NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG) (NSF 20-1)

Significant Changes & Clarifications

Training for the External Community

Thursday, February 6, 2020
Webinar Instructions

The webinar is being broadcast on nsfgrantsconferences.com

• Click “Watch Now” to be directed to the live webinar on YouTube.

• Use the comments section to ask questions to NSF staff. Don’t wait for the end of the presentation to ask your question.

• If you have any technical issues, please send an email to webcast@nccsite.com.

• This webinar is being recorded and will be available for on-demand viewing.

• The presentation is posted at: nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/outreach.jsp
Presenter

• Jean Feldman
  ▪ Head, Policy Office
  ▪ Division of Institution & Award Support
  ▪ Office of Budget, Finance & Award Management
Topics Covered

• *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) (NSF 20-1) Implementation*

• Significant PAPPG Changes & Clarifications

• Q&A
Key Dates for 2020 PAPPG

- Posted to the NSF website on Friday, January 24, 2020

- Effective June 1, 2020 for proposals submitted, or due, on or after that date

- Released to the community more than 120 days prior to effective date
PAPPG Significant Changes

• Government-wide proposal certifications
  - Must be provided on an annual basis in the System for Award Management (SAM)
  - NSF-specific proposal certifications remain

• RAPID and EAGER proposals
  - Requires a Program Officer Concurrence Letter as a Supplementary Document
  - Clarifies how these proposals are not to be used
PAPPG Significant Changes (Cont’d)

• Biographical Sketch
  ▪ Requires senior personnel to use an NSF-approved format to generate the biographical sketch

• Current and Pending Support
  ▪ Requires senior personnel to use an NSF-approved format to generate current and support information
NSF-Approved Formats for the Biographical Sketch

NSF requires a biographical sketch (limited to two pages) for each individual identified as senior personnel. Detailed information about the content is available in the Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG), Chapter II.C.2.f.

Use of an NSF-approved format for the biographical sketch will be required upon implementation of the PAPPG (NSF 20-1), for all proposals submitted or due on or after June 1, 2020.

Approved formats for creating biographical sketches are:

- **SciENcv - (Available now!)** NSF is partnering 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 the biographical sketch section of an NSF proposal. Adoption of a single, common researcher profile system for Federal grants reduces administrative burden for researchers.

  SciENcv will produce an NSF-compliant PDF version of the biographical sketch. Proposers must save these documents and submit them as part of their proposals via FastLane, Research.gov or Grants.gov.

- **NSF Fillable PDF - (Coming soon!)** NSF will provide a fillable PDF for use in preparation of the biographical sketch. Proposers will be able to download it from this page, complete the form, and upload it as part of their proposal via FastLane, Research.gov or Grants.gov.

**Implementation Status**

NSF will continue to keep the community informed as approved formats and related information become available.

- March 2020: NSF’s fillable PDF for the biographical sketch will be available for optional use.
- June 1, 2020: NSF requires use of an approved format for biographical sketches upon implementation of the PAPPG (NSF 20-1), for all proposals submitted or due on or after this date.

**Questions**

For system-related questions, please contact FastLane User Support at 1-800-673-6188 or fastlane@nsf.gov. Policy-related questions regarding the content of the formats should be directed to policy@nsf.gov.

- System-related FAQs on using SciENcv
NSF-Approved Formats for Current and Pending Support

NSF requires information on all current and pending support for ongoing projects and proposals. Detailed information about the content is available in the Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG), Chapter, II.C.2.h.

Use of an NSF-approved format for current and pending support will be required upon implementation of the PAPPG (NSF 20-1), for all proposals submitted or due on or after June 1, 2020.

Approved formats for creating current & pending support are:

- **SciENcv** - *(Coming soon!)* NSF is partnering 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 the current and pending support section of an NSF proposal. Adoption of a single, common researcher profile system for Federal grants reduces administrative burden for researchers.

  SciENcv will produce NSF-compliant PDF versions of the current & pending support format. Proposers must save these documents and submit them as part of their proposals via FastLane, Research.gov or Grants.gov.

- **NSF Fillable PDF** - *(Coming soon!)* NSF will provide a fillable PDF of the current & pending support format. Proposers will be able to download it from this page, complete the form, and upload as part of their proposal via FastLane, Research.gov or Grants.gov.

**Implementation Status**

NSF will continue to keep the community informed as approved formats and related information become available.

