From: Rosipal, Cheryl

Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 2:10 PM

Subject: Request for Application: Texas-Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (T-STEM)

Challenge Scholarship Program

This e-mail message is sent on behalf of MacGregor M. Stephenson, Assistant Commissioner; Division of Workforce, Academic Affairs and Research; Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

To: Chief Instructional Officers of Texas Public Community and Technical

Colleges

From: MacGregor M. Stephenson, Assistant Commissioner

Subject: Request for Application: *Texas-Science, Technology, Engineering, and*

Mathematics (T-STEM) Challenge Scholarship Program

We are pleased to provide the attached Request for Application (RFA) for the recently funded *Texas-Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (T-STEM) Challenge Scholarship Program.* The RFA is posted on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's (THECB) website at http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/TSTEM>.

The purpose of the T-STEM Challenge Scholarship Program is to support the education and training of STEM students at Texas public community and technical colleges. The program will provide funding for the development, implementation, and maintenance of scholarships to qualifying STEM students. Scholarships will be awarded by the colleges to qualified and selected public community and technical college students pursuing certificates or degrees in identified STEM programs. T-STEM grants will help increase the graduation of students enrolled in STEM and related degree and certificate programs.

T-STEM is funded from an \$8.5 million grant provided by the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation (TG) to the THECB. The available funding will be allocated among selected qualifying applicants. To qualify, public and community colleges must enroll a minimum of 50 students in T-STEM programs and document development of partnerships with local business and industry. These partnerships will identify and document local employment needs in the STEM fields and provide part-time employment for enrolled STEM students.

Awarded applicants will provide T-STEM merit scholarships to qualifying eligible students in an amount not to exceed \$2,500 annually per student, for a maximum of two years of support. Eligible students must be in good standing with the institution and fulfill all the obligations required by the T-STEM scholarship program as spelled out in the RFA. Scholarships from T-STEM 2012 must be awarded for academic year 2012-1013, or for parts of the academic year.

If your institution would like to participate in the T-STEM 2012, please email a notice of intent by **April 12, 2012** to: <u>TSTEM@thecb.state.tx.us</u>. The deadline for the application is **April 20, 2012**. The RFA and forms for the notice of intent and the application are posted on the program's website at <<u>http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/TSTEM</u>>.

Applications received after deadline or without a timely notice of intent will not be eligible for funding. If you have questions about the attached RFA for the T-STEM Challenge Scholarship Program, please contact my staff, Reinold Cornelius at 512-427-6156 or via email at Reinold.Cornelius@thecb.state.tx.us.