NSF PROPOSAL & AWARD POLICY UPDATE
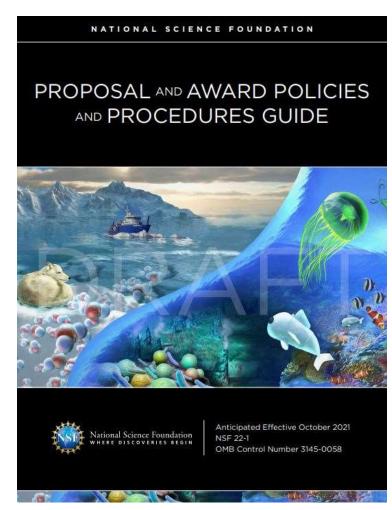
FDP May Meeting
Jean Feldman, Head, Policy Office
Division of Institution & Award Support
policy@nsf.gov

Topics

- PAPPG Status and Proposed Changes

- Public Access System Enhancements

- Research.gov Updates

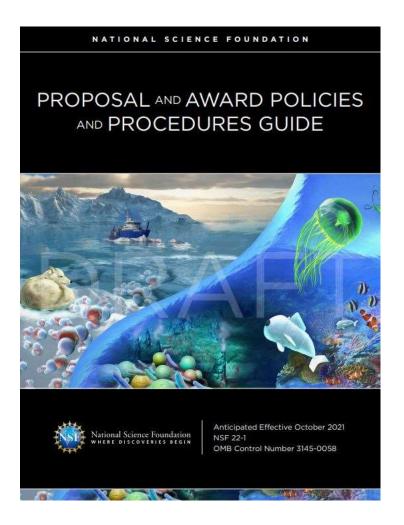- NSF Grants Conference – Spring Virtual Event

Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) Implementation Schedule

- NSF typically announces a new PAPPG in the fall with implementation in the new year

- In 2021, the PAPPG will be released on a new schedule
  - December 14 – February 12: Public Comment in the Federal Register
  - Summer 2021 release date
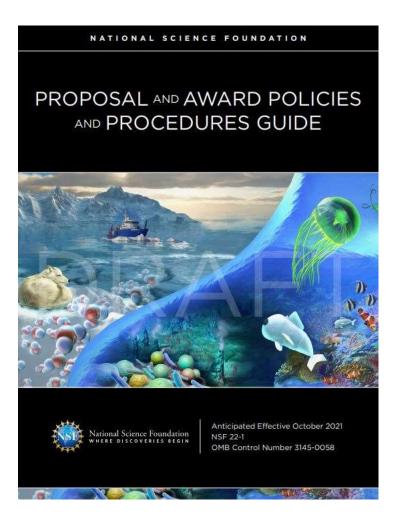 - October 2021 effective date

PAPPG Proposed Changes

- Implementation of 2 CFR § 200

- Addition of context language for proposal sections

- Biographical Sketch expanded from two to three pages

- Further clarification of current and pending support

PAPPG Proposed Changes

- Addition of Planning Proposal as a new proposal type

- New Travel Proposal Certification requirement

- Addition of Career-Life Balance Supplements

- Increased visibility of Research.gov

Public Access – Recent System Enhancements

- Effective May 24, 2021, PIs no longer require NSF Help Desk assistance to:
  - Remove deposited publications from the NSF Public Access Repository (NSF-PAR)
  - Remove publications from in-progress project reports in the Research.gov Project Reporting System

- Streamlining this process helps reduce administrative burden for both PIs and NSF staff and improves NSF-PAR and project report data quality.

- No changes to NSF's Public Access policy or project reporting requirements.

- Refer to the how-to-guide with step-by-step instructions and screenshots for both the NSF-PAR and in-progress project report publication removal process.
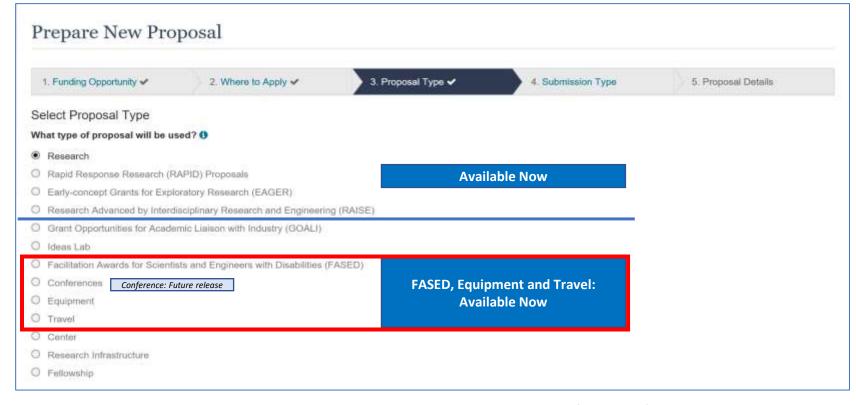
NSF

Recent Research.gov Enhancements: Proposal Types

New proposal types available since March 22:

Additional proposal types and associated automated compliance checks enabled in Research.gov **and** in the Research.gov demo site:

- Facilitation Awards for Scientists and Engineers with Disabilities (FASED)

