



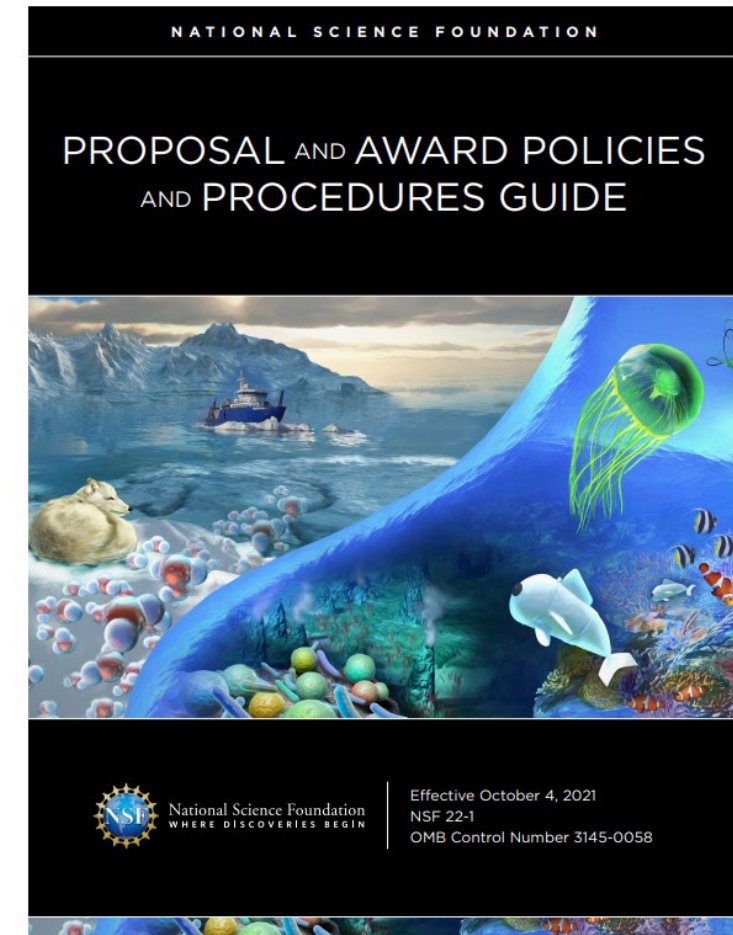
NSF PROPOSAL & AWARD POLICY UPDATE



**Beth Strausser, Senior Policy Specialist, Policy Office
Division of Institution & Award Support**

Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) Implementation

- Posted to the NSF website on June 22, 2021
- Effective **October 4, 2021**, for proposals submitted or due on or after that date
- Released to the community more than 90 days prior to the effective date



PAPPG Significant Changes



- Implementation of 2 CFR §200
 - Changes were made to the NSF award terms and conditions to implement the revised 2 CFR 200 in November 2020.
- Requests for Reasonable and Accessibility Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities
 - Individuals who need reasonable accommodations as part of the proposal process must contact the [NSF Office Equity and Civil Rights \(OECR\)](#) Disability Program Manager (DPM) at rarequest@nsf.gov at least 30 days prior to the proposal deadline date.
 - Individuals who need accessibility accommodations to access NSF proposal submission and award management systems, websites and other digital content must contact the NSF Section 508 Compliance Officer at least 30 days prior to the proposal deadline date.
- Addition of context language for proposal sections
 - Includes purpose of the section and how NSF uses this information in the merit review process.

PAPPG Significant Changes/Clarifications – Biographical Sketch



- Biographical sketch expanded from two to three pages
- Other Biographical Sketch clarifications include:
 - Appointment language has been clarified to address professional appointments: Senior personnel must identify all current domestic and foreign professional appointments outside of the individual's academic, professional, or institutional appointments at the proposing organization.
 - Senior personnel who wish to include publications in the products section of the biographical sketch that include multiple authors may, at their discretion, choose to list one or more of the authors and then "et al." in lieu of including the complete listing of authors' names.
- Revised NSF-approved Biographical Sketch formats will be available beginning mid-September

PAPPG Significant Changes/Clarifications Current and Pending Support

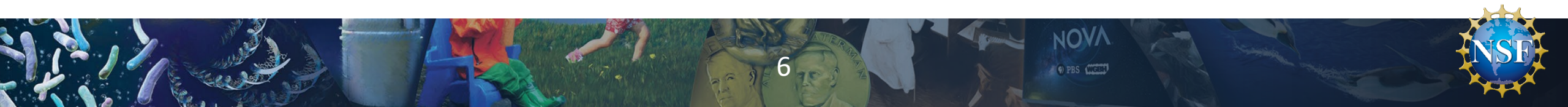


- Objectives and Overlap added to the NSF-approved formats to help reviewers and NSF assess overlap and duplication
- New table developed entitled, *NSF Pre-award and Post-award Disclosures Relating to the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support*
- Revised NSF-approved formats will be available beginning mid-September



