



NSF Proposal & Award Policy Update

NCURA PRA and FRA Meeting

March 15 & 17, 2022

Speaker

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Topics

- Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) – Status Update
- NSPM-33 and proposed changes to NSF policies
- Get ready for Research.gov!
- System Updates
 - Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
 - Login.gov
- Upcoming NSF outreach opportunities



Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) – Anticipated Timeline

- Federal Register posting for public comment
 - Spring 2022
- PAPPG posting on NSF website
 - October 2022
- PAPPG becomes effective
 - January 2023



NSPM-33 Disclosure Requirements

- NSF has been working for almost three years to implement disclosure requirements for compliance with NSPM-33.
 - NSF has been collaborating with NIH to ensure our disclosure requirements are as consistent as possible, for use by researchers when preparing their Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support Documents.
- The disclosure tables contained in the Implementation Guidance are based on the work done by NSF and NIH and very minimal changes are required by NSF to ensure for full compliance.
- NSF, NIH, and OSTP co-chair an Interagency Working Group on Disclosure Policies.
 - We are creating standardized templates and instructions for use by all federal research funding agencies for the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support.



NSF and NSPM-33 Disclosure Comparison

NSF Pre-Award and Post-Award Disclosures Relating to the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support

NSF Pre-award and Post-award Disclosures^{1/2/3}
Relating to the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support
 January 10, 2022

Table Key
 * = for new support only
 ◆ = if undisclosed at the time of proposal submission

Type of Activity	Biographical Sketch	Current & Pending Support	Facilities, Equipment & Other Resources	Project Reports	Post-Award Information Term & Condition	Disclosure Not Required
Undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral training, including location, major/area and degree and year	✓					
Academic, professional ⁴ or institutional appointments, whether or not remuneration is received, and, whether full-time, part-time, or voluntary	✓					
All projects (including this project) currently under consideration from whatever source, and all ongoing projects, irrespective of whether support is provided through the proposing organization, another organization or directly to the individual		✓		✓*	✓◆	
In-kind contributions that support the research activity for use on the project/proposal being proposed			✓			

NSPM-33 Guidance for Disclosure of Personal and Professional Information Within R&D Award Application Processes

Type of Activity to be Disclosed	Biographical Sketch	Current & Pending/ Other Support	Annual Project Reports	Post-Award Information Terms & Conditions
PERSONAL INFORMATION				
Professional preparation (e.g., educational degrees)	✓			
Organizational Affiliations ⁶	✓			
Academic, professional or institutional appointments, whether or not remuneration is received, and whether full-time, part-time, or voluntary	✓			
Paid consulting that falls outside of an individual's appointment; separate from institution's agreement		✓	✓	✓
RESEARCH FUNDING INFORMATION				
Current and pending support: All R&D projects currently under consideration from whatever source, and all ongoing projects, irrespective of whether support is provided through the proposing organization, another organization, or directly to the individual, and regardless of whether the support is direct monetary contribution or in-kind contribution (e.g., office/laboratory space, equipment, supplies, or employees)		✓	✓	✓



NSPM-33 and NSF: Initial Disclosures and Update/Correction Requirements

- At the time of proposal submission: Collaborators and Other Affiliations, Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support.
- Prior to making an award: Updated Current and Pending Support information must be submitted.
- After an award is made: if the AOR discovers that a disclosure that should have been submitted at the time of proposal submission, but was not, they have 30 days to submit a post-award request to NSF.
- At the time of project reporting: PIs and co-PIs must specify whether new, active other support has been received in their annual and final project reports. If yes, they must provide updated Current and Pending Support information.



NSPM-33 and NSF: Proposed Changes to NSF Policies and Procedures

- Add new section on disclosure policies and the consequences for violation of disclosure requirements
- Add new language to the PAPPG to address NDAA 2021 Section 223 Certification Requirements for Senior Personnel
 - Actual certification will be included as part of the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support in SciENcv. Beginning in 2023, NSF will no longer permit submission of the NSF fillable format.



NSPM-33 and NSF: Proposed Changes to NSF Policies and Procedures

- Require program officers to request updated Current and Pending Support from senior personnel prior to making an award.
 - This is already a best practice at NSF; we are working to implement a mandatory electronic submission process that will include a certification requirement for all senior personnel in SciENcv.
- Incorporate the post-award term and condition requirement in the PAPPG and update the request submission process as a stand-alone request.
- Make minor changes to the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support formats for consistency with the Federal-wide formats.



