



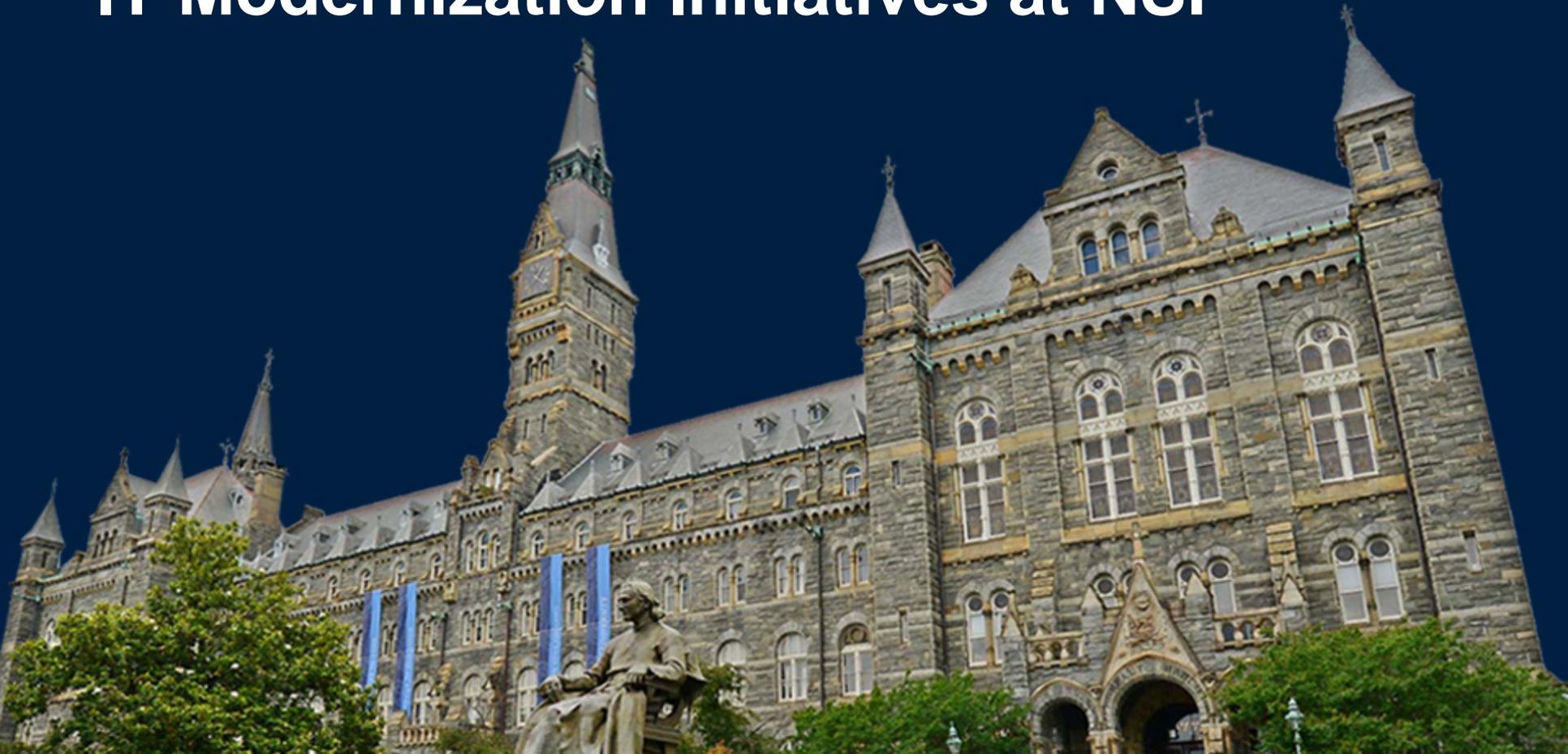
National Science Foundation **GRANTS CONFERENCE**