Current and Pending Support PDF Update: Blank Page Trimming Functionality

- Effective August 30, trimming functionality was incorporated in FastLane and Grants.gov to remove any blank pages from the NSF-approved current and pending support fillable PDF
- Trimming functionality will be integrated in Research.gov on October 4 for proposals submitted in Research.gov and project reports submitted in the Research.gov Project Reporting System
- Functionality **only** applies to the NSF-approved current and pending support fillable PDF and not to any other uploaded PDFs. Current and pending support PDFs generated in SciENCv do not include blank pages
- PDF page numbers will not be updated during the trimming process in the paginated current and pending support fillable PDF document, so it is possible for the trimmed PDF to have skipped page numbers corresponding to the blank pages removed



NSF Pre-award and Post-award Disclosures

NSF Pre-award and Post-award Disclosures^{1/2/3} Relating to the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support September 1, 2021

Table Key

• = for new support only

♦ = If undisclosed at the time of proposal submission

Type of Activity	Biographical Sketch	Current & Pending Support	Facilities, Equipment & Other Resources	Project Reports	Post-Award Information Term & Condition	Disclosure Not Required
Undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral training, including location, major/area and degree and year	✓					
Academic, professional ⁴ or institutional appointments, whether or not remuneration is received, and, whether full-time, part-time, or voluntary	✓					
All projects (including this project) currently under consideration from whatever source, and all ongoing projects, irrespective of whether support is provided through the proposing organization, another organization or <i>directly</i> to the individual		✓		✓*	✓♦	
In-kind contributions that support the research activity for use on the project/proposal being proposed			✓			

Post-Award Disclosure of Current Support

- Awardees are required to inform NSF within 30 days of becoming aware of the failure to disclose
 - New term and condition entitled, *Post-award Disclosure of Current Support and In-Kind Contribution Information*, went into effect on October 5, 2020.
- If an organization discovers that a PI or co-PI on an active NSF award failed to disclose current support or in-kind contribution information as part of the proposal submission process, the AOR must submit this information
- NSF may consult with the AOR, or designee, if necessary, and determine the impact of the new information on the NSF-funded grant, and, where necessary, take appropriate action



Active Other Support Requirements in Annual and Final Project Reports

- PIs and co-PIs must indicate the percentage of the award's budget that was spent in a foreign country
 - New NSF-specific instructions direct awardees when developing award budget percentage to **only include** consultant arrangements with foreign individuals and first-tier subawards to foreign organizations. No other budget categories should be included.
- PIs and co-PIs must notify NSF when active other support has changed since the award was made, or since the most recent annual report
 - An NSF-approved format for Current and Pending Support must be used to notify NSF in annual and final reports.

Other PAPPG Significant Changes



- Planning Proposal Added as New Proposal Type
 - Used to support initial conceptualization, planning and collaboration activities that aim to formulate new and sound plans for large-scale projects in emerging research areas for future submission to an NSF program.
 - Pls must contact the appropriate NSF program officer prior to submission.
 - Requests may be up to \$100,000 per year for up to two years.
 - Proposals must be submitted in Research.gov.
- Travel Proposal Certification Requirement
 - AORs must certify that the meeting organizer has a written policy or code-of-conduct addressing harassment.

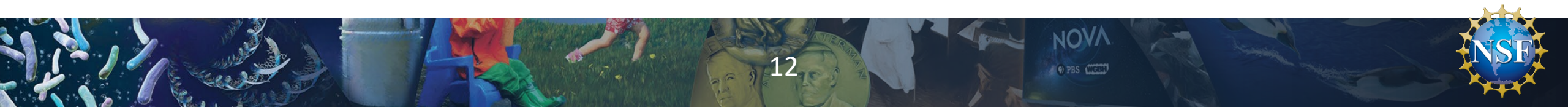
Other PAPPG Significant Changes (Cont'd)



- Career-Life Balance Supplements
 - Added as a new proposal type.
 - Supplemental funding available for research award recipients, postdoctoral fellows, and Graduate Research Fellowship awardees.
 - Must be submitted as a supplemental funding request in FastLane.
- Grant Closeout
 - Grantees must submit all required reports within one year of the period of performance end date.
 - Non-compliance requires reporting to the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS).
- Increased Visibility of Research.gov
 - Terminology and links in various sections have been added to align with NSF's goal of migrating fully to Research.gov in 2022.

NSF Policy Reminders Regarding Natural Disasters

- NSF policy allows for flexibility in meeting deadline dates due to a natural disaster or anthropogenic event
- Proposers should contact the cognizant program officer in the Division/Office where they intend to submit their proposal and request authorization to submit after the deadline date
- A statement identifying the nature of the event that impacted the ability to submit the proposal on time should be uploaded under Nature of Natural or Anthropogenic Event in the Single Copy Document section in FastLane or Research.gov
- RAPID proposals may be submitted in accordance with NSF policies
- See the PAPPG Chapter I.F



NSF Grants Conference – Fall Virtual Event

- The virtual NSF Grants Conference will take place the week of October 4th. Sessions include:
 - Proposal Preparation
 - Merit Review
 - Award Management
 - NSF Directorate/Office sessions
- Registration is free and open to the public



For more information and to register go to: <https://nspolicyoutreach.com/>

For More Information

“Ask Early, Ask Often!”

- nsf.gov/staff
- nsf.gov/staff/orglist.jsp
- policy@nsf.gov

