**NSF Webinar 3/12/2024**

**NSF Policy Office Updates to PAPPG 24-1**

This webinar will be posted later this week, at <https://nsfpolicyoutreach.com/>.

**The Effective Date for the New PAPPG 24-1 is for due dates on or after 5/20/2024.**

**Early submissions must comply with due dates after 5/20/2024, and use the new forms.**

Proposal submissions are due by 5:00 pm, the submitting organization’s time – not a (possibly remote) individual’s time zone. If there are collaborative institutions, they must submit by 5:00 pm in their own time zone.

**Foreign organization eligibility**

We have some new parameters that need to be described in the proposal narrative around foreign organizations. For each one, describe their unique expertise, and why support for an in-country alternative is not feasible, due to capacity, facilities, or access to location. Describe what significant science, educational, training, or research opportunities the foreign organization offers to the US.

**Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs: MFTRP**

Anyone on a proposal who is a current party to an MFTRP is ineligible to serve as senior/ key person on an NSF proposal or award. This MFTRP policy will not be applied retroactively to 5/20/24.

Each PI or Co-PI must certify prior to submission that they are **not** a party to a MFTRP. The biosketch forms and CPS forms in sciENcv will be changed to certify this.

After an award is made, each PI and Co-PI must comply and certify annually that they are not a party to an MFTRP, in the research.gov in accounts management area.

**Post-award Foreign Financial Disclosure Report (FFDR)**

Each institute of higher education (IHE) that is an NSF grant recipient must report annually all current support of $50,000 or more received directly or indirectly from a foreign source of concern. This will be an aggregate threshold by source. This is not required from subawards or individuals. Foreign sources of concern include North Korea, Iran, Russia, or China. This must be reported annually in research.gov by 7/31.

Tuition payments are excluded from this requirement, unless it is from a grant, scholarship or other foreign sponsored aid. Then, for all students from that country, that payment is reported as part of the threshold.

New awards or other funding amendment will require this disclosure as well. Negative reports are required: you have to certify you have not received any funding from a foreign source of concern, and that will fulfill the requirement. You must retain copies of relevant records – contracts, agreements or financial agreements. This is only for Institution of Higher Education, not individuals.

**Mentoring Requirements**

The Post Doc mentoring plan requirement has been modified and expanded to include graduate students. It is now called a “Mentoring Plan.” The Graduate student and Post Doc mentoring plan is still not to exceed ONE PAGE. There should be a single plan that addresses mentoring for both, one plan per proposal, including when subawards or collaborators are involved. You can identify different plans for each group on the same page.

There is a new **Individual development plan** requirement for graduate students and Post Doc researchers. Any grad student or Post Doc must have an individual development plan if they have one person month or more of support from NSF during a year. This will be part of the annual reporting process, and must be certified by the PI and co PI.

**Common forms for Biosketch and Current/Pending Other Support**

The Biosketch and Current/Pending other support have been harmonized for use by all of the larger Federal funding agencies. They include the requirement to be accurate, current, complete, and not a party to MFTRP. The new PAPPG NSF 24-01 implements these revisions.

NSF is the steward of the common forms, and there will be a new web page for standard forms.
<https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/nstc_disclosure.jsp>

The biosketch common form is required for each senior/key person. This will be used to assess the qualifications of individuals or organization. The C/POS must disclose contracts or programs associated with foreign governments, or talent recruitment programs. They must be created in SciENcv.

**There now will be no page limits for biosketches.** There will no longer be a 3-page limit.

**Synergistic activities have been removed as an element of the biosketch. They now must be included as a separate upload for each senior/key person in research.gov.** They may be up to **one page** that includes a list of up to 5 distinct examples that demonstrate the broader impact of the individual’s professional and scholarly activities that focus on the integration and transfer of knowledge as well as its creation.

**Common forms implementation instructions**

Enter the PID (persistent identifier), such as the ORCID for the senior/key person.

Products – provide a list of products that demonstrate the ability to carry out the project. For NSF, this would be a list of up to 5 products most closely related to the proposed project and up to 5 other significant products.

**Current and pending other support**

This is required for each senior/key person, and must be created on SciENcv.

It is used to assess the capacity or conflicts of commitment that may impact the ability of the person to carry out the research effort. It will help to assess scientific and budgetary overlap/duplication with the project being proposed. It will also require certification that they are not a party to an MFTRP.

**New requirement: obtaining approval from tribal nations**

Any proposal that impacts the resources or interests of a federally recognized American Indian or Alaska Native Tribal Nation will not be awarded by NSF without the prior written approval from the designated officials from the relevant tribes. Resources or interests include tribal languages, or subsistence rights of tribes as opposed to individual members. There is a new check box on the Cover Sheet to indicate if there are Potential Impacts on Tribal Nations. At the time of proposal submission, you must provide a copy of the written request for approval, a written confirmation from the tribal nation that review and approval is not required, or a document providing the requisite approval.

**New Proposal Type: Research Opportunity Supplemental Funding Requests for Predominantly Undergraduate Institutions. (ROA/PUI)**

These are a Supplement to an existing award for a faculty member to pursue research as part of collaborative research team as a visiting scientist another NSF- supported institution. The PUI must be an IHE with main campus that awards Associate’s degrees, , Bacherlor’s or Master’s degrees, but has awarded 20 or fewer PHDs in all NSF supported fields in the previous two academic years.

**Postaward addition of postdoctoral researchers or graduate students**

If not provided in original proposal, you need to provide a mentoring plan. The PI must report on mentoring in annual and final annual reports.

**Postaward addition of a safe and inclusive working environment**

If not included in original proposal, you need to provide a Plan for Safe and Inclusive Working
Environments for added Post Doc or graduate students. A plan must be developed and maintained in the organization’s records.

**Scientific integrity: new definition approved and distributed by NSF:** <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/scientific-integrity>

**Use of Generative AI Tech in the merit review Process:**

NSF issued guidelines for safeguarding the integrity of the development and evaluation of proposals in the merit review process. NSF reviewers are prohibited from uploading content from proposals, review information and related records to non-approved AI tools. Proposers are encouraged to indicate in the project description the extent to which (if any) generative AI technology was used to develop their proposal.

**UEI and SAM**

NSF systems validate the each proposal UEI and SAM are valid and active prior to proposal submission. SAM registration must be renewed annually, NSF will block any award approval if the registration is not valid. Proposers can check the status of their registration at sam.gov. SAM is managed by GSA and NSF has no control over the SAM system or registration process. NSF can’t override this requirement, but they can escalate any open GSA incident tickets.

**Check Out** <https://nsfpolicyoutreach.com/> for more NSF Outreach opportunities, including the Spring 2024 NSF Grants conference, the NSF policy office Webinar Series, and the Resource center.