Effective March 1, 2018, grants made to institutions of higher education and non-profit organizations will incorporate by reference the Research Terms & Conditions dated March 14, 2017 and the NSF Agency Specific Requirements dated March 1, 2018. The Research Terms & Conditions will not be applied to NSF cooperative agreements or to NSF fellowship awards made to individuals.

Unless otherwise noted in a specific article, the NSF Agency Specific Requirements apply to all new NSF grants and funding amendments to existing NSF grants awarded on or after March 1, 2018 to institutions of higher education and non-profit organizations.

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, on (703) 292-8243 or by e-mail to policy@nsf.gov.

**Significant Changes**

- **Prior Approval Requirements Not Included in the Research Terms & Conditions, Article 2**, 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.

- **Micro-purchase Threshold, Article 34**, is a new article that raises the micro-purchase threshold for procurement activities to $10,000, in accordance with Section 207 (a)(1) of the American Competitiveness and Innovation Act (AICA).

- **Breach of Personally Identifiable Information, Article 35**, is a new article that requires grantees 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.