Arlington, VA ♦ November 2-3, 2015
Hosted by Georgetown University



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

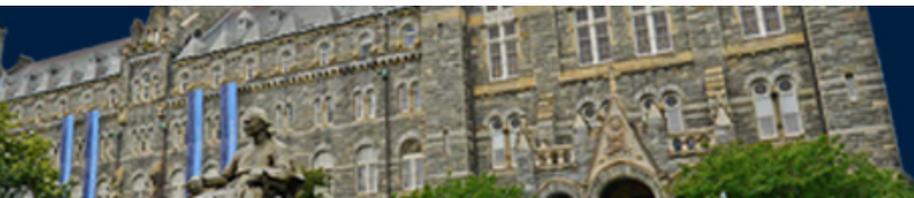
IT Modernization Initiatives at NSF



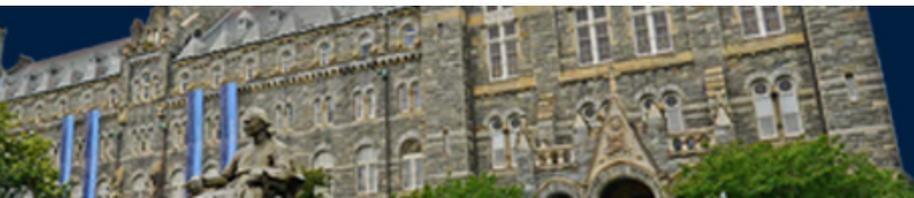
Agenda

- Recent updates and accomplishments
 - Notifications and Requests
 - Usability
 - Automated Compliance Checking
- Research.gov – a look ahead
 - NSF Public Access
 - Usability
 - Proposal Submission Modernization
- Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG) (NSF 16-1) – Impacts to FastLane and Research.gov
 - 5 p.m. deadline submission
 - Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) submission
 - New Proposal Preparation Policies

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Recent Updates and Accomplishments



Notifications and Requests

Available in Research.gov as of October 24, 2015

- Long-term Disengagement of the PI (Principal Investigator)/PD (Project Director) or co-PI/co-PD (3+ months)
- Pre-award Costs in Excess of 90 Days
- Significant Changes in Methods/Procedures
- Significant Changes/Delays or Events of Unusual Interest
- Changes in Objectives or Scope
- Reallocation of Funds Provided for Participant Support Costs
- Change in Person-Months Devoted to Project
- Rearrangements/Alterations in excess of \$25,000
- Withdrawal of PI/PD or co-PI/co-PD
- Conflicts of Interest
- Salaries of Administrative or Clerical Staff
- Travel Costs for Dependents
- Additional categories of participant support costs other than 2 CFR § 200.75
- Grantee-Approved No-Cost Extension
- NSF-Approved No-Cost Extension

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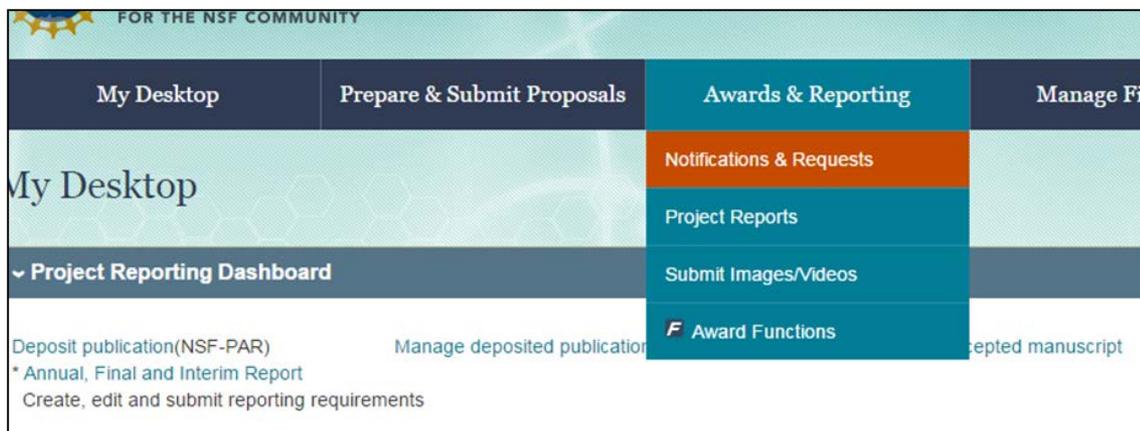
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Notifications and Requests

