



Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences

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Decision, Risk and Management Sciences
Innovation and Organizational Sciences

NSF Regional Conference
Jackson, Mississippi, Oct. 2009



Office of the Director

**Directorate for Social,
Behavioral & Economic
Sciences**

**Social and Economic
Sciences**

**Behavioral and Cognitive
Sciences**

Science Resources Statistics

Social and Economic Sciences

FY09 Program Allocations (millions of dollars)

• Cross-Directorate Activities	\$3.8
• Decision, Risk, & Management Sciences	\$7.52
• Economics	\$25.81
• Innovation and Organizational Sciences	\$3.37
• Law and Social Science	\$5.08
• Methodology, Measurement & Statistics	\$4.03
• Political Science	\$9.95
• Science and Society	\$8.99
• Sociology	\$9.46

Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences



SES Target Dates

January 15 & August 15

Law and Social Science
Political Science
Sociology

January 16 & August 16

Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics

January 18 & August 18

Decision, Risk, & Management Sciences
Economics

February 1 & August 1

Science and Society

February 2 & September 3

Innovation and Organizational Sciences



Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences

FY09 Program Allocations (millions of dollars)

• Archaeology & Archaeometry	\$6.5
• Cultural Anthropology	\$3.5
• Cognitive Neuroscience	\$7.0
• Developmental & Learning Sciences	\$6.3
• Geography & Regional Science	\$6.4
• Linguistics	\$7.5
• Perception, Action, & Cognition	\$6.4
• Physical Anthropology	\$3.8
• Social Psychology	\$5.9



BCS Target Dates

January 14 & July 14

Cognitive Neuroscience

January 15 & July 15

Developmental & Learning Sciences

Linguistics

Social Psychology

January 15 & August 15

Cultural Anthropology

Geography & Regional Science

January 20 and August 20

Physical Anthropology

February 1 & August 1

Perception, Cognition and Action

July 1 & December 1

Archaeology



Office of the Director Programs and Target Dates

Science of Science and Innovation Policy

Sept 9, Annually

SBE Minority Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

Oct 9, Annually

Science of Learning Centers

Co-reviews

- Submit proposal once
- Request review by multiple programs
- Higher funding rate

Inquiries to Program Directors

- E-mail 1-2 pages with:
 - Research Question(s)
 - Theory on which you are building
 - Methods
 - Major Citations

- We can identify potential fit
- We can offer advice on some reviewing pitfalls

Types of Opportunities

- Unsolicited competitions
- Coreviews
- Collaboratives
- Doctoral dissertation improvement grants
- Special solicitations
- Rapid response research (RAPID)
- Early concept grants for exploratory research (EAGER)
- CAREER grants
- Dear Colleague Letters
- Other special opportunities

Collaborative Proposals

- Mechanism for researchers collaborating across institutions
 - Solves many cross-institutional organizational problems for you

Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants

- Archaeology
- Cultural Anthropology
- Decision, Risk, & Management Science
- Economics
- Geography & Regional Science
- Law and Social Science
- Linguistics
- Physical Anthropology
- Political Science
- Science and Society
- Sociology

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Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program

- Untenured faculty (or comparable)
- Single scholar award
- \$400,000, 5-years minimum award
- Three proposals lifetime limit
- July 1 deadline
- “Walk on Water” expectation

Rapid Response Research (RAPID)

- Research when data are ephemeral
- \$200,000 maximum; 1 year
- 5 page project description
- Internal review only
- Contact program officer first

Early-concept grants for exploratory research (EAGER)

- Exploratory work on untested, potentially transformative ideas
- High-risk, high-potential payoff
- \$300,000 maximum; 2 years
- Eight page descriptive
- Internal review or mail review
- Contact program officer first

Dear Colleague Letter Example: Integrating HSD Goals into Core SBE Programs

- **Complexity Science**
- **Large-scale Interdisciplinary Research**
- **Infrastructure**



SBE Minority Post-Docs

- Fellowships for minority SBE scientists within four years of receipt of doctoral degree
- Travel grants (\$4,000) available to help find a host institution
- \$60,000 per year for two or three years (\$45,000 stipend, \$10,000 research allowance, \$5,000 institutional allowance)
- \$50,000 research start-up grant available at conclusion of post-doc.

- Deadline: Third Mon in Oct, annually (Oct 19)



Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)

- REU Sites are typically:
 - 10-12 week summer programs
 - 8-12 students
 - Total project costs expected to be around \$700-\$900 per student per week

 - Deadlines: Oct 22, 2009; Aug 25, 2010 (except Antarctic projects)
- REU Supplements
 - Support research activities for 1-2 undergraduates as a supplement to a new or renewal NSF grant. Talk to Program Director.



GK-12: NSF Graduate Teaching Fellows in K-12 Education

- Supports fellowships and training to place STEM graduate students as resources in K-12 schools
- Collaboration between university and local school system
- Up to \$600,000 per year for 5 years
- Letters of Intent deadline – May
- Full proposal deadline – July



Major Research Instrumentation (MRI)

- Acquisition or development of major equipment by U.S. institutions
- Proposals may be for a single instrument, a large system, or multiple instruments that share a common research focus
- Institutions limited to 2 equipment proposals and 1 instrument development proposal
- \$100K - \$4M awards (can be as low as \$25,000 for SBE sciences)
- Deadline in January, annually



NSF Sources of Reviewers

- Program Officer's knowledge
- References listed in the proposal
- Citation Searches
- Reviewer's recommendations
- Investigator's suggestions

Reviewing Criteria

- Intellectual merit
- Broader impacts
- Solicitations: Special Criteria
- Label these in project summary



Intellectual Merit?

Will the proposed activity advance knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields?

Is the project likely to be successful:

- Qualifications of the proposer/team
- Sufficient access to resources

To what extent does the proposed activity explore creative and original concepts?

Transformative potential?

How well conceived and organized is the proposed activity?



Broader Impacts

- Promote teaching, training and learning
- Broaden the participation of underrepresented groups (e.g., gender, ethnicity, disability, geographic, etc.)
- Enhance the infrastructure for research and education, such as facilities, instrumentation, networks and partnerships
- Disseminate results broadly to enhance scientific and technological understanding
- Benefit society



Human Subjects

- No award for a project involving human subjects can be made without prior Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval of the research activity.
- IRB approval is not needed at the time of proposal submission. (MOST PROGRAMS)



- Most Common Error
 - Non-compliant Bio Sketches
- Most Common Needless Worry
 - What should my budget be?



Reasons for Declinations

- "Trust-me" proposal
- No theory, no methods, or poor match between theory and methods
- Not feasible
 - Expertise gaps
 - Insufficient funding
 - Too ambitious
- Incremental contribution
- Bad luck



Advice



- Learn to love rejection
- Team up
- E-mail or call Program Officer with specific questions



Myths about NSF

- Only funds scholars at elite graduate institutions
- Only funds "famous" academics
- Once declined, you are likely always to be declined
- Only funds "normal science"
- Advisory committees make funding decisions



QUESTIONS??

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