

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY [NON-CONFIDENTIAL, NON-TECHNICAL ABSTRACT FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION OR PROGRAM PROMOTION]: State **in layman's terms** the application's broad, long-term objectives and specific aims, making reference to the potential public benefits of the project relevant to California. Do not include proprietary or confidential information. This may be distributed before the funding decision has been finalized.

The Biotechnology Industry has an ongoing need for technically qualified employees at the BS/MS levels. Students leaving college at these levels, however, are generally less experienced in the practical aspects of bench top molecular biology than is considered desirable by industry. As a result, there is a constant shortage of well-qualified applicants for many biotechnology positions. The Biotechnology Certificate Program (BCP) at California State University, East Bay (CSUEB), was established in 1986 to address this need by providing intensive laboratory training in the Molecular Life Sciences in a 9-month post-baccalaureate program. During the past 20 years the BCP has graduated well over 200 students and greater than 90% have entered the biotechnology workforce in either industry or academic laboratories. The BCP is committed to a doubling of students (from 12-15 to 24) in order to meet the increasing biotechnology workforce demands predicted for the San Francisco Bay Area. Currently we have sufficient faculty and space to accommodate this increase but we do not have enough equipment for selected laboratory courses. To facilitate this expansion, we are requesting an additional laminar hood and incubator for our cell culture techniques course, and additional micropipettes for the greater number of students. We anticipate that BCP expansion will start in the fall of 2006 and that the increased number of graduates will enter the biotechnology workforce in the spring of 2007.