The remaining notifications and requests will continue to reside in FastLane and will be migrated to Research.gov in the future

- Substitute PI/PD or co-PI/co-PD
- Subawarding, Transferring or Contracting Out Part of an NSF Award
- PI/PD or co-PI/co-PD Transfer from One Organization to Another
- Annual and Final Cost Share Notification by Recipient



- Awardees must login via R.gov to get to Notification and Requests functionality
- Notifications & Requests function is available from Awards & Reporting menu on Research.gov



Notifications & Requests Iowa State Un

[Prepare New](#)

Items Needing Action

Showing 1 to 25 of 26 « Prev **1** 2 Next>

Award Number	Award Date	Prepared by	Notification / Request Type	Status	Last Action Date	Actions
0911708	08/15/2009	Wiersema, Janice	Salaries of Administrative or Clerical Staff	Forwarded to SPO	03/11/2015	Edit Submit
1461841	09/01/2014	Neese, Barbara	Subawarding, Transferring or Contracting Out Part of an NSF Award	Work in Progress	12/02/2014	Go to FastLane

Features:

- “Prepare New” or view N&Rs needing action
- View all N&Rs whether created in Research.gov or FastLane
- Click the “Go to FastLane” to view N&Rs created in FastLane without signing in again
- N&Rs organized by type
- User will be taken to FastLane if they select a N&R that is not yet available in Research.gov

Prepare New

Step 1: Select type of change

- All
- Budget Activities
- No-Cost Extensions
- Changes in Objectives, Scope, or Methodology and other Significant Changes
- Changes in PI/PD and co-PI/co-PD
- Other

Step 2: Select notification / request

Go

- Long-Term Disengagement of the PI/PD or co-PI/co-PD
- Withdrawal of PI/PD or co-PI/co-PD
- PI/PD or co-PI/co-PD Transfer from One Organization to Another
- Substitute PI/PD or co-PI/co-PD

International Science

Usability: Research.gov Homepage

Updated look, feel and branding to NSF

The screenshot shows the Research.gov homepage with the following elements:

- Header:** NSF Research.gov ONLINE GRANTS MANAGEMENT FOR THE NSF COMMUNITY. Navigation links: Log In | Home | Contact | Help | About. Search bar.
- Hero Section:** "Can't remember your NSF password? Find out how you can use your university password to log in to Research.gov. [Learn More/Register](#)"
- Main Content Grid:**
 - Prepare & Submit Proposals:** Prepare, submit and check status of proposals. Includes "Check Proposal Status" and "FASTLANE PROPOSAL FUNCTIONS".
 - Proposal/Panel Review:** Review proposals, participate in panels. Includes "FASTLANE PROPOSAL REVIEW" and "FASTLANE PANEL REVIEW".
 - Awards & Reporting:** Submit project reports, notifications & requests. Includes "PROJECT REPORTS", "NOTIFICATIONS & REQUESTS", and "FASTLANE AWARD FUNCTIONS".
 - Fellowships & Honorary Awards:** Nominate colleagues, apply for awards. Includes "Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)", "Postdoctoral Fellowships and Other Programs", and "Honorary Awards".
 - Administration:** Manage your account and user roles. Includes "User Management" and "FASTLANE ORGANIZATION MANAGEMENT".
 - Manage Financials:** View balances and submit cash requests. Includes "Submit or manage payment transactions", "More about ACMS", and "Program Income Reporting".
 - NSF Award Highlights:** Explore thousands of research highlights. Includes "By scientific field", "By location", and "Search awards going back to 1994".

Simplified navigation

Easy access to FastLane

Enhanced screen width for easier viewing



Usability: Navigation and Single Sign on

New top level Navigation – Incorporating Single Sign on FastLane Integration

The screenshot displays the Research.gov website interface. At the top, there is a header with the Research.gov logo, the text 'ONLINE GRANTS MANAGEMENT FOR THE NSF COMMUNITY', and a user welcome message: 'Welcome Alan Alphaman | Logout (Home) | My Profile | Contact | Help | About'. A search bar is located on the right side of the header.

