

PROGRAM ACCOUNTS: R&RA and EHR**\$126,420,000**
+\$4,800,000 / 3.9%

Funding from program accounts (R&RA and EHR) covers about 25 percent of the total Organizational Excellence portfolio. There are two activities that comprise program-funded Organizational Excellence: Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) costs and Program Related Administration.

Summary of R&RA- and EHR-Funded Organizational Excellence

(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Change over	
				FY 2015 Estimate Amount	Percent
IPA Costs	\$42.23	\$46.01	\$48.22	\$2.21	4.8%
Program Related Administration	72.91	75.61	78.20	2.59	3.4%
<i>Program Related Technology</i>	67.17	64.49	63.40	-1.09	-1.7%
<i>Other Program Related Administration</i>	5.75	11.12	14.80	3.68	33.1%
Total, R&RA and EHR Funded Organizational Excellence	\$115.14	\$121.62	\$126.42	\$4.80	3.9%

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Costs**IPA Costs by Appropriation**

(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Change over	
				FY 2015 Estimate Amount	Percent
IPA FTE Utilization ¹	177	191	196	5	2.6%
R&RA					
IPA Compensation	\$31.39	\$34.01	\$35.96	\$1.95	5.7%
IPA Lost Consultant & Per Diem	3.29	3.47	3.74	0.27	7.8%
IPA Travel	2.47	2.66	2.64	-0.02	-0.6%
Subtotal, R&RA Costs	\$37.15	\$40.13	\$42.34	\$2.21	5.5%
EHR					
IPA Compensation	4.23	4.60	4.60	-	-
IPA Lost Consultant & Per Diem	0.54	0.85	0.85	-	-
IPA Travel	0.31	0.43	0.43	-	-
Subtotal, EHR Costs	\$5.08	\$5.88	\$5.88	-	-
Total, IPA Costs	\$42.23	\$46.01	\$48.22	\$2.21	4.8%

Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ Includes five IPAs in FY 2014 and six IPAs in FY 2015 and FY 2016 in staff offices (BFA, OIRM, and OLPA) funded by Other Program Administration and included in General Program and Evaluation (P&E) activities.

A portion of NSF's workforce consists of temporary staff hired through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) authority. IPAs remain employees of their home institution while serving alongside NSF employees during their temporary appointment. They are not paid directly by NSF and are not subject to federal pay, benefits, or other limitations. NSF reimburses the home institution without overhead using the traditional grant mechanism. IPAs are eligible to receive relocation expenses, or a per diem allowance

in lieu of relocation, and reimbursement for income foregone because of their assignment at NSF (i.e., lost consulting fees).

The agency uses IPA (or rotating) science and engineering staff to help ensure that the Foundation’s funding decisions are based on the best input from the field and reflect fresh ideas and creativity. The expertise provided by these IPAs is essential to help shape the NSF research portfolio and support transformational advances across the frontiers of all fields of science, engineering, and education.

The FY 2016 Request funding for IPA costs, \$48.22 million, represents an increase of \$2.21 million above the FY 2015 Estimate of \$46.01 million. At this level, IPA usage increases by five IPA FTE to a total of 196 IPA FTE and raises costs within the Research and Related Activities (R&RA) account associated with IPA compensation to \$35.96 million and Lost Consultant and Per Diem to \$3.74 million. IPA Travel decreases \$20,000 below the FY 2015 Estimate, in keeping with the agency’s overall travel funding targets.

Program Related Administration

Program Related Administration (PRA) includes two categories of activities that support NSF’s strategic goal *Excel as a Federal Science Agency* and that are directly funded from NSF’s program accounts.

- Program Related Technology (PRT)
- Other Program Related Administration (Other PRA)

Program Related Administration

(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Change over FY 2015 Estimate	
				Amount	Percent
Program Related Technology	\$67.17	\$64.49	\$63.40	-\$1.09	-1.7%
Other Program Related Administration	5.75	11.12	14.80	3.68	33.1%
Total, Program Related Administration	\$72.91	\$75.61	\$78.20	\$2.59	3.4%

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Program Related Technology (-\$1.09 million, to a total of \$63.40 million)

NSF’s FY 2016 total information technology (IT) investment is \$85.39 million. Funding for the IT investment is split between the Research and Related Activities (R&RA), Education and Human Resources (EHR), and the Agency Operations and Award Management (AOAM) accounts. PRT activities relate directly to NSF’s programmatic investments and are the portion of NSF’s IT investment funded through the R&RA and EHR accounts. NSF’s FY 2016 Request funding for PRT is \$63.40 million, a decrease of \$1.09 million below the FY 2015 Estimate. The remaining \$21.99 million IT investment is AOAM funded and is discussed in the AOAM section.

Program Related Technology Investments

(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Change over FY 2015 Estimate	
				Amount	Percent
Mission-Related Applications and Services	\$48.70	\$47.50	\$45.99	-\$1.51	-3.2%
Associated IT Operations and Infrastructure	15.51	14.01	14.44	0.43	3.1%
Related Security and Privacy Services	2.96	2.98	2.98	-	-
Total, Program Related Technology	\$67.17	\$64.49	\$63.40	-\$1.09	-1.7%

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Funding for PRT underpins NSF’s role in supporting fundamental research across all fields and levels of science and engineering. NSF accomplishes this principally by issuing grants to fund specific research proposals that have been judged the most promising through the merit review process. Each stage in the NSF proposal and award management process is managed electronically. With this single mission focus, PRT investments are critical to supporting science and engineering research and education activities within the Foundation.

For FY 2016, NSF’s information technology priorities for PRT are:

- Continue modernization of systems that support the merit review process. Focus will be on systems that support the management of proposals, reviews, and reviewers. For more information, see the Proposal Management Efficiencies narrative in the NSF-Wide Priorities chapter.
- Continue to work toward a federated system to manage results of NSF-funded research that integrates external (repository) and internal administrative systems with minimal additional burden to NSF awardees and staff. This federated approach will eventually allow researchers to make their results available through submission to multiple acceptable repositories while reporting centrally to NSF and providing for long term preservation.
- Support the second full year of operation of iTRAK, the Foundation’s financial management system.
- Support the upcoming move of NSF’s headquarters.

Mission-Related Applications and Services (-\$1.51 million, to a total of \$45.99 million)

Investments in this category fund the applications and services that support the merit review process, including pre-proposal planning and activities; receipt of proposals; processing proposals; reviewing proposals; award decisions, documentation, and notification; funding awards; post-award oversight; dissemination of award results; and award close-out. Mission-related applications and services include investments such as iTRAK, Research.gov, eJacket, and FastLane.

- The total investment for iTRAK is \$5.70 million. Seventy percent of this request will be funded by PRT and 30 percent will be funded by AOAM. In FY 2016, the PRT portion of the iTRAK request is \$3.99 million. This increase of \$915,000 above the FY 2015 Estimate will support the ongoing operations and maintenance of the new system.
- Funding for legacy mission applications is \$28.45 million, \$550,000 below the FY 2015 Estimate. The decrease reflects the Foundation’s capacity to modernize and maintain applications and services while simultaneously preparing for the move to a new headquarters. Legacy mission applications, including FastLane and eJacket, support the grants management life cycle. These applications are used by NSF staff, principal investigators, reviewers, and awardee institutions. This investment will be utilized for the following activities:
 - PRT funding for NSF’s Public Access Initiative is \$3.0 million, representing an increase of \$500,000 over the FY 2015 Estimate. This investment will be used to increase public access to the results of NSF-funded research. Specifically, the requested funds will be used to initiate

planning activities to expand NSF's federated model for public access to additional repositories and to enhance the services provided to users of NSF's public access capability.

- \$5.72 million for eJacket and \$4.91 million for FastLane provides the necessary funds for operations and maintenance of these mission support systems. These levels are not changed from the FY 2015 Estimate.
- Other mission-related applications decrease \$1.05 million below the FY 2015 Estimate to a total of \$14.82 million. This funding level reflects the Foundation's need to defer enhancements of other mission-related applications, to allow for planning and preparing for the move to the new NSF headquarters.
- \$2.50 million in FY 2016 will support operations, maintenance, and ongoing enhancement of the enterprise data warehouse. This funding level is consistent with the FY 2015 Estimate. A data warehouse at the enterprise level avoids costs associated with implementing separate data warehouses or data marts for individual IT investments, enables agency-wide business intelligence, and achieves administrative efficiencies by centralizing and streamlining access to NSF data.
- Research.gov is a community driven solution to modernize NSF's legacy grants management applications by facilitating seamless access to key information and services to the science, engineering, research and education communities and the public in one location.¹ Research.gov is used by grantees to report annually on the progress and results of NSF-funded projects, as well as to view balances on awards, submit financial requests, and report program income. Researchers and institutions are also able to login to Research.gov and access legacy grants management services in one location. The Research.gov investment in FY 2016 is \$10.30 million, which represents a decrease of \$1.88 million below the FY 2015 Estimate. This level reflects the Foundation's capacity for modernization of Research.gov while simultaneously preparing for the move of NSF headquarters.
- Consistent with the FY 2015 Estimate, \$754,000 is provided for enterprise architecture and planning.

Associated IT Operations and Infrastructure (+\$430,000, to a total of \$14.44 million)

Investments in this category provide basic operations and maintenance funding for NSF infrastructure, network, and telecommunications requirements. Network services include NSF's primary network for NSF staff, external network for NSF visitors, and connection to Internet2 for virtual panel support. Additionally, this category includes NSF's call center and customer care services. NSF provides customer care support for internal users (NSF staff) and external users (the research community including institutions, principal investigators, reviewers, and other NSF visitors) 14 hours per day, five days per week.

The requested \$430,000 increase will allow NSF to continue to implement cyber-infrastructure at the new NSF headquarters while maintaining a parallel infrastructure at the current NSF headquarters.

Related Security and Privacy Services (+ zero, to a total of \$2.98 million)

Funding in this area is not changed from the FY 2015 Estimate. Investments in this category include automated configuration management tools that manage security patches and provide proactive protection from viruses, spyware, and other threats. This includes the relative portion of NSF's network security, application security, security control testing and tools, automated vulnerability assessment tools, and remediation and intrusion detection services related to mission-support applications and services.

¹ www.research.gov/

Other Program Related Administration (+\$3.68 million to a total of \$14.80 million)

In FY 2016, NSF’s Other PRA includes funding for four Foundation-wide activities:

- Capability building and enhancements to the Foundation’s evaluation initiative;
- Efforts to improve NSF’s merit review process;
- NSF support for federal E-Government initiatives that are mission-related; and
- General planning and evaluation activities that are Foundation-wide.

Other Program Related Administration

(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Change over FY 2015 Estimate	
				Amount	Percent
Major NSF-wide Investments					
Evaluation and Assessment Capability	\$0.80	\$5.50	\$8.86	\$3.36	61.1%
Proposal Management Efficiencies	0.30	0.30	0.30	-	-
Other					
E-Government Initiatives	1.04	1.01	1.01	-	-
General Planning and Evaluation Activities	3.61	4.31	4.63	0.32	7.4%
Total, Other Program Related	\$5.75	\$11.12	\$14.80	\$3.68	33.1%

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Evaluation and Assessment Capability (EAC), (+\$3.36 million, to a total of \$8.86 million): In FY 2016, Other PRA funding of \$8.86 million will enable further development of the Foundation’s Evaluation and Assessment Capability. Activities supported include portfolio analysis tool development, initiation of high-impact evaluations for cross-cutting high visibility programs, coordinating with the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) on the design of data collection instruments and methodological considerations for longitudinal data collections, and developing a coordinated evaluation framework for the agency. More detailed information for EAC can be found within the NSF-wide Priorities chapter.

Proposal Management Efficiencies, (no change for a total of \$300,000): FY 2016 Other Program Related Administration funding of \$300,000 will continue to support assessment activities in order to determine the impacts of NSF’s investments in improving the merit review process and to identify further potential to enhance the process. Detailed information can be found in the Proposal Management Efficiencies narrative in the NSF-Wide Priorities chapter.

E-Government Initiatives (no change for a total of \$1.01 million): In FY 2016, funding for NSF program-supported and mission-related E-Government initiatives is equal to the FY 2015 Estimate. This funding level is consistent with funding requirements identified by the respective managing partner organizations.

General Planning and Evaluation Activities (P&E) (+\$320,000, to a total of \$4.63 million): FY 2016 Other Program Related Administration funding for P&E activities will be \$4.63 million to support activities such as the verification and validation of performance information; the Waterman Award administrative costs; contributions to the General Services Administration in support of the interagency management councils, and AAAS fellowships and internships. The FY 2016 funding estimate is based on the level of activities and projects anticipated in FY 2016.

