**Minority Serving Institution Partnerships Program (MSIPP)**

The Office of Environmental Management’s (EM) Minority Serving Institution Partnerships Program (MSIPP) supports research, education, training, and workforce development at Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) in areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

**MSIPP goals**

* Enhance the role of minorities in EM's future workforce at DOE national laboratories and sites
* Fund competitive, collaborative applied research that is relevant to EM’s mission
* Support STEM education and internships
* Increase opportunities for MSIs to work with DOE national laboratories
* Leverage resources such as Laboratory Directed Research and Development funds and EM technology development funds to advance minority-focused opportunities

**Program components**

**Annual competitive research solicitation** for minority serving institutions

**Student internships** at U.S. Department of Energy national laboratories for undergraduates and graduate students

**Hands-on research experience** in EM-relevant disciplines

**Budget**

Projects are forward-funded to avoid disruption to research projects.

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| --- |
| FY 2016: ~$8M  FY 2015: $7.5M  FY 2014: $7.1M |
|



**MSIPP metrics**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Effectiveness of supported research | Number of new research collaborations between MSIs and DOE laboratories  Duration of new collaborations  Research results/products/technologies transferred to EM sites |
| Impacts on students | Number of students who complete MSIPP national laboratory internships  Number of MSIPP-impacted students who graduate with STEM degrees  Number of MSIPP-impacted undergraduates who pursue graduate STEM degrees  Student satisfaction with internships |
| Workforce impacts (long-term data) | Number/demographics of MSIPP-impacted graduates/postdocs hired into DOE’s technical and scientific workforce  Number/demographics of MSI faculty engaged in EM workshops, panels, reviews, etc. |

**Management**

MSIPP is managed by Savannah River National Laboratory with assistance from the U.S. Department of Energy’s Savannah River Operations Office and with oversight from EM Headquarters (Mark Gilbertson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Site Restoration; Kurt Gerdes, Director, Office of Soil and Groundwater Remediation).

**Fiscal Year 2015**

**Competitive research awards**

* 32 proposals received, 12 selected in the areas of soil and groundwater remediation, deactivation and decommissioning (D&D), and tank waste processing

**Schools:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Alabama State University | Florida International University |
| Benedict College | Howard University |
| City University of New York | South Carolina State University |
| Florida A&M University | University of Nevada Las Vegas |

**National laboratory partners:**

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory,

Savannah River National Laboratory

* Two-stage proposal reviews:

**Technical Evaluation Committee** assesses technical merit and planned scientific activities; 21 technical reviewers from five national laboratories and Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS)

**Programmatic Evaluation Committee** examines likelihood of proposal team meeting requirements and having sufficient resources to accomplish stated objectives; 4 reviewers from SRNL and EM

* MSI reporting:

Monthly budgets (invoices) to SRNS

Mid-year status updates

Annual final reports

**MSIPP summer internships**

Approximately 30 students from MSIs were placed in internships at SRNL, PNNL, ORNL, and Argonne National Laboratory in Summer 2015

**Savannah River Environmental Sciences Field Station (SRESFS)**

Supports hands-on applied environmental research and classroom training for students from South Carolina State University (SCSU) and regional MSIs. SCSU led this program ($500K) and SRNL is a partner on three continuing research projects ($200K). The 2015 SRESFS program supported 5 research interns and 21 students in courses. Research projects included:

* + Contaminant attenuation by reductive minerals
  + Assessment of Savannah River Site hydrology
  + Regional deposition of mercury and other contaminants

**Fiscal Year 2016**

* A competitive research solicitation will be issued in November for *multi-year awards* (single-year awards were issued in FY 2015)
* SRNL is developing an integrated MSIPP summer internship program with participation from multiple national laboratories



**Contacts**

SRNL program manager: Connie Yung, connie.yung@srnl.doe.gov, 803-725-9032

EM program manager: Karen Skubal, karen.skubal@em.doe.gov, 301-903-6524

MSIPP website: *http://srnl.doe.gov/msipp/index.htm*