



REVISION OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS (CA-FATC)

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2018

Effective March 1, 2018, new NSF cooperative agreements and funding amendments to existing NSF cooperative agreements will begin referencing, and are subject to, the [Cooperative Agreement Financial and Administrative Terms and Conditions](#) (CA-FATC) dated 03/1/18.

Unless otherwise noted in a specific article, the *Cooperative Agreement Financial and Administrative Terms and Conditions* apply to all new NSF cooperative agreements and funding increments to existing NSF cooperative agreements awarded on or after March 1, 2018.

A summary of the changes is included below. Any questions regarding these changes may be directed to the Policy Office, Division of Institution and Award Support, at (703) 292-8243 or by e-mail to policy@nsf.gov.

Significant Changes

- **Prior Approval Requirements, Article 3**, has been supplemented to include the addition of a separate NSF Prior Approval Matrix applicable to State and local governments and for-profit organizations. Also, the Article has been updated to reflect that Research.gov has been modified to include an “Other” category, which must be used to submit prior approval requirements that do not already have a specific request type in NSF’s electronic systems.
- **Procurement Standards, Article 9**, has been revised to raise the micro-purchase threshold for procurement activities to \$10,000 for awards made to institutions of higher education, or related or affiliated nonprofit entities, or to nonprofit research organizations or independent research institutes. This revision was made in accordance with Section 207 (a)(1) of the American Competitiveness and Innovation Act (AICA).
- **Breach of Personally Identifiable Information, Article 46**, is a new article that requires awardees to have procedures in place to respond to a breach of personally identifiable information (PII) and notify NSF that a breach of PII within the scope of an NSF award has occurred.

Clarifications and Other Changes

- **Overall Document**, has been revised to update all *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* (PAPPG) references and conform with PAPPG terminology. It also has been modified to incorporate editorial changes to either clarify or enhance the intended meaning of a sentence or section or ensure consistency with other NSF policy documents.
- **Changes to the Cooperative Agreement and Limitation of Funds, Articles 48 and 49**, have been reworded and divided into two separate Articles.

- **Partnerships with Foreign Collaborators, Article 54**, contains updated guidance on the requirement to notify NSF in advance of proposed or funded awardee activities with foreign entities.