NSPM-33 and NSF: Remaining Issues/Concerns

- Implementation of a Digital Persistent Identifier (DPI)
- Implementation of the Research Security Program requirement (NSPM-33 requires research organizations awarded in excess of \$50 million per year in total Federal research funding implement a research security program)
- Overall concerns with the timeframe associated with research agency implementation provided by OSTP
- Implementation in NSF research facilities and research contracts



Goodbye FastLane Proposal Preparation...Hello Research.gov

- FastLane is targeted to be removed as a submission option from all funding opportunities by the PAPPG implementation in January 2023
- About 80% of NSF funding opportunities are currently supported in Research.gov
- NSF is starting to migrate program descriptions to Research.gov only



Division of Environmental Biol

PROGRAM SOLICITATION NSF 22-541

REPLACES DOCUMENT(S): NSF 21-504



National Science Foundation
Directorate for Biological Sciences
Division of Environmental Biology

Full Proposal Deadline(s):

Proposals Accepted Anytime

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REVISION NOTES

The Bridging Ecology and Evolution (BEE) special category is no longer part of this solicitation. Proposals that combine ecological and evolutionary approaches to better understand the functional role of biodiversity can be submitted to the new "Biodiversity on a Changing Planet" solicitation ([NSF 22-508](#)).

This revision includes new details on the required contents of the Data Management Plan.

Innovating and migrating proposal preparation and submission capabilities from FastLane to Research.gov is part of the ongoing NSF information technology modernization efforts, as described in [Important Notice No. 147](#). In support of these efforts, proposals submitted in response to this program solicitation must be prepared and submitted via Research.gov or via Grants.gov and may not be prepared or submitted via FastLane.

Any proposal submitted in response to this solicitation should be submitted in accordance with the [NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide \(PAPPG\)](#).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REVISION NOTE ABOUT RESEARCH.GOV PROPOSAL PREPARATION:

Innovating and migrating proposal preparation and submission capabilities from FastLane to Research.gov is part of the ongoing NSF information technology modernization efforts, as described in [Important Notice No. 147](#). In support of these efforts, **proposals submitted in response to this program solicitation must be prepared and submitted via Research.gov or via Grants.gov and may not be prepared or submitted via FastLane.**

Research.gov Proposal Preparation: Advantages for Principal Investigators and Research Administrators

Features to help reduce proposal preparation administrative burden:

- Improved user experience through intuitive and dynamic interfaces that provide only relevant proposal preparation options
- Immediate feedback within each proposal section and for each document upload rather than at proposal submission in FastLane
- Faster document uploads (a few seconds versus 30-90 seconds for each document upload in FastLane)
- Expanded automated compliance checking utilizing error messages (preventing proposal submission) and warning messages (allowing proposal submission)



Research.gov Proposal Preparation: Advantages for Principal Investigators and Research Administrators

Features to help reduce proposal preparation administrative burden:

- Currently ~350 compliance checks in Research.gov across multiple submission types (full proposals, renewals, preliminary proposals, and letters of intent) versus 56 compliance checks in FastLane for full proposals only
- Specific, actionable error and warning messages
- Higher quality proposal submissions (e.g., PDF uploads are not altered)
- Minimized Return without Reviews due to some proposal formatting issues



Research.gov Proposal Preparation Tips

- Proposal information cannot be transferred from FastLane to Research.gov and vice versa
- Letters of intent and preliminary proposals must be prepared in the same system as the full proposal (i.e., all in Research.gov or all in FastLane)
- All proposals in a separately submitted collaborative from multiple organizations must be prepared in the same system (i.e., all in Research.gov or all in FastLane)
- Proposal file updates (PFUs) and budget revisions must be executed in the same system as the proposal was submitted (i.e., all in Research.gov or all in FastLane)
- Proposals submitted in Research.gov are evaluated by NSF in the same way as proposals submitted in FastLane and Grants.gov, and this migration does not affect the merit review process in any way



