

Sponsor/Title: National Semiconductor Technology Center (NSTC) Workforce Awards Program (Natcast) -- 2025 NSTC Workforce Awards Program – Lead Organization

Website: <https://natcast.org/workforce/2025-nstc-workforce-awards-program>

Notre Dame Limited Submissions Listing:

<https://research.nd.edu/our-services/funding-opportunities/faculty/limited-submissions-program/>

Focus: Through the 2025 National Semiconductor Technology Center (NSTC) Workforce Awards, Natcast seeks to invest in programs that prepare Americans for careers in the semiconductor industry. Through this program, the NSTC scales existing programs and funds pilot programs that address critical workforce needs within the semiconductor industry in the U.S. This program will specifically focus on closing workforce and skills gaps in the United States for researchers, engineers, and technicians across semiconductor design, manufacturing, and production.

Illustrative examples of evidence-based workforce development strategies and methodologies that may be considered for this program include, but **are not** limited to initiatives that:

- Support paid work-based learning, including registered apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs;
- Issue industry-recognized credentials;
- Confer semiconductor industry-relevant degrees, such as undergraduate or graduate programs in computer engineering, electrical engineering, technology, informatics, computer programming, chemical engineering, or industrial engineering, offered by two- or four-year colleges or universities;
- Modernize or create curriculum, including with direct input from employers;
- Combine on-the-job training, industry-aligned curriculum, effective classroom instruction, mentorship, credentialing, and/or recognized wage gains for demonstrated skills milestones;
- Provide training integrated with additional supports that reduce barriers to entry in program participation (i.e. transportation);
- Enhance the capacity and skills of educators; and
- Facilitate experiential learning opportunities such as worker cooperatives, externships, internships, or capstone projects.

Because of the variety of workforce needs within the semiconductor industry, Natcast is seeking proposals that are aligned with the demonstrated needs of one or more industry employers and provide evidence of an employer's or multiple employers' commitment(s) to support the project.

Required Internal Application: Upload the following information to the Google Form

<https://forms.gle/ueUT8FxrGpRfDHL5A> by the internal deadline:

- Name of the Principal Investigator (PI)
- Project Title

- Names of Notre Dame Collaborators
- Project Overview -- Three pages (maximum) addressing the following merit review criteria outlined in the [NOFO](#).
 - Project Design and Workplan
 - Workforce Ecosystem Alignment
 - Production of Shareable Resources
 - Employer Involvement

Deadlines:

- **Internal Interest Date:** 2025-07-28
- **Sponsor Intent Form Deadline:** 2025-08-11
- **Sponsor Application Deadline (by invitation) Date:** 2025-10-15

Questions? Contact Notre Dame Research Limited Submissions at limited@nd.edu.

Unless otherwise noted, all internal applications are due by 11:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time on the internal expression of interest deadline.

Internal applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.