

NewsFlash!

Announcement: The National Science Foundation issued the new [NSF 15-1 PAPPG](#) (Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide), which is **effective December 26, 2014**. The PAPPG consists of the GPG (Grant Proposal Guide) and the AAG (Award & Administration Guide) that comprises a series of [significant changes](#) being implemented to reflect the new [Uniform Guidance](#) (2 CFR § 200). All new awards, existing awards, and funding increments to existing awards are subject to the Uniform Guidance **effective December 26, 2014**.

Significant changes or Clarifications to PAPPG 15-1:

Pre-Award GPG 15-1

Changes or Clarifications to the Grant Proposal Guide:

- **Cover Sheet Other Information** – A maximum of five countries may be listed in the International Activities Country Name(s) section.
- **Project Summary** – If you upload as a pdf it must be formatted with separate headings for the overview, statement of the intellectual merit of the propose activity, and statement on the broader impacts of the proposed activity.
- **Project Description** – Was updated to reflect that the project description must now contain, as a separate section within the narrative, as section labeled “Broader Impacts of the Proposed Work”.
- **Results from Prior NSF Support** – Was clarified to state that the listing of publications resulting from an NSF award must provide a complete bibliographic citation for each publication in either the Results from Prior NSF Support section or in the References Cited section of the proposal.
- **Budget Justification** – Must be no more than three pages. For proposals that contain a subaward(s), each subaward must include a separate budget justification of no more than three pages.
- **Travel** – All travel must be specified, itemized and justified by destination and cost. When budgeting for foreign travel you must include the country to be visited, and dates of visit, if known.
 - **Domestic Travel** was redefined to be only travel within and between the US, its territories and possessions. Under the old guidelines Mexico and Canada were listed as domestic this would now be foreign.
- **Special Information and Supplementary Documentation** – Clarifies the use of letters of collaboration (formerly referred to as letters of commitment). Such letters should be limited to stating the intent of collaborate and should not contain endorsements or evaluation of the proposed project. Proposals that are not consistent with the instructions in this section will be returned without review.
- **Proposals for Equipment** – Removes the requirement to include a References Cited section for equipment proposals submitted in response to the GPG. Additionally, the Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources section needs to include a brief description of other support services available.
- **Proposals for Conferences** – NSF funds are not to be spent for meals and coffee breaks for intramural meetings of an organization or any of its components as direct costs. In addition,

Facilities, Equipment and other Resources information is now required for conference proposals.

Post-Award AAG 15-1

Changes to the Award and Administration Guide:

- **Changes in PI/PD, co-PI/co-PD, or Person-Months Devoted to the Project** – Was revised to remove the requirement to notify NSF of the short-term absence of the PI/PD or co-PI/PD. Will now just follow the Uniform Guidance, which addresses PI disengagements of 90 days or longer.
- **Subawarding, Transferring or Contracting Out Part of an NSF Award (Subaward)** – If it becomes necessary to subaward, transfer or contract out part of an NSF award after a grant has been made, the grantee shall submit, at a minimum: 1) a clear description of the work to be performed by each subrecipient; and 2) a separate budget for each subaward.
- **Cost Sharing** – Requires that awards with mandatory cost sharing must document such costs sharing (on an annual and final basis), the Authorized Organizational Representative must certify that the amount is correct, and the cost sharing must be reported to NSF via use of NSF's electronic systems.
- **Financial Closeout** – Grants will be financially closed out on the first day of each month for all awards with expirations 90 or more days prior to the financial closeout day.
- **Supplemental Support** – If funding is requested to support a postdoctoral research and the original proposal did not include a mentoring plan, then the supplemental funding request must include the requisite mentoring plan.
- **Prior Written Approvals** – If a grantee rebudgets funds to support a postdoctoral researcher and the original proposal did not include a mentoring plan, then the grantee should send the cognizant NSF Program Officer the requisite mentoring plan. For proposals that fall under this a budget reallocation will not be processed to move funds to a postdoctoral object code without a pdf of the email to the Program Officer attached.

To review the complete NSF list of significant changes and clarifications, click [HERE](#).

Questions?

If you have additional questions, please contact the [Contracts and Grants Officer](#) assigned to your unit.