- Equipment

- Travel

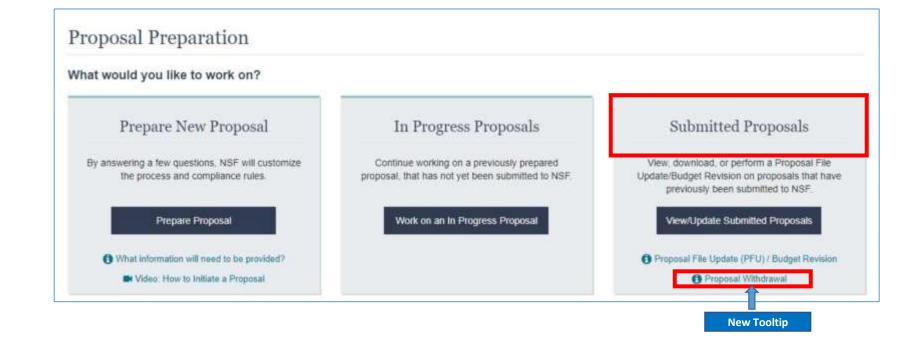*Research.gov Proposal Screenshot: Proposal Type Options*

Note: All Proposal Types are listed in Research.gov but only those currently supported will be available for selection (i.e., unavailable selections are grayed out). View the Research.gov Proposal Submission Capabilities for details.

Recent Research.gov Enhancements: Proposal Withdrawal

New functionality available since March 22:

- Proposers are able to withdraw both **single submission (with and without subawards)** and **separately submitted collaborative proposals** in Research.gov

- New proposal withdrawal FAQs added to the Research.gov [About Proposal Preparation and Submission](#) page

Research.gov Proposals: Capabilities Overview

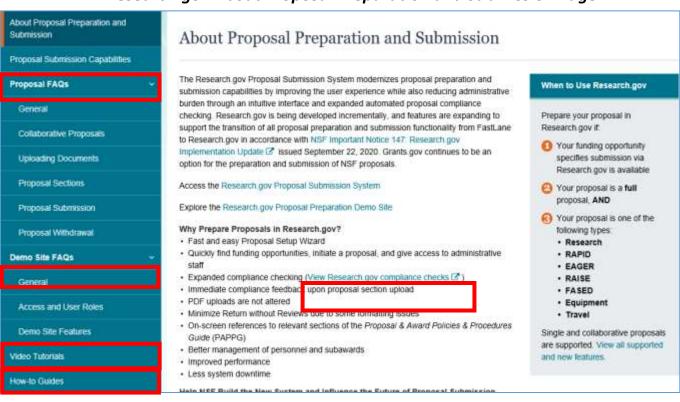| Current Capabilities	Upcoming Capabilities	Future Capabilities
Proposal Types ✓ **Research:** Single Submissions from One Organization *(April 2018)* ✓ **Research:** Single Submission Collaborative Proposals with Subawards *(June 2019)* ✓ **Research:** Separately Submitted Collaborative Proposals from Multiple Organizations *(March 2020)* ✓ **Rapid Response Research** (RAPID) *(November 2020)* ✓ **EArly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research** (EAGER) *(November 2020)* ✓ **Research Advanced by Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering** (RAISE) *(November 2020)* ✓ **Facilitation Awards for Scientists and Engineers with Disabilities** (FASED) *(March 2021)* ✓ **Equipment** *(March 2021)* ✓ **Travel** *(March 2021)* **Proposal Features** ✓ **Withdrawal** (Single and Separately Submitted Collaborative Proposal Submissions) *(March 2021)* **Training** ✓ **Research.gov Proposal Prep Demo Site** *(October 2020)* ✓ **Initial Topic-specific How-to Guides** *(March 2021)* ✓ **Proposal Preparation Demo Video** *(March 2021)*	**Proposal Types** • **Conference** *(Targeting late summer release)* • **Ideas Lab** *(Targeting late summer release)* • **Grant Opportunities for Academic Liaison with Industry** (GOALI) *(Targeting fall release)* **Submission Types** *(Targeting late summer/early fall release)* • **Letter of Intent** • **Preliminary Proposal** • **Full Proposal related to a Preliminary Proposal** • **Renewal Proposal** • **Accomplishment-Based Renewal Proposal** **Post Award Actions** *(Targeting fall release)* • **Supplemental Funding Requests** **Training** • **Additional Topic-specific How-to Guides** *(ongoing)* • **Webinars** *(e.g., Spring 2021 NSF Grants Conference)*	**Proposal Types** • **SBIR and STTR Phases I/II** • **Center** • **Research Infrastructure** • **Fellowship** **Solicitation-specific Requirements** • **Additional specified forms or documents** (e.g., DUE Project Data Form) • **Approved deviations from the PAPPG** (e.g., Project Descriptions exceeding 15 pages)

Notes:
(1) Since July 2020, Research.gov is able to support all Research proposals that conform to standard *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* (PAPPG) requirements for formatting and document content.
(2) Two new proposal types (Planning Proposals and Career Life Balance Supplemental Funding Requests) included in the "For comment" draft of the PAPPG (NSF 22-1) are not listed in this table.

Research.gov Proposal Training Resources

Training resources on the Research.gov About Proposal and Submission page:

- FAQs by topic

- Links to video tutorials including new 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

NSF Grants Conference – Spring Virtual Event

- The virtual NSF Grants Conference will take place the week of June 7th. Sessions include:
  - Proposal Preparation
  - Merit Review
  - Award Management
  - NSF Directorate sessions
  - NSF CAREER program
  - Science and Security
- Register at: https://nsfpolicyoutreach.com/

For More Information

"Ask Early, Ask Often!"

- nsf.gov/staff

- nsf.gov/staff/orglist.jsp

- policy@nsf.gov