Aim of the ITEST Program

Ensure a high-quality STEM workforce by supporting projects that:

- Increase student awareness of career opportunities in STEM and cognate fields.
- Motivate students to pursue appropriate educational pathways to STEM-related careers.
- Provide technology-rich experiences that develop disciplinary knowledge, practices, and non-cognitive skills needed in STEM fields.
STEM Workforce & Cognate Fields

• Traditional STEM Disciplines
• Information and Communications Technology (ICT)
• Computing, Computer Sciences, Data Analytics, and related fields.
• Professionals at all levels, including technicians, technologists, scientists, engineers, computer scientists, and mathematicians.
ITEST Projects...

• Must involve students.
• Are informed by relevant research.
• Will focus on workforce development for youth or school-to-work transitions.
• Will conduct foundational or design-based research of conditions and contexts that improve student STEM learning pathways and STEM-focused career preparations and mentorships.
ITEST is especially interested in...

• Broadening participation of student groups underrepresented in STEM-related education and career domains.

• Projects that examine the effectiveness of adult volunteers with relevant disciplinary expertise.

• Projects that improve students’ critical thinking skills that transfer across disciplines and into career settings.

• Projects that directly involve students with business and industry through partnerships.
“Encouraged” are Projects that...

• Bring together researchers in STEM education, STEM disciplines, career development, psychology, sociology, anthropology, and related fields.

• Engage students in use of cutting-edge technological tools, the computer sciences, or innovative applications of technology for work/problem-based learning.
Two Types of Projects Supported

Strategies projects that address the creation and implementation of innovative technology-related interventions.

- Awards of up to $1,200,000 for projects lasting up to 3 years.
- Approximately 15-20 projects to be supported.

SPReaD (Successful Project Expansion and Dissemination) projects that support the wider and broader dissemination and examination of innovative interventions.

- Awards for up to $2,000,000 for projects lasting 3 to 5 years.
- Approximately 5-10 projects to be supported.