Below the header is a navigation menu with five main categories: 'My Desktop', 'Prepare & Submit Proposals', 'Awards & Reporting', 'Manage Financials', and 'Administration'. A callout box points to this menu with the text: 'New top level Navigation – Incorporating Single Sign on FastLane Integration'.

The main content area is divided into several sections. The first section is the 'Project Reporting Dashboard', which includes links for 'Annual, Final and Interim Report' and 'Create, edit and submit reporting requirements'. It also displays a summary: '* Project Outcomes Report : 1 Total' and 'Due (0) | Overdue (0) | Submitted (1) | Not Yet Due (0)'. A callout box points to this section with the text: 'Enhanced screen width for easier viewing'.

The second section is 'NSF FastLane Services', which includes links for 'Proposals, Awards & Status', 'Research Administration', and 'Lookup NSF ID'. A callout box points to this section with the text: 'Easy access to FastLane'.

The third section is the 'Proposal Status Dashboard', which features a dropdown menu for 'Agency' (set to 'All') and a link for 'All Last 6 Months | Search Proposals'. Below this is a table of proposal status changes:

Agency	Agency Tracking Number	PD/PI	Submitting Institution	Descriptive Title of Project	Status	Status Date	Requested Amount
NSF	[REDACTED]	PI1, Test	NSF	Test Proposal - Rgov GAPPS	Pending	01/13/2015	\$50
NSF	[REDACTED]	PI1, Test	NSF	Test Proposal - Rgov GAPPS	Pending	12/07/2014	\$50

Below the table, a note states: 'The displayed proposals have had a status change during the last six months (maximum of 10 displayed). Proposal Statuses are updated nightly for NSF, and every Friday for CSREES.'

Easy access to FastLane

Enhanced screen width for easier viewing



Usability: InCommon Login

- Researchers and SPOs can use their university ID and password to login to Research.gov via InCommon
 - As of October 2015, 68 institutions are connected with Research.gov
 - 68 additional institutions are in the pipeline
- Goals
 - Convenience to research community
 - Integration opportunities with institutions



Usability: InCommon Login

Research.gov
ONLINE GRANTS MANAGEMENT
FOR THE NSF COMMUNITY

[Log In](#) | [Home](#) | [Contact](#) | [Help](#) | [About](#)

NSF User Log In

There are 2 ways to log in to Research.gov. Use your **NSF ID** or your **organization credentials**.

NSF ID

Last Name:

NSF ID:
 [Forgot my NSF ID](#)

Password:
 [Reset my password](#)

[Log In](#) [Cancel](#)

Organization credentials ⓘ

Select your organization from the drop-down menu below, to be taken to the InCommon Log In page for your organization.

Pick your organization:

[Log In](#)

If you don't see your organization listed -
[Learn more / Register for InCommon](#)

[Log In for NSF Staff](#) [Log In for NSF Visitors](#)

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Usability: InCommon Login Statistics



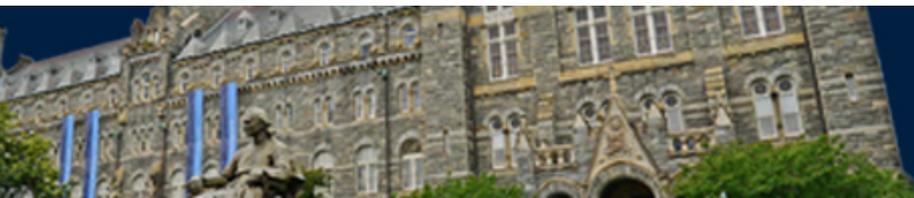
Month	Logins	% of total	% change
September 2015	1,043	6.8%	-23%
August 2015	1,338	7.7%	-1%
July 2015	1,349	7.3%	-2%
June 2015	1,371	7.5%	49%
May 2015	918	6.8%	12%
April 2015	816	6.5%	11%
March 2015	735	5.9%	14%
February 2015	642	6.5%	6%

