

PROJECT NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) INFORMATION FOR CHAIR'S STATEMENT

Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) is a professional development program for new or recent Ph.D.s in the mathematical sciences (including pure and applied mathematics, statistics, operations research, and mathematics education). It addresses all aspects of an academic career: improving the teaching and learning of mathematics, engaging in research and scholarship, and participating in professional activities. Participants must be employed in a full-time position and must be in their first two years of college or university teaching during the Project NExT Fellowship year. They must also have completed requirements for a Ph.D. degree by September 1, 2012. (An applicant who obtained her or his Ph.D. after December 2010 is automatically eligible. An applicant with a Ph.D. prior to December 2010 must clearly specify exactly how much teaching s/he has done. If your applicant will not have the Ph.D. conferred on her/him by December 2012, we recommend waiting until the following year to apply to Project NExT. This is addressed the FAQs on the Project NExT website <http://archives.math.utk.edu/projnext/>.)

Your letter of support is required for your faculty member's application to be considered. After we have received your faculty member's application, we will email you with instructions about how to submit your letter electronically. **We must receive your letter on or before Friday, April 13, 2012. In your letter, please describe how the applicant's participation in Project NExT will contribute to your department's goals and describe the financial support your institution will provide.** Your colleague will need the opportunity to implement new curricula and alternative teaching techniques in the classroom. We are also interested in the potential impact the applicant's participation in Project NExT will have on the department as a whole.

Information about funding: There is no fee for participation in Project NExT itself. Project NExT will provide meals at the two-and-one-half-day Workshop before Mathfest in Madison, WI. Participants also do not have to pay for the special short courses organized by Project NExT during the summer Mathfest. Institutions employing the Project NExT Fellows are expected to provide all other expenses associated with the three meetings. These include: transportation to Madison; lodging during the Project NExT Workshop (July 29 or 30 through August 1, 2012); lodging and meals during the Madison Mathfest (August 1 through August 4 or 5, 2012); registration for the Madison Mathfest; and travel, room and board, and registration for the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Diego, CA (January 9-12, 2013), and for a one-day workshop and the MAA Mathfest immediately afterwards in Hartford, CT (July 31 - August 3, 2013). Depending on transportation costs, we estimate that the total institutional commitment is probably about \$3500 per Fellow. **Assurances of institutional support for the three meetings are of critical importance in the application process:** applicants whose support letters do not indicate full financial support will not be considered. This support may come from such sources as department and college funds, grants, or startup funds for new faculty. In describing your institution's financial support, please be as specific as you can. For example, you might tally the total expenses for a Fellow from your institution and commit that specific dollar amount, or you might simply indicate that all expenses will be covered. Note that this support must extend into August 2013; if the applicant is in a temporary position at your institution which ends in the spring of 2013, please also explicitly address your commitment to fund the meeting in August 2013. For further information about costs, check the FAQs on the Project NExT website <<http://archives.math.utk.edu/projnext/applicantfaq.html>>.

You can see a copy of last year's Workshop program on the Project NExT website, at <http://archives.math.utk.edu/projnext/forms_current/prevprog.pdf>. Thank you for your willingness to support your new faculty in this exciting program.

For more information about Project NExT, please consult our website, <<http://archives.math.utk.edu/projnext/>>, or contact Aparna Higgins, Director of Project NExT, Department of Mathematics, University of Dayton, 300 College Park, Dayton, OH 45469-2316. Email: Aparna.Higgins@udayton.edu, Phone: 937-229-2103

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