Research.gov Proposals: Where We Are and What's Ahead

As of 3/3/2022

Current Capabilities	Upcoming Capabilities	Future Capabilities
<p>Proposal Types</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Research: Single Submissions from One Organization (<i>April 2018</i>); Single Submission Collaborative Proposals with Subawards (<i>June 2019</i>); Separately Submitted Collaborative Proposals from Multiple Organizations (<i>March 2020</i>) ✓ Rapid Response Research (RAPID) (<i>November 2020</i>) ✓ EARly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) (<i>November 2020</i>) ✓ Research Advanced by Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering (RAISE) (<i>November 2020</i>) ✓ Facilitation Awards for Scientists and Engineers with Disabilities (FASED) (<i>March 2021</i>) ✓ Equipment (<i>March 2021</i>) ✓ Travel (<i>March 2021</i>) ✓ Conference (<i>August 2021</i>) ✓ Ideas Lab (<i>August 2021</i>) ✓ Grant Opportunities for Academic Liaison with Industry (GOALI) (<i>October 2021</i>) ✓ Planning (<i>October 2021</i>) ✓ Center (<i>November 2021</i>) ✓ Research Infrastructure (<i>November 2021</i>) <p>Submission Types</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Letter of Intent (<i>October 2021</i>) ✓ Full Proposal (<i>April 2018</i>) ✓ Preliminary Proposal: Ideas Lab (<i>August 2021</i>); Non-Ideas Lab (<i>November 2021</i>) ✓ Full Proposal related to a Preliminary Proposal (<i>November 2021</i>) ✓ Renewal Proposal (<i>August 2021</i>) ✓ Accomplishment-Based Renewal Proposal (<i>August 2021</i>) <p>Recent Proposal Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Withdrawal (Single and Separately Submitted Collaborative Proposal Submissions) (<i>March 2021</i>) ✓ Project Descriptions Exceeding 15 Pages (<i>November 2021</i>) <p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Research.gov Proposal Preparation Demo Site (<i>October 2020</i>) ✓ Initial Topic-specific How-to Guides (<i>March 2021</i>) 	<p>Proposal Type</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postdoctoral Fellowship (standard) (<i>tentative April 2022 release</i>) <p>Solicitation-specific Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EHR Project Data Form (<i>April 2022 release</i>) • Secondary Units of Consideration (<i>April 2022 release</i>) <p>Proposal Feature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate Uploads of Multiple Supplementary Documents (<i>April 2022 release</i>) <p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Topic-specific How-to Guides (<i>ongoing</i>) • Webinars (<i>e.g., Spring 2022 NSF Grants Conference and ERA Forum</i>) 	<p>Proposal Types</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postdoctoral Fellowship (PRFB & MSPRF proposals requiring reference letter writer and special postdoc forms) (<i>tentative fall 2022 release</i>) • SBIR and STTR Phases I/II (<i>fall 2022 release</i>) <p>Post-award Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplemental Funding Requests, including Career Life Balance Supplemental Funding Requests (<i>fall 2022 release</i>)



2022 Research.gov Proposal Development Activities

- Postdoctoral fellowship proposals – standard (tentative April 2022 release)
- EHR Project Data form (April 2022 release)
- Secondary units of consideration (April 2022 release)
- Separate uploads of multiple supplementary documents (April 2022 release)
- Postdoctoral fellowship proposals – PRFB & MSPRF requiring reference letter writer and special postdoc forms (tentative fall 2022 release)
- SBIR/STTR Phases I/II program proposals (fall 2022 release)
- Supplemental funding requests (fall 2022 release)



Research.gov Proposal Preparation Demo Site

- Demo site can be used to explore preparing proposals and to check compliance of uploaded proposal documents (e.g., Collaborators and Other Affiliations and Biographical Sketch)
- All demo site users are automatically given the PI role for demo site purposes, in order to perform the proposal preparation functions that a PI can do in the actual system. Proposal submission capability is disabled
- See the demo site FAQs on the Research.gov [About Proposal Preparation and Submission](#) page for information on demo site access and features

Research.gov Demo Site: Proposal Preparation Homepage

The screenshot shows the Research.gov Proposal Preparation Demo Site homepage. The header includes the NSF Research.gov logo, a 'DEMO' watermark, and user roles 'Demo user:' and 'Principal Investigator (PI)'. The main content area is titled 'Letters of Intent and Proposals (Preliminary, Full, and Renewal)' and asks 'What would you like to work on?'. It contains three panels: 'Prepare New', 'In Progress', and 'Submitted and Updates'. The 'Submitted and Updates' panel is marked with a large red X, indicating that submission is disabled.



