
Nuclear Engineering and Science Center Reactor Sharing Program

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Program: Reactor Sharing and
Outreach

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ABSTRACT:

Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) Nuclear Engineering and Science Center (NESC) will lead a project to facilitate sharing their reactor facility with user institutions and K-12 schools with a focus on reaching disadvantaged communities, Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI), and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). The NESC efforts aim to engage faculty and students from user institutions through educational and research opportunities. TEES will primarily partner with Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), a HBCU, and Texas A&M University – Kingsville (TAMUK), a HSI, to strengthen nuclear science and engineering instruction at these user institutions. Additionally, outreach events and tours will be conducted for K-12 schools to help improve public awareness and understanding of nuclear science, engineering and technology.

The project will facilitate two instances of a week-long University Reactor Sharing and Outreach summer camp offered to 25 K-12 students primarily for disadvantaged communities (DAC). PVAMU and TAMUK will strengthen their nuclear science and engineering curriculum by offering hands-on laboratory course(s) to their undergraduate students, utilizing the NESC reactor facility. Additional outreach will be conducted for K-12 schools within a 100-mile radius of the NESC.

These activities will enhance STEM education and student development in nuclear science and technology while also educating and recruiting the next generation nuclear energy workforce.