- February 2020: NSF will release a fillable PDF format for current & pending support for optional use.
- March 2020: SciENcv will produce an NSF-compliant PDF version of the current & pending support format for optional use.
- June 1, 2020: NSF requires use of an approved format for current & pending support upon implementation of the PAPPG (NSF 20-1), for all proposals submitted or due on or after this date.

**Questions**

For system-related questions, please contact FastLane User Support at 1-800-673-6188 or fastlane@nsf.gov. Policy-related questions regarding the content of the formats should be directed to policy@nsf.gov.
NSF and SciENcv
Frequently Asked Questions

• Will non-compliant documents receive an error warning in both FastLane and Research.gov?
• Will SciENcv link to NSF systems to retrieve the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support documents?
• Will SciENcv paginate both documents?
• Is it permissible to save the documents in Word in order to edit the content, then create a new PDF?
SciENcv Resources

SciENcv: Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae

A researcher profile system for all individuals who apply for, receive or are associated with research investments from federal agencies. SciENcv is available in My NCBI.

SciENcv FAQs

- What is SciENcv?
- Who operates SciENcv?
- How can our institutional systems to interface with SciENcv?
- Where can I find the data schema for SciENcv?

What is SciENcv?

Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae (SciENcv) is an electronic system that helps researchers assemble the professional profile needed for application of federal funds.

What operates SciENcv?

SciENcv is a cooperative project requested by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation (NSF), and other federal agencies.

How can our institutional profile systems interface with SciENcv?

There is a plan to establish an interface with API for SciENcv to make data available for download and as an attachment of the PDF document.

Where can I find the data schema for SciENcv?

The SciENcv data schema is available here.

PAPPG Clarifications
Note: See the PAPPG for complete listing

• Optional Listing of Suggested Reviewers or Reviewers Not to Include
  ▪ Removes the requirement to indicate why the proposer prefers someone not review the proposal.

• Project Description
  ▪ Removes the requirement to include the label “Intellectual Merit” as a separate section in the narrative.
PAPPG Clarifications (Cont’d)

• Biographical Sketch
  ▪ Appointments section must include any titled academic, professional, or institutional position whether or not remuneration is received.
  ▪ Synergistic Activities must be specific and may not include multiple examples to describe a single activity.
PAPPG Clarifications (Cont’d)

- Budget and Budget Justification
  - Section on Participant Support updated to state that conference costs that are secured through a service agreement should be budgeted as “Other Direct Costs.”
  - Section on Publication/Documentation/Dissemination costs updated to state that proposers may include data deposit and data curation costs.
PAPPG Clarifications (Cont’d)

- Current & Pending Support
  - Information must be provided for all current and pending support irrespective of whether such support is provided through the proposing organization or directly to the individual.
  - Examples of current and pending support expanded to include non-profit organizations.
  - In-kind contributions that are intended for use on the project/proposal being proposed to NSF must be included as part of the Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources section of the proposal.
  - In-kind contributions not intended for use on the project/proposal being proposed that require a time commitment must be reported in Current and Pending Support.
Current & Pending Support Frequently Asked Questions

• Do I report gifts in Current & Pending Support?
• Do I report in-kind contributions with no associated time commitment?
• Do I include in-kind contributions on both the Current & Pending Support and Facilities, Equipment & Other Resources sections of my proposal?
• Do I report start-up packages or academic year salary in Current & Pending Support?
• Should consulting arrangements be included in the Current & Pending Support section?
PAPPG Clarifications (Cont’d)

• Collaborative Proposals
  - Project titles of proposals from multiple organizations must begin with the words, “Collaborative Research.”
PAPPG Clarifications (Cont’d)

• Conference Proposals Must:
  ▪ Include information on the complaint resolution process in the policy or code-of-conduct disseminated to conference participants.
  ▪ Include a plan for recruitment of and support for, speakers and other attendees that includes participation of underrepresented groups.
  ▪ Include a description of plans to identify resources for child and other types of family care.
PAPPG Clarifications (Cont’d)

• Responsible & Ethical Conduct of Research
  ▪ Additional language included on organizations’ responsibilities

• Non-Discrimination Statutes and Regulations
  ▪ Updated information provided on how to communicate allegations of discrimination to NSF

• Reporting Possible Misconduct
  ▪ Updated information included on where possible misconduct in activities funded by NSF can be reported
Please Submit Your Questions

Use the comments section to ask questions
For More Information:
Ask Early, Ask Often!
policy@nsf.gov