

## NewsFlash!

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has announced that, effective **March 30, 2020**, the research community can prepare and submit separately submitted collaborative proposals from multiple organizations in Research.gov. Proposers can now prepare Full, Research proposals in Research.gov that are:

- Single submissions from one organization (available since April 2018)
- Single submission collaborative proposals with subawards (available since June 2019)
- Separately submitted collaborative proposals from multiple organizations

### **What's New for Separately Submitted Collaborative Proposals?**

#### **Proposal Preparation**

Proposers can select a separately submitted collaborative proposal as an option in the Proposal Creation Wizard and identify themselves as part of a lead or non-lead organization.

#### **Linking**

The lead organization can initiate a request to link proposals with non-lead organizations. However, all proposals in the collaboration must be prepared and submitted in Research.gov and cannot be a mix of Research.gov and FastLane proposals.

#### **New "Submission Pending" Status**

The Research.gov submission process for separately submitted collaborative proposals is different than the submission process in FastLane.

- A new Research.gov "Submission Pending" status informs the organization that their proposal submission is pending in a queue until all linked lead and non-lead proposals in the collaboration attain "Submission Pending" status and can be submitted to NSF as a set.
- Separately submitted collaborative proposals with a "Submission Pending" status can be edited, but the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) must resubmit the edited proposal to return it to a "Submission Pending" status.
- A Proposal File Update (PFU) is not required to edit the proposal at the "Submission Pending" stage. However, a PFU could be utilized after the entire collaborative set is submitted to NSF and a proposal ID number for each separately submitted collaborative proposal is generated.

### **Submit Proposal Wizard**

The AOR Submission Wizard screen will display the lead and non-lead organization information.

### **Other Related Changes**

- **Postdoctoral Mentoring Plan:** A Postdoctoral Mentoring Plan is only required when funds for postdoctoral scholars are requested on the budget. A proposal compliance error will block proposal submission if there is a mentoring plan but no requested funds.
- **Print Concatenate:** This functionality is available for lead and non-lead proposals.
- **New Automated Compliance Error/Warning Messages and Business Rules for Separately Submitted Collaborative Proposals:** Compliance checks triggering an error will prohibit proposal submission to NSF, whereas checks triggering a warning will allow proposal submission to NSF.
- **Delete In-progress Proposals:** Proposers can delete their in-progress separately submitted collaborative proposals.
- **Redesigned Research.gov "About" Page with New and Updated FAQs:** NSF has redesigned their [Research.gov About Proposal Preparation and Submission webpage](#) with links to new and updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) organized by topic.

### **What's Ahead?**

NSF is currently developing the following capabilities in Research.gov:

- Other Authorized User (OAU) role changes (see Research.gov [advisory](#) currently posted)
- Support for Single Copy Documents
- Submission of Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I and Phase II proposals
- Submission of Rapid Response Research (RAPID), Early-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER), and Research Advanced by Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering (RAISE) proposals

### **Questions?**

If you have IT system-related questions, please contact the NSF Help Desk at 1-800-381-1532 (7:00 AM - 9:00 PM ET; Monday - Friday except federal holidays) or via [rgov@nsf.gov](mailto:rgov@nsf.gov). Policy-related questions should be directed to [policy@nsf.gov](mailto:policy@nsf.gov). You can also reach out to the [Contracts and Grants Officer](#) assigned to your unit.