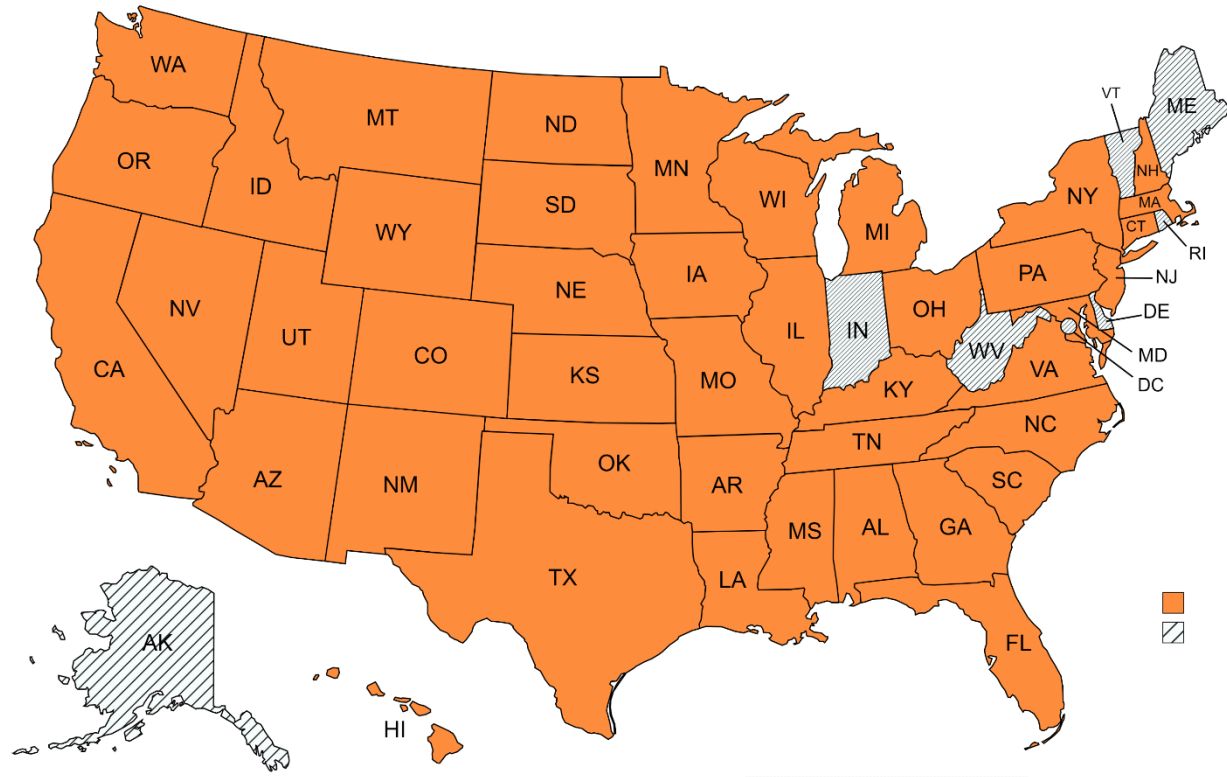
# What Mentor-Connect Does

- Teaches ATE grant proposal preparation strategies
- Guides proposal writing - timeline/accountability
- Advises prospective grantees through the funding process
- Provides technical support for project start-up
- Answers questions about project implementation & grants management
- Stimulates STEM faculty leadership development
- Prepares Mentors to work with prospective grantees





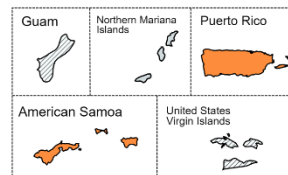
Mentor-Connect Geographic Impact:  
12 cohorts → 43 States → 2 US Territories



**261**  
College Teams

**491**  
Faculty

**317**  
Grant Professionals &  
Administrators





## Participant Success Data

- 86% have submitted NSF ATE proposals
- 72% received New-to ATE grants compared to 26% overall NSF funding rate

## 2024 Submission Success

- 100% submitted proposals (22 colleges)
- 82% received funding (18 colleges)

# How to Apply

Access application:

[www.Mentor-Connect.org](http://www.Mentor-Connect.org)

“Get a Mentor”

***Deadline November 8, 2024***

Application Components:

Electronic Application & College Affidavit

**Now  
Available!**

HELP!



