

Successful NEESR proposals historically have had well-defined objectives and strategies for the dissemination of the research results. This process goes well beyond the publication of papers that will be read by colleagues. A highly effective proposal also requires an effective education program that can include K-12 outreach, higher education workforce development and the public awareness communications. Reviewers are increasingly cognizant of NSF's emphasis on broader impacts with respect to Education, Outreach, and Training (EOT) and will expect a well defined program with an evaluation plan.

The integration of research findings into the educational experience has become one of the goals of all NSF-funded programs. NEES realizes the importance of helping researchers define ways to achieve this high level of impact. NEEScomm has a sophisticated cyberinfrastructure for sharing information, tools, resources, and data – NEEShub. NEEShub also enables educators to share ideas, learning modules, simulations and other tools that previously were unavailable. Several high-quality learning modules are being made available for various stakeholder groups on NEESacademy. The NEES EOT development team is actively looking for ways to add new components to these materials, especially components directly related to new research findings. NEESR research efforts can potentially contribute to powerful educational activities.

In addition to new scientific discoveries, ideas for broadening the participation of all citizens in earthquake engineering are actively sought. These ideas can be utilized for disseminating learning activities to a broader audience and will help increase the size and quality of a future workforce.

We encourage NEES researchers to develop Network EOT activities as part of their proposed funding efforts. Network EOT activities reach beyond the NEES researcher's affiliated community and contribute to a broader audience of the Network. The NEEScomm EOT leadership and development team will work with staff and contributors to help NEES researchers devise effective outreach and learning activities with maximum benefit.

Some useful guidelines:

All EOT activities need to have goals with measurable effects. Every EOT activity should include assessment materials and demographic information about the audience. In developing successful learning modules, a first step is defining your primary learning objectives for your desired audience. Your final assessment should determine how well your audience has grasped those learning objectives. Samples of useful assessment materials will be posted in the NEESacademy on nees.org. Members of the NEEScomm EOT Team are available to help plan, define, and measure success.

The Team will be happy to discuss any ideas you have and to assist in the development of activities to increase the Network EOT offerings in your NEESR educational program to help gain the maximal benefit and impact. Please Contact Thalia Anagnos at

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