Rank	University	Total Logins
1	University of Illinois	65
2	Temple University	63
3	Purdue University	59
4	Pennsylvania State U	47
5	Texas A&M	46
6	Carnegie Mellon	43
7	North Carolina State U	41
8	Berkeley	40
9	University of Wisconsin-Madison	40
10	Clemson	35



Usability: Project Reporting

- Recent changes
 - Added Live Help service (technical support chat) for Project Reporting and at login
 - Unmasked NSF ID at login
 - Relocated Program Officer comments to increase visibility
 - Clarified language on form fields
 - “Clean up” – Standardize layout, language, navigation, optimize layout for readability



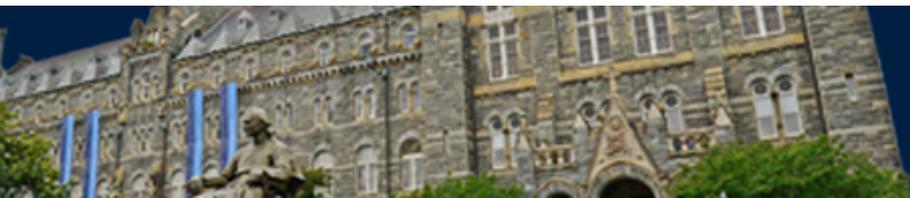
Automated Compliance Checking Unsolicited Proposals

- Auto-compliance checks for **unsolicited** proposals – January 26, 2015:
- Enforce page count rules for the following proposal sections:
 - Project Description
 - Budget Justification
 - Mentoring Plan
 - Data Management Plan
- Budget Checks: implement duration and requested amount compliance checks
 - Example: maximum requested amount cannot exceed \$200,000 for a RAPID proposal
- Enforce proposal sections depending on the funding mechanism type
 - Example: do not enforce References Cited for a Conference proposal

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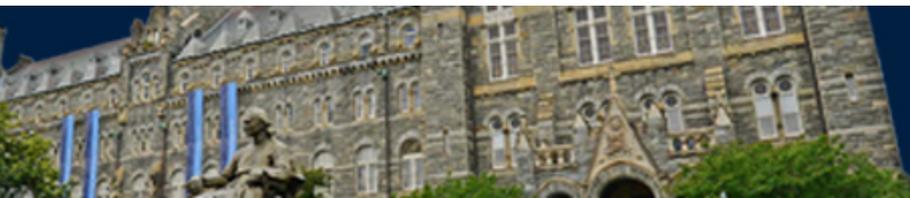


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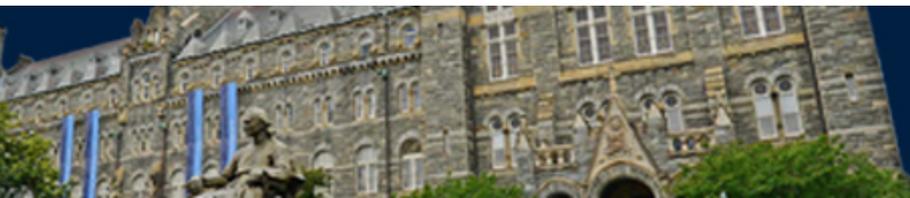
Automated Compliance Checking Program Solicitations

- Auto-compliance checks for proposals submitted in response to **Program Solicitations** beginning April 24, 2015:
 - Error message if the following sections are not included (applies to all solicited proposals)
 - Project Summary
 - Project Description
 - Budget
 - Data Management Plan
 - Mentoring Plan (if necessary)

