

NSF Funding Profile

The Funding Profile presents a high level, agency-wide estimate of proposal pressure, funding rates (or proposal "success"), and award statistics. These indicators are useful in gauging the relative efficacy of different funding levels.

Statistics for Competitive Awards: The Number of Proposals is based on several factors, including past actual activity, planned competitions, and research trends within the various disciplinary communities. External factors, such as the state of the national economy, also play a part. The Number of Awards is based on several factors, such as estimated funding and the expected proposal pool. The Funding Rate is the number of competitive awards made during a year as a percentage of total proposals competitively reviewed. This indicates the probability of receiving an award when submitting proposals to NSF.

Statistics for Research Grants: The Number of Proposals is based on several factors, including past actual activity, planned competitions, and research trends within the various disciplinary communities. External factors, such as the state of the national economy, also play a part. The Number of Awards is based on several factors, such as estimated funding and expected proposal pool. Research Grants are grants limited to research projects and exclude other award categories that fund infrastructure-type activities, which do not require multi-year support, such as equipment and conference awards. Annualized Award Size shows the annual level of research grants provided to awardees by dividing the total dollars of each award by the number of years over which it extends. Average Duration is the length of awards in years.

The Quantitative Data Tables, provided under a separate tab in this submission, are based on obligations made, including competitive awards, contracts, cooperative agreements, supplements, and amendments to existing grants and contracts.

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	FY 2010 Actual Estimate	FY 2010 Enacted/ Annualized FY 2011 CR Estimate	FY 2012 Request Estimate
Statistics for Competitive Awards			
Number of Proposals	55,400	48,700	60,000
Number of New Awards	12,890	11,400	13,900
Regular Appropriation	12,500	11,400	13,900
ARRA	390	-	-
Funding Rate	23%	23%	23%
Statistics for Research Grants			
Number of Research Grant Proposals	40,600	37,800	46,000
Number of Research Grant Awards	8,509	7,200	9,200
Regular Appropriation	8,500	7,200	9,200
ARRA	9	-	-
Funding Rate	21%	19%	20%
Median Annualized Award Size	\$127,400	\$125,700	\$131,300
Average Annualized Award Size	\$165,000	\$159,000	\$164,300
Average Duration (years)	2.9	3.0	3.0