Research.gov Proposal Training Resources

- Training resources on the Research.gov About Proposal and Submission page:
- FAQs by topic
- Links to video tutorials including 16-minute demo video highlighting key proposal preparation features and preparing proposal file updates/budget revisions
- Link to Automated Compliance Checking of NSF Proposals page to view current Research.gov proposal compliance checks
- Links to topic-specific how-to guides (e.g., Initiating a Proposal and Sharing Access with Sponsored Projects Office/Authorized Organizational Representative)

Research.gov About Proposal Preparation and Submission Page

About Proposal Preparation and Submission

The Research.gov Proposal Submission System modernizes proposal preparation and submission capabilities by improving the user experience while also reducing administrative burden through an intuitive interface and expanded automated proposal compliance checking. Research.gov is being developed incrementally, and features are expanding to support the transition of all proposal preparation and submission functionality from FastLane to Research.gov by a target date of December 31, 2022. Please see NSF Important Notice 147: [Research.gov Implementation Update](#) issued September 22, 2020, for additional information. Grants.gov continues to be an option for the preparation and submission of most types of NSF proposals.

Access the [Research.gov Proposal Submission System](#)

Explore the [Research.gov Proposal Preparation Demo Site](#)

Why Prepare Proposals in Research.gov?

- Fast and easy Proposal Setup Wizard
- Quickly find funding opportunities, initiate a proposal, and give access to administrative staff
- Expanded compliance checking ([View Research.gov compliance checks](#))
- Immediate compliance feedback upon proposal section upload
- PDF uploads are not altered
- Minimize Return without Reviews due to some formatting issues
- On-screen references to relevant sections of the *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* (PAPPG)
- Better management of personnel and subawards
- Improved performance and less system downtime

Help NSF Build the New System and Influence the Future of Proposal Submission

NSF strongly encourages the research community to use Research.gov for proposal preparation and submission. As NSF continues to enhance the new system, vital feedback from the community is being incorporated during the development process.

There are multiple ways to provide feedback and stay informed:

- Send feedback to NSF via Research.gov's [Feedback page](#)
- Participate in an NSF [Electronic Research Administration \(ERA\) Forum Webinar](#)
- Join our listserv! Sign up to receive Research.gov updates by sending a blank email to system_updates-subscribe-request@listserv.nsf.gov

When to Use Research.gov

You may prepare your proposal in Research.gov if:

- 1 You are preparing a proposal in response to a Program Description
- 2 Your Program Solicitation specifies submission via Research.gov is available or required or your Program Solicitation requires a Letter of Intent or Preliminary Proposal
- 3 Your proposal is a full proposal, renewal, or accomplishment-based renewal, OR
- 4 Your proposal is one of the following types:
 - Research
 - Planning (Research.gov submission required)
 - RAPID
 - EAGER
 - RAISE
 - GOALI
 - Ideas Lab
 - FASED
 - Conference
 - Equipment
 - Travel
 - Center
 - Research Infrastructure

Both single submission and collaborative proposals are supported. View all supported features on the [Proposal Submission Capabilities](#) page.



Implementation of SAM Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

- Effective February 28, NSF began using the new System for Award Management (SAM) issued Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) in Research.gov and FastLane
- NSF-registered organizations do not need to manually replace DUNS with their SAM UEI in NSF systems
- Any subrecipients named in a proposal are also required to obtain a SAM UEI and register in Research.gov. Subrecipients named in the proposal, however, do not need to be registered in SAM

	February 4 - April 4, 2022	April 4, 2022 & After
DUNS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Required for SAM registration• No longer used at NSF	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No longer required for SAM registration• Not used at NSF



Login.gov Option for Research.gov Sign-In

NSF User Sign In
Use your Primary Email Address, NSF ID, LOGIN.GOV or your organization credentials to sign in to Research.gov

NSF Account
Primary Email Address or NSF ID


[Forgot ID](#)
Password

[Forgot Password](#)

New to NSF? [Register](#)

Organization Credentials ⓘ
Pick Your Organization

Don't see your organization? [Learn more / Register for InCommon](#)

Login.gov Credentials


The form is divided into three columns by vertical lines. The first column is for NSF Account, the second for Organization Credentials, and the third for Login.gov Credentials. Each column has a 'Sign In' button. There are 'or' labels in circles between the columns. The Login.gov Credentials column features the LOGIN.GOV logo.

Using Login.gov credentials option:

- Choose Login.gov option from Research.gov Sign In screen
- Enter your Login.gov credentials
- Link/activate your NSF ID



NSF Outreach Opportunities

- Spring 2022 NSF Grants Conference – June 6-10
 - Registration opens in May – no cost to register
 - Live and on-demand sessions
 - Proposal Preparation and Merit Review
 - Award Management
 - Directorate-specific sessions
- NSF Policy Office Webinar Series
 - Topic-specific sessions
 - Available live and on-demand
- Resource Center
 - On-demand presentations – searchable by topic and year

More information at:

<https://nsfpolicyoutreach.com>