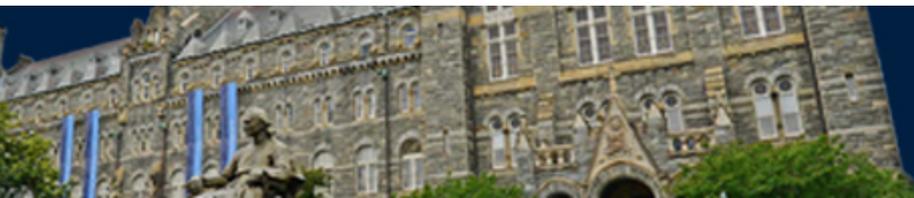


Automated Compliance Checking Program Solicitations

- Auto-compliance checks proposals submitted in response to **Program Solicitations** – July 26, 2015:
- Warning message appears if any of the following sections are not included for the applicable funding mechanism (Conference, Ideas Lab, Facility/Center, and Fellowship):
 - References Cited
 - Biographical Sketch(es)
 - Budget Justification
 - Current and Pending Support
 - Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources



Feedback and Questions



Research.gov – A Look Ahead

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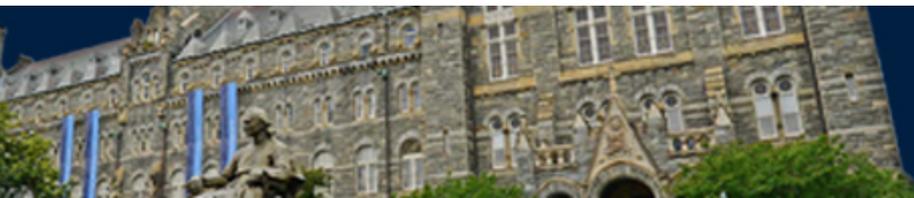


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NSF Public Access

- Launch NSF's first repository: December 2015
 - Starting in December, PIs will have the option to voluntarily deposit publications in NSF-PAR
- Effective date of Public Access policy: January 2016
 - Applies to awards made from proposals submitted, or due, on or after January 25, 2016
 - First set of proposals awarded Summer 2016
 - Likely to see first publications requiring deposit in Fall 2016



Usability

- Upcoming areas of focus
 - Decrease session timeouts and prevent data loss
 - Password Self Service
 - Integrate Research.gov and FastLane logins
 - Expand InCommon Network
 - Updates associated with Public Access implementation
 - Cumulative display of product Information from previously approved Project Reports



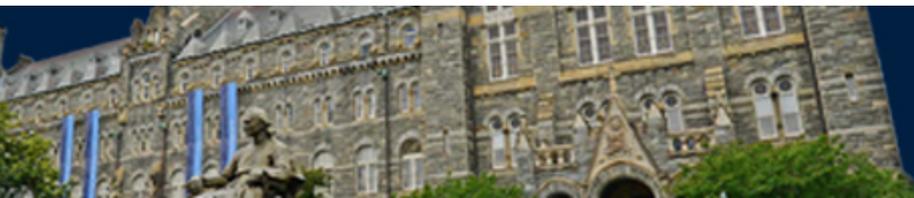
Proposal Submission Modernization Outreach

- NSF hosted two webinars to brief the research community
- Approximately 600 researchers and SPO staff attended
- Robust discussions with excellent, specific feedback and new ideas
 - Desire to minimize the burden of uploading proposal components
 - Efforts to clarify proposal requirements received praise
 - Tailored interfaces that reflect solicitation requirements received constructive feedback

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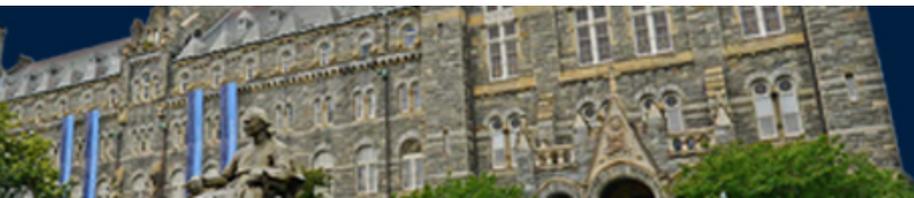
Proposal Submission Modernization Survey

- NSF sent the survey in June 2015 to 116,638 researchers and administrative staff
- 16,000+ responses received
- Goals of the survey:
 - Gauge user experience with the current proposal process
 - Gather feedback on the improvements suggested in the first round of outreach
 - Seek input from researchers and SPO staff with experience reviewing and submitting proposals



Proposal Submission Modernization Survey

- NSF is analyzing responses and will use them to guide the planning and design of future systems
- Highlights from the survey:
 - Approximately 77% agreed that FastLane meets expectations
 - Nearly 25% of respondents indicated that NSF proposal requirements and systems result in unreasonable administrative burden
 - PI and SPO respondents indicated that there may be room to clarify proposal compliance requirements
 - Over 75% of respondents indicated that expanded compliance checking would be valuable

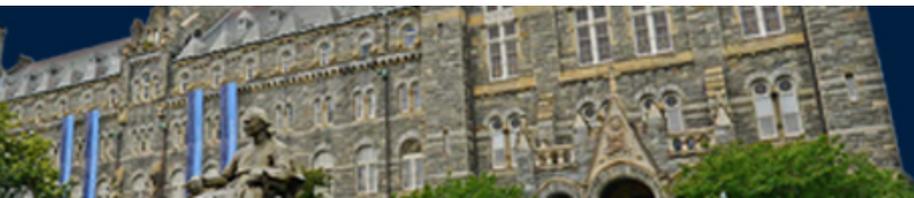


Proposal Submission Modernization Development

- NSF has kicked off the IT project to modernize proposal preparation and submission
- Currently planning the multi-year effort to improve existing functionality and migrate from FastLane to Research.gov
- Planning to use an iterative approach that will allow:
 - NSF to roll out features as they are developed
 - Incorporation of feedback from the user community
 - A smooth transition for users from FastLane



Feedback and Questions

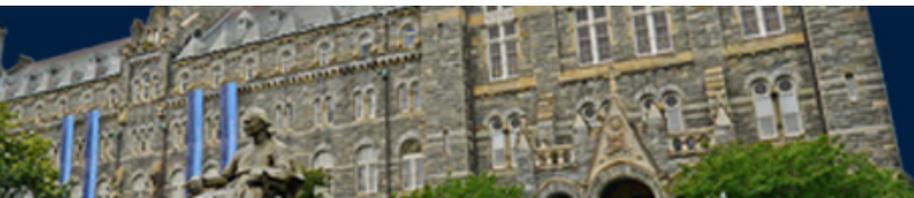


PAPPG (NSF 16-1) – Impacts to FastLane and Research.gov

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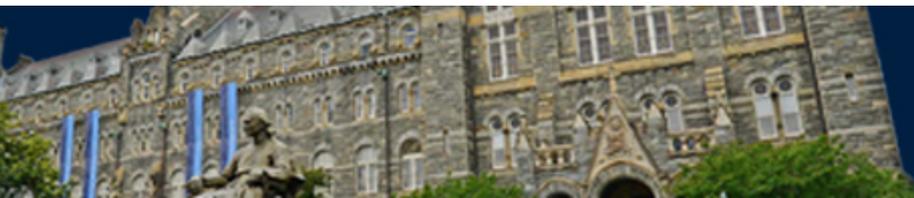


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PAPPG Changes Effective January 25, 2016

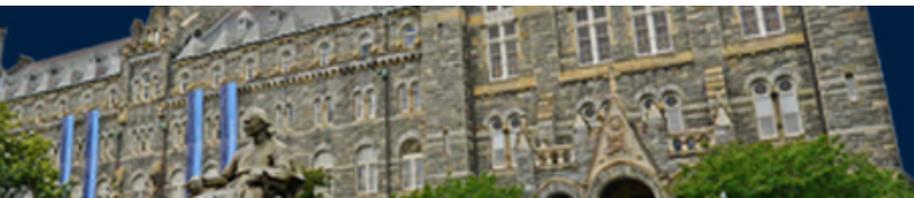
- 5 p.m. deadline submission
 - Proposals must be submitted by 5 p.m. local submitter's time.
 - New organizations will be required to enter time zone information when registering in FastLane
 - For existing organizations NSF will be pre-populating time zone information
 - In cases where time zone cannot be mapped accurately by NSF, organizations will need to update the time zone information on their organization's profile in FastLane
 - PIs should update the proposal coversheet to select applicable deadline information



PAPPG Changