



APPLICATION TIMELINE

Application Close Date

January 16, 2026, 11:59 PM ET

Selection Announcement

March 3, 2026

ELEVATE Program Dates

June 10 at 9 AM -

June 12 at 3 PM, 2026

ELIGIBILITY DETAILS

- Must be an early-career faculty member (defined as tenured-track, untenured assistant professor, or equivalent).
- Must have begun their faculty career no earlier than 2020.
- Must work at an accredited [Minority Serving Institution](#).

APPLY HERE:
ELEVATE 2026

MSI faculty members are life-long learners and educators who are constantly in the pursuit of personal and professional excellence. In an effort to support the ongoing development of early career MSI faculty, the Rutgers Center for Minority Serving Institutions (CMSI) will draw from its expertise to offer ELEVATE. ELEVATE will bring together early-career MSI faculty to further equip them with support, training, and an opportunity to create a close-knit network of peers. This three-day program will provide early career MSI faculty with a unique professional development experience that will do the following:

ENRICH LEARNING:

ELEVATE Fellows will have the opportunity to further develop their skills through workshops that will cover academic writing, grant writing, teaching, and mentoring. ELEVATE will further enrich Fellows' learning by providing sessions geared towards helping early career MSI faculty navigate the professoriate. Sample sessions include: Balancing Faculty Work & Personal Life; Achieving Tenure and Promotion; Teaching Skill Development and Mentoring Skill Development; and Grant Writing Strategies.

ENHANCE VISIBILITY:

Two key goals of the Center are to elevate the educational contributions of MSIs to ensure their participation in national conversations and to increase rigorous scholarship on MSIs. Through their rigorous research, MSI faculty members contribute to fulfilling these goals. Thus, ELEVATE will offer workshops that will further Fellows' skills in producing and publishing MSI-related research. Knowledge obtained from these workshops will allow early-career MSI faculty to enhance the visibility of MSIs in national conversations by producing high-quality research. Sample sessions include: Developing a Research Program & the Publication Process; and Op-Ed Writing.

TRAIN EDUCATORS:

All ELEVATE workshops will serve as training for early career MSI faculty to enhance their capabilities as researchers, scholars, and educators. Bringing together MSI faculty and providing training in key areas will perpetuate the goals of the Center by giving MSI faculty a space to build partnerships across MSIs that will increase efficiency and optimize resources. Sample sessions include: Identity in Academia; Managing Service; cohort-building activities, and a hosted networking dinner.

MORE INFORMATION

- Selected Fellows are responsible for covering the cost of their individual travel to and from the conference. We encourage you to seek institutional support, if available.
- Registration is free to selected Fellows.
- Lodging from June 9-12 will be covered by CMSI.
- All meals during the program and necessary materials will be provided by CMSI.
- **Program Benefits:**
 - Supplemental skill development with grant writing techniques, as well as teaching and mentoring tools.
 - Support and guidance with navigating the professoriate, the publication process, and developing a research program.
 - Networking with peers and seasoned professionals.
 - Creation of a community-oriented support group.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

All application materials are due no later than **January 16, 2026, at 11:59 PM ET**. The online application may be accessed here: [ELEVATE 2026](#). Please be sure to submit all of the following materials by the application deadline:

- Completed online application
- Statement of Purpose should not be longer than 4,500 characters:
 1. Why you are interested in attending ELEVATE?
 2. What do you hope to gain from the ELEVATE experience?
 3. How will your MSI benefit from your participation in ELEVATE?
 4. What challenges do you face working at an MSI and how do you hope attending ELEVATE will help you in overcoming those specific challenges?
- Uploaded CV/Resume
- Timely Submission
- Under no circumstances will late applications be accepted. This application will not be extended beyond the January 16, 2026 deadline.
- Selected applicants will be required to attend the ELEVATE program from Tuesday, June 10, 2026 - Friday, June 12, 2026. The program starts at 9AM on June 10 and ends on June 12 at 3:00 PM. Please make sure you will be available during these dates before submitting an application.

Apply Here:

ELEVATE 2026 APPLICATION

Deadline: January 16, 2026

Contact for More Information:

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