## Connect with Mentor-Connect



[www.Mentor-Connect.org](http://www.Mentor-Connect.org)



843.676.8541



[mentor-connect@fdtc.edu](mailto:mentor-connect@fdtc.edu)



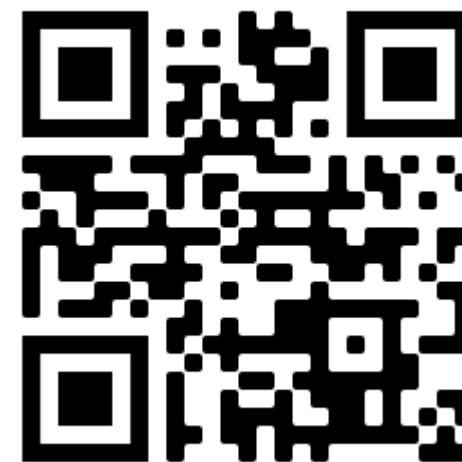
ATEMentorConnect



@Mentor\_Connect



[LinkedIn.com/MentorConnect](https://www.linkedin.com/company/MentorConnect)



# Mentor Up Initiative

---



# Mentor Up



**The purpose of the project** is to increase the number and quality of proposals submitted annually. This will be achieved through 2.5 day intensive workshop accompanied by one-on-one mentoring with experienced Principal Investigators and past NSF Program Officers.

- 2.5 day proposal writing workshop
- Pre-workshop questions
- Mentoring by experienced Principal Investigators and past NSF Program

## Mentor Up Initiative

---

### Goals

- Broaden knowledge, build capacity, and increase access to ATE
- Increase the number of competitive ATE proposals to October 2, 2025 submission deadline

### Activities

- Faculty team, supported by a grant writer and/or administrator, is assigned a mentor no later than **April 15, 2025** and usually soon after acceptance
- Preworkshop, virtual workshop, and postworkshop support is provided
- Continued support is available during negotiations and/or resubmission





# Mentor Up

- Register online through **April 1, 2025** at [atmentorup.org](https://atmentorup.org)
- Mentor assigned no later than **April 15, 2025**, and usually sooner
- Virtual Workshop Date: **June 4 - 6, 2025** (Wed to Fri)
- Stipends for faculty members
  - **\$500** workshop for each of two faculty members
  - **\$250** each upon proposal submission
- Draft proposals reviewed by former ATE program directors, PIs or Kathleen Alfano

## Additional Opportunities in 2025

- Have an idea for an NSF ATE grant proposal that you want to discuss?
  - Fill out form and a mentor will be in contact shortly!
- **Pre-mentoring** – After discussion, a mentor will be assigned who will work with team to develop competitive Mentor Up application
  - Deadline for pre-mentoring is **March 15, 2025**
  - **Stipends available:** \$250 for each of two faculty who participate in pre-mentoring and submit a formal application for Mentor Up June workshop
  - **Note:** Pre-mentoring is **not required** for submission to the full workshop

- **Applications for June 2025 virtual workshop must:**
  - Include one-page project description, a support letter from an administrator, and names of faculty members (and any others) attending virtual workshop
  - No limit on number of participants per community college team, but only two faculty members eligible to receive stipends

**For more information or to discuss ideas, contact:**

- PI: Karen Wosczyzna-Birch @ karenlee@snet.net
- Co-PI: Kathleen Alfano @ kalfano37@gmail.com

**Program and Application Information: [atementorup.org](https://atementorup.org)**

## Mentor Up Testimonies

The mentoring that the Mentor Up NSF ATE project provided was pivotal in our work on submitting an NSF grant application. A team of first time Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigators relied on this program and the mentors to guide us along the application process. Without mentoring, new PIs and Co-PIs would not be **able to navigate the process from project concept to awarded grant reality.** [2201539](#)

*Shellie Banfield, Santa Fe College, Florida*



The Mentoring Experience was the most valuable tool I have ever received in regards to grant writing. It made the **difference between writing a proposal and presenting a fundable project.** [1955010](#)

*Bonnie Kelly, Wiregrass Georgia Technical College*

*Success Rate  
for Mentor Up  
Participants is  
71%*



## Upcoming CCPI-Casts: SAVE the DATES

- **How to Build Institutional Capacity for NSF ATE Grants with Community College Presidents**  
Fri, November 15 @ 1:00 pm ET
- **Thought Leaders' Dialogue III on STEM Education with the League for Innovation in the Community College**  
Fri, January 24, 2025 (90 minutes; time TBD)
- Visit [ccpi-stem.org](https://ccpi-stem.org) to RSVP and receive a Zoom confirmation

CCPI-Cast: How to Build  
Institutional Capacity for NSF  
✓ ATE Grants, Fri, Nov. 15, 2024 @  
1:00 pm ET  
REGISTER HERE



# Questions / Comments / Poll



[ccpi-stem.org](http://ccpi-stem.org)

[leadership@ccpi-stem.org](mailto:leadership@ccpi-stem.org)

[linkedin.com/company/community-college-presidents-initiative/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/community-college-presidents-initiative/)