

# Scientific Travel Extension Program For Outreach Representatives Working to Advance Research Diversity (STEPFORWARD)

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STEPFORWARD is a geospatial tool built on Google Maps API to identify minority serving institutions (MSIs), primarily undergraduate institutions (PUIs) and non-R1 institutions within a geographical radius of travel. Higher Education R&D data highlights institutions active in research fields of interest.

The tool enables 2DCC researchers and the broader community to identify a diverse range of institutions for outreach visits and research interactions. The 2DCC supports visits to these institutions as part of a travel extension program.

The screenshot shows the web interface of the STEPFORWARD tool. The header includes the NSF logo, 2D Crystal Consortium logo, and Penn State Materials Research Institute logo. The navigation bar lists various research areas: MRI, Materials Characterization Lab, Nanofabrication Lab, Materials Computation Center, and 2D Crystal Consortium. The main content area is titled 'Institutions near Durham, NC 27708, USA'. It features a search form with the following options:

- Find Institutions near: Duke, NC
- Maximum Distance: 50 miles
- Prioritize by research fields: Chemical engineering, Electrical & electronic engineering, Mechanical engineering, Chemistry, Materials science, Physics
- Only include Institutions with contacts:
- PU I:  MSI:
- Doctoral Universities: R1:  Non-R1:  Not Doctoral:

A map shows the search area around Durham, NC, with red pins indicating the locations of the institutions listed in the table below. The table displays the following data:

Label	Distance [mi]	Institution	City	Doctoral <sup>1</sup>	PU I <sup>2</sup>	MSI	Enrollment	Classification	Contacts
1	46	North Carolina A & T State University	Greensboro	R2		HBUCU <sup>3</sup>	HU	R2	0
2	3	North Carolina Central University	Durham		Yes	HBUCU <sup>3</sup>	HU	Master's L	2
3	32	Elon University	Elon		Yes		VHU	Master's M	0
4	23	Shaw University	Raleigh		Yes	HBUCU <sup>3</sup>	VHU	Bac/Diverse	0

Showing 1 to 4 of 4 entries

[www.mri.psu.edu/2d-crystal-consortium/outreach/step-forward/step-forward-tool](http://www.mri.psu.edu/2d-crystal-consortium/outreach/step-forward/step-forward-tool)