

NewsFlash!

Announcement: The National Science Foundation (NSF) has announced the availability of both NSF-approved formats for the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support sections of National Science Foundation (NSF) proposals that fall under the revised [Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide](#) (PAPPG) (NSF 20-1).

Although use of an NSF-approved format for submission of these proposal sections is not required until implementation of the revised PAPPG (NSF 20-1) on **June 1, 2020**, NSF is encouraging proposers to begin using the NSF-approved formats now.

Use of an NSF-approved format aims to reduce administrative burden and improve efficiencies by providing proposers with a compliant and reusable way to maintain this information for subsequent proposal submissions to NSF, while also ensuring that the information is submitted in a standard and searchable composition.

NSF-Approved Formats

- **SciENCv:** NSF has partnered with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to use [SciENCv: Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae](#) as an NSF-approved format for use in preparation of both the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support sections of an NSF proposal. SciENCv will produce an NSF-compliant PDF version of the documents which proposers can save and submit as part of their proposals via FastLane, Research.gov or Grants.gov. Additional information about the NSF-approved SciENCv formats is available on the NSF [biographical sketch](#) and [current and pending support](#) websites.
 - The SciENCv tool integrates with ORCID, enabling proposers to populate their Biographical Sketches by importing data directly from their ORCID records rather than having to manually enter all the required information. Additionally, Biographical Sketch data maintained in SciENCv can be quickly and easily updated on an ongoing basis for subsequent proposal submissions.
- **NSF Fillable PDF:** NSF is also providing a fillable PDF as an NSF-Approved format for use to prepare both the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support sections of an NSF proposal. Proposers can download the respective fillable PDF form from the NSF [biographical sketch](#) and [current and pending support](#) websites and then submit the completed forms as part of their proposals via FastLane, Research.gov or Grants.gov. Note that the NSF fillable PDF for the Biographical Sketch does not integrate with ORCID.

It is important to note that **beginning June 1, 2020**, proposers will be required to use one of the NSF-Approved formats for both the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support sections of NSF proposals. Proposals submitted via FastLane, Research.gov and Grants.gov will be compliance checked to ensure that the documents were prepared in accordance with this new policy.

NSF Wants Your Feedback

If you have any feedback that would help NSF make improvements to the two formats, you may submit it via email to policy@nsf.gov or via the [Research.gov Feedback](#) page (select "Biographical Sketch" or "Current & Pending Support" under the Site Area dropdown menu).

Upcoming Webinars

To assist the community about these new requirements and to start using SciENcv now, NSF and NIH are planning to conduct a joint webinar that will include a walk-through of how to prepare the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support documents in SciENcv. Information will be provided as soon as it is available, and we encourage you to [sign up for notifications](#).

You are also encouraged to participate in the next [NSF Electronic Research Administration \(ERA\) Forum](#) on **May 14, 2020 at 1:00PM – 2:30PM EDT** where there will be a discussion of the NSF-approved format requirements, as well as the new capability to prepare and submit separately submitted collaborative proposals in Research.gov. To sign up for ERA Forum notifications including registration availability for the May 14 event, please send a blank email to NSF-ERA-FORUM-subscribe-request@listserv.nsf.gov and you will be automatically enrolled.

Training Resources

The following training resources are now available, and NSF will continue to keep the community informed as additional resources are released.

Biographical Sketch Resources:

- [NSF-Approved Formats for the Biographical Sketch](#)
- [SciENcv Guidance on Creating an NSF Biographical Sketch](#)
- [YouTube Video - SciENcv for NSF Users: Biographical Sketches](#)
- [NSF PAPPG \(NSF 20-1\) webinar](#)
- [YouTube Video - SciENcv Tutorial](#)
- [YouTube Video - Integrating with ORCID](#)
- [FAQs on using NSF Fillable PDF](#)

Current and Pending Support Resources:

- [NSF-Approved Formats for Current and Pending Support](#)
- [SciENcv Guidance on Creating an NSF Current and Pending Support document](#)
- [NSF PAPPG \(NSF 20-1\) webinar](#)
- [FAQs on using NSF Fillable PDF](#)

Questions?

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