Applications for the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) HOPES seed grants are now being accepted. **Deadline June 27, 2014.** Award announcements will be made in late July.

With support from the National Science Foundation, the ASBMB will award seed-grants at $2,000 each to **partnerships** consisting of one or more Junior High/High School teacher(s) (or other K-12 educator) and one or more university, college, or institutional research scientist(s). **Please note, the ASBMB will only fund applications for which partners from both a K-12 institution and a research college, university, or similar institution have been identified in the application.**

No overhead will be provided. Seed funds can be used for a variety of purposes, including the purchase of laboratory equipment, materials, and supplies; relevant transportation costs; fees associated with pertinent professional development training; or release time to allow one or more partners to participate in planning and training.

**Only new applications are accepted. Previous HOPES recipients are NOT eligible for this grant.**

**Application Procedures:**

Each application will consist of three parts:

A. **Cover Page (Limit 1 page)**
   1. Short title
   2. Names and institutional affiliations of key personnel, i.e. participating research scientists and K-12 faculty. Please include complete mailing addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses.
   3. Total funds requested.
   4. Name and address of responsible official. The ASBMB needs to know who has the authority to receive the funds, provide purchasing services, keep financial records for audit, etc. The office of sponsored programs at the participating college or university handles these activities on a routine basis. *(Note: If the funds are received by one of the participating partners, that person will be requested to complete a W-9 and subject to applicable federal and state taxes.)*

B. **Project Description (Limit 2 pages) ---This section should include:**
   1. A realistic plan of action that includes K-12 student participation in a STEM activity or series of activities, preferably inquiry-based. Please describe the rationale behind the selection of the activity(s) to be sponsored and the learning expectations for the participating students.
   2. An estimate of the number of students expected to participate and be impacted by this project, and their grade level(s).
   3. The site(s) at which each activity(s) will take place.
   4. A description of the specific roles of each member of the partnership *(While the participation of graduate students and postdoctoral trainees is welcome, the lead for the higher education portion of each partnership team should be a tenured or tenure track faculty member or an established researcher.)*
   5. A description of the methods to be used to assess the effectiveness of the activity(s).
   6. Future plans, if any, to continue or further develop these activities.

C. **Supporting Materials**
   1. Brief biosketches (1-2 pages) for the leaders of the partnership team.
   2. Letters of support from the supervisors of the teachers/faculty/researchers involved giving permission to use needed facilities and invest faculty time. (Max of 3)
   3. A Budget outlining how the funds will be spent.*

*We wish to afford applicants the flexibility to be creative in meeting the particular needs of their students. Hence, we wish to place minimal restrictions on how budget funds should be spent. For example, teachers could propose ways to modify an experiment that scientists perform in the laboratory
that is content and age appropriate. Alternatively, the scientist could host the teacher in his/her lab to gain the experience necessary for formulating ideas. The scientist could also visit the classroom to observe the teaching and learning in the school environment. The grant can fund materials, supplies, or field trips for the proposed activity. The proposed activity could include an in-class or informal activity such as science fairs or science clubs. While seed funds can be used for teacher training, a plan consisting of training or preparation alone will not be supported.

Completed application packages should be emailed to Weiyi Zhao at wzhao@asbmb.org.

Review criteria
Factors to be considered will include:
1. The underlying rationale for the activity(s) proposed and the potential impact on participating students.
2. The degree to which the activity is based in authentic scientific processes (e.g. are students asking questions, critically thinking about approaches, and analyzing their own data?).
3. The number of students impacted and their degree of direct, “hands-on” involvement.
4. The degree to which the activity takes place within the students’ own school or community environment.
5. Feasibility
6. Quality of the assessment plan.
7. Qualifications of the partnership team.

Participants of the April 26, 2014 Fostering Partnerships between Colleges, Universities, and K-12 Schools workshop in San Diego, CA will be afforded preference. While the project targets Junior High and High school students, any application targeting K-12 students will be considered.

Please direct any questions about proposals to:
Regina Stevens-Truss, Email: Regina.Stevens-Truss@kzoo.edu
Peter J. Kennelly, Email: pjkennel@vt.edu

Please direct questions regarding the application process to Weiyi Zhao at wzhao@asbmb.org, 240-283-6612.