PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN THIS NSF EDITION

On January 24, 2020, NSF issued a revised version of the Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG) (NSF 20-1) – effective for all proposals submitted, or due, on or after June 1, 2020. NSF no longer publishes the Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) and the Award and Administration Guide (AAG) as separate documents.

The changes listed below are pertinent to the preparation of a standard-grant proposal. For a complete list of changes, including those pertaining to other kinds of grant mechanisms (award instruments), please refer to the “Significant Changes and Clarifications to the Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG)” section at the front of the 2020 PAPPG.

- General: All screen shots and URLs have been updated to reflect current information.
- Chapter 3: Grant Mechanisms. EAGER and RAPID language has been updated to indicate that a new requirement is that email documentation from a cognizant NSF Program Officer approving submission of an EAGER or RAPID be submitted with the proposal.
- Chapter 5: Information on the option to prepare and submit certain research proposals in Research.gov that began in April 2018 has been updated.
- Chapter 6: NSF has updated Reviewers Not to Include language.
- Chapter 9: Content has been updated to clarify that it is no longer a requirement that a separate section labeled Intellectual Merit be included within the Project Description.
- Chapter 14: Broader Impacts of the Proposed Work. A new example has been added to the list of desired societal outcomes.
- Chapter 16: Language has been updated to indicate that use of an NSF-approved format for current and pending support will be required.
- Chapter 17: Biographical Sketch. Use of an NSF-approved format for the biographical sketch will be required.
- Chapter 17: Biographical Sketch. Appointments language has been supplemented to clarify what information should be included.
- Chapter 17: Biographical Sketch. Synergistic Activities language has been clarified that applicants are to include up to five distinct examples rather than five categories with many examples under each category.
- Chapter 17: Collaborators & Other Affiliations (COA) Information. NSF has made updates to the COA template that is required for all proposals since its original release in 2017.