



## REVISION OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF) AGENCY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS TO THE RESEARCH TERMS AND CONDITIONS

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2018

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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](mailto: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.