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October 6, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: College and University Representatives
FROM: Carolyn Bell, Civil Rights Director – MDOT *CBell*
SUBJECT: 2017 National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI) Program

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Civil Rights (HCR) is requesting applications for those wishing to host Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 NSTI Program. Applications are due to the Mississippi Department of Transportation by close of business on Wednesday, November 30, 2016.

The NSTI program is focused on Science, Technology, and Math (STEM) for high school and junior high school students. It is administered by accredited colleges and universities throughout the United States. These institutions make applications to the State DOT to serve as an NSTI "host site." State Departments of Transportation (State DOTs) provide NSTI program oversight to the host sites for the duration of the summer program. State DOTs ensure that the NSTI host site advances program objectives, submits periodic reports on program achievements, and draws down program funds timely and fully. In addition, the FHWA Division Civil Rights Specialists provide programmatic and fiscal guidance to State DOTs in overseeing the NSTI Program.

NSTI program objectives are to improve STEM skills, provide awareness to middle school and high school students – particularly minority, female, and disadvantaged youth – about transportation careers and encourage participants to consider transportation-related fields of study in their higher education pursuits. NSTI host sites are required to commit significant program time to classroom instruction. The length of the NSTI program is typically 2-4 consecutive weeks. Host sites may be student day programs or residential programs in which room and board are provided by the host site to students.

If you are interested in being considered to serve as a host site, please contact me via email at cbell@mdot.ms.gov or by phone at 601-359-7344 to receive an application packet. The selected institutions will be notified by mid December 2016 or early January 2017. If you have questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to let me know.

/cfb

cc: Carr Brown, Civil Rights Specialist, FHWA