**2020-2021 PolarTREC Researcher Application**

**Deadline: Monday, 14 October 2019**

*If you are unable to meet this deadline or do not yet know about your project's funding, but are interested in applying to host an educator, please contact the PolarTREC Project Managers (info@polartrec.com) to discuss your individual situation.*

Thank you for your interest in hosting an educator on your field research project. Your commitment to linking polar research with education is an important contribution to both the research and education communities and the goals of the National Science Foundation (NSF). PolarTREC will use the information you provide in your application to select research projects and educators that match in interest and availability. If your project is selected, you will be asked to review 5-10 educator applications and interview the top applicants for your project. We anticipate interviews being conducted in November-December 2019 with final matches being made before January 2020.

**Before you start the application, please review the following PolarTREC program documentation:**

About PolarTREC <http://www.polartrec.com/about>

Goals and Objectives <http://www.polartrec.com/about/goals-and-objectives>

Program Requirements <http://www.polartrec.com/about/requirements>

Researcher's Frequently Asked Questions <http://www.polartrec.com/researchers/faq>

**Application Tips:**

* Do not submit this Word document! Use this to type your answers and cut and paste them into the online webform at: <https://www.polartrec.com/researchers/application>
* If you cannot access or have trouble with the online application, please contact info@polartrec.com for further instructions.
* Answer each question as thoroughly as possible. We will contact you if additional information is needed.
* If you are applying to work exclusively with an educator you already know, please read this additional information and jointly complete the Supplementary Questions for Preexisting Educator – Researcher Teams <https://www.polartrec.com/educators/preexisting-relationship>
* We will be selecting informal science educators (e.g. educators that work in museums, science/nature centers, after-school programs) as well as formal classroom teachers placed in grades 6-12. We will not be accepting applications from PolarTREC alumni teachers.
* We prefer that applicants already have secured funding for their research project. However, if your request for funding is pending you can still apply to host an educator. If this is your case, please contact the PolarTREC Project Managers at info@polartrec.com to discuss your individual situation.

**1. Contact Information**

\* Denotes required field.

Title:

Last Name: \*

First Name: \*

Department:

Organization: \*

Street:

City:

State:

Zip:

Primary Email: \*

Re-enter Primary Email: \*

Other Email:

Work Phone:

Cell Phone:

Other Phone:

Fax:

Planned Absences (i.e. upcoming field expeditions):

Please write a short biography for yourself:

*Note: If your project is selected, we will use this bio on the PolarTREC website and your project overview page. Please limit to 200 words or less.*

Please share any personal or research-related websites and social media tags for your research project or institution.

**2. Demographic Information**

*Note: The following question is for the purpose of gathering information on applicants to the PolarTREC program to provide the National Science Foundation with a measure of PolarTREC impacts. Submission of this information is* ***voluntary*** *and is not a requirement for acceptance to the program.*

Ethnicity:

\_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic or Latino

\_\_\_\_\_ Not Hispanic or Latino

Gender:

\_\_\_\_\_ Male

\_\_\_\_\_ Female

Race (Select one or more):

\_\_\_\_\_ American Indian or Native Alaskan

\_\_\_\_\_ Asian

\_\_\_\_\_ Black or African American

\_\_\_\_\_ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

\_\_\_\_\_ White

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Other Race:

**3. Motivation for Participation**

a) Why do you wish to host a PolarTREC educator on your project? Did you include participation in PolarTREC in your NSF Broader Impacts? If so, what did you say about PolarTREC?

b) Briefly describe your involvement and/or interest in science education and outreach for general audiences:

c) Briefly describe your general expectations of the PolarTREC educator:

d) Briefly describe ideas or activities you have in mind for sustaining collaboration with the educator before, during, and after the field experience.

**4. Project Personnel**

a) Who is the lead Principal Investigator of this research project?

b) Who is/are the co-Principal Investigator(s) (if applicable)?

*Note: Applying researchers are encouraged to discuss the inclusion of a PolarTREC educator with co-PI's and other team members before submitting an application.*

c) What is your role in the research project?

\_\_\_\_\_ Principal Investigator

\_\_\_\_\_ Co-Principal Investigator

\_\_\_\_\_ Graduate Student

\_\_\_\_\_ Other Research Professional

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (Describe Below)

Other role description:

d) How many people will be participating in your field research team during this expedition? Please choose an approximate number under each category below:

\_\_\_\_\_ Principal Investigators or Co-Principal Investigators

\_\_\_\_\_ Graduate Students

\_\_\_\_\_ Undergraduate Students

\_\_\_\_\_ Other Research Professionals (Describe Below)

Other Research Professionals (please describe):

e) Who will serve as the primary contact for the project and mentor for the educator while in the field? If someone other than yourself, please include name, contact information, and role in the research team:

*Note: This person must be in the field at least part of the time with the educator . This person will be working directly with the educator both before, during, and post field experience and must be fully involved in the applicant selection process. This person might be the PI but could also be a graduate student or co-PI.*

**5. Project Information**

a) Project Title (funded and short working title):

*Note: Include the funded title as well as suggest a short working title that we could use on the website. If the project is selected, we will confirm all the final titles and project descriptions with you before making it public.*

b) Using general terms, please provide a short description of the project:

*Note: This may include key project goals, why this work is important, or a project abstract. Please limit this response to 300 words.*

c) What aspects of your research do you think are most accessible to K-12 teachers, students, or the public ? (What is the take home message, or key components you want the educator to focus on)*.*

d) What role will the PolarTREC educator play on your research team and in the field?

e) Describe how your research encourages a greater understanding of the Polar Regions or Earth’s systems through research in the Polar Regions:

f) Does your research project specifically focus on any of the named polar research emphasis areas? (Check any that apply.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Atmospheric Systems

\_\_\_\_\_ Cryospheric Systems (Glaciers, Sea Ice, Ice Sheets, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Human and Social Systems

\_\_\_\_\_ Marine Systems

\_\_\_\_\_ Terrestrial Systems

\_\_\_\_\_ Ecology & Biotic Systems

\_\_\_\_\_ Adaptations to Life in Extreme Cold and Prolonged Darkness

\_\_\_\_\_ Understanding Environmental Change in the Polar Regions

\_\_\_\_\_ Physics or Space Sciences

\_\_\_\_\_ Engineering and Technology

g) Please list five (5) multiple-choice questions and answers that pertain to your research. These should be key concepts or information that a teacher should learn by participating in your expedition:

*Note: We use these questions in the program evaluation. Please provide four (4) answers per question, and put a star or note next to the correct answer.*

h) Is there any additional information you would like to share about the research project (i.e. proposal summary, PowerPoint presentations, press releases, articles, weblinks, etc.)?

Additional Information:

*Note: You may also e-mail additional information to info@polartrec.com. Please make sure email attachments are less than 5 MB.*

**6. Project Funding**

a) Please list your funding agency or agencies for this project:

*Note: We prefer to accept applications from currently funded projects. If funding is pending, you can still apply to host an educator but please contact the PolarTREC Program Managers at info@polartrec.com to discuss the situation.*

b) What stage of the project would the educator be participating in? Have you visited this research site before (e.g. is this the first field season, final field season, reconnaissance, etc.)?

c) What is the funding period for this research project?

Start Date: \*

End Date: \*

d) Do you have any funding for an educator included in this research project grant? If yes, please explain:

*Note: Having funding for an educator included in your grant is not required. However, if researchers have any potential funding for an educator we are sometimes able to support more than our 12 research projects and educators per year.*

e) Is there a specific educator that you are interested in working with exclusively? If yes, please list their full name, institution, and email address:

*Note: Naming a specific educator is not required. Researchers and educators interested in working exclusively with one another will be asked to complete a set of supplementary questions and will both be subject to the full PolarTREC Selection Process. Supplementary questions do not have to be submitted at the same time as the application, but must arrive before the application deadline.*

f)Did you propose the inclusion of a PolarTREC educator in this research project grant? If yes, what amount of support can be budgeted or contributed for this impact/outreach component (i.e. travel funds, covering food costs in the field, etc)?

*Note: Having funding for an educator included in your grant is not required. However, if researchers have any extra potential funding for an educator we are sometimes able to support more than our 12 research projects and educators per year.*

**7. Approximate Field Dates**

a) What are the expected dates for your fieldwork during the 2020 (usually Arctic) and/or 2020/2021 (usually Antarctic) field seasons:

b) Approximately how many weeks during the field season would you like to host an educator and what are the dates, if known:

*Note: We prefer that educators participate in research experiences for three or more continuous weeks. Most educators cannot participate in a project for more than 5-6 weeks.*

**8. Field Site Logistics**

a) Who provides logistical support for your work? Include the name and contact information for the logistics manager for your project, if known:

Polar Field Services:

Antarctica Support Contract (ASC):

Other Logistical Support:

b) Where is your field project located? Be as specific as possible. You may list multiple sites if applicable:

Arctic:

Antarctica:

c) How do you get to your field site(s)? How do you get around once at the research site (e.g. commercial airline, helicopter, small plane, raft, ATV, miles of hiking, etc.)?

d) Briefly describe the living and working conditions at your field site (e.g. tent camping, field station, dorms, cooking own food, shared quarters, etc.):

e) What are the particular physical or emotional challenges, risks, and/or dangers involved with your field project (e.g. steep cliffs, bears, altitude, language, seasickness, etc.)?

f) What forms of communication are possible from your field site(s) (e.g. telephone, cell phone, satellite phone, email, scheduled or real-time data transfer, etc.)?

g) Are there any unusual physical requirements or special skills needed or preferred for personnel on your field project (e.g. digging, heavy lifting, prolonged hiking, mountaineering, chain saw, river travel, ocean travel, etc.)? Will they require a medical exam or vaccines?

h) Although we expect educators to learn a lot of science content while in the field, are there any specific subject areas they should be familiar with to better understand your research and/or a particular grade level or audience type you would like to work with (e.g. high school, chemistry, physics, engineering, science center, informal educator, etc.)?

i) What permits, paperwork, or visas will be required for an educator to participate in the field experience?

j) What special training will be required for an educator to participate in the field experience (e.g. helicopter training, safety training, military clearances, etc.)?

**9. Other**

a) Do you have any questions or concerns regarding participation in the PolarTREC program?

**10. Acknowledgment of Program Requirements**

I have read the PolarTREC program requirements for researchers. I understand that if my project is selected and an educator is placed with the researcher project that I will be responsible for these requirements to the best of my ability.

Full Name: \*

Date: \*