

NSF PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

Introduction

Per the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010, this chapter, together with the Overview, contains basic information about NSF's mission, Strategic Plan, and Agency Priority Goals (APGs), as well as NSF's FY 2017 Annual Performance Plan (APP), FY 2015 Annual Performance Report (APR), and FY 2015 Strategic Objective Progress Update. Information about NSF's performance can also be found on performance.gov, which is updated quarterly with information about APG and Cross-Agency Priority Goal achievement, and on the NSF site in the Performance and Financial Highlights Report.¹

The FY 2017 Request highlights NSF's priorities for crosscutting investments and organizational efficiencies. NSF's FY 2017 APP underscores the agency's overall priorities through continued strategic monitoring of key program, infrastructure, and management investments. Together with NSF's longstanding performance goal to make timely award decisions, these performance goals provide the foundation of NSF's annual performance assessments. The FY 2017 APP also includes goals that focus on increasing virtual participation in merit review panels, evaluating NSF investments, and fostering an inclusive culture.

Strategic Plan and Strategic Objectives

*Investing in Science, Engineering, and Education for the Nation's Future: NSF Strategic Plan for 2014 – 2018*¹ lays out two strategic goals that embody the dual nature of NSF's mission to advance the progress of science while benefitting the nation: *Transform the Frontiers of Science and Engineering*, and *Stimulate Innovation and Address Societal Needs through Research and Education*. A third goal, *Excel as a Federal Science Agency*, directs NSF to hold itself accountable for achieving excellence in carrying out its mission. This goal structure enables NSF to link its investments to longer-term outcomes. To bridge the gap between these strategic goals and measurable outputs, the Strategic Plan establishes a set of strategic objectives for each strategic goal (see next page).

Cross-Agency Priority Goals

NSF contributes to Cross-Agency Priority (CAP) Goals which relate closely to its mission, such as the CAP goal supporting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education. Per the GPRA Modernization Act's requirement to address CAP Goals in the agency Strategic Plan, APP, and APR, please refer to www.performance.gov for more on the agency's contributions to those goals and progress, where applicable.

¹ www.nsf.gov/about/performance

2014-2018 NSF Strategic Framework

Strategic Goals	Strategic Objectives
<p>G1: Transform the Frontiers of Science and Engineering</p>	<p>O1: Invest in fundamental research to ensure significant continuing advances across science, engineering, and education.</p> <p>O2: Integrate education and research to support development of a diverse STEM workforce with cutting-edge capabilities.</p> <p>O3: Provide world-class research infrastructure to enable major scientific advances.</p>
<p>G2: Stimulate Innovation and Address Societal Needs through Research and Education</p>	<p>O1: Strengthen the links between fundamental research and societal needs through investments and partnerships.</p> <p>O2: Build the capacity of the Nation to address societal challenges using a suite of formal, informal, and broadly available STEM educational mechanisms.</p>
<p>G3: Excel as a Federal Science Agency</p>	<p>O1: Build an increasingly diverse, engaged, and high-performing workforce by fostering excellence in recruitment, training, leadership, and management of human capital.</p> <p>O2: Use effective methods and innovative solutions to achieve excellence in accomplishing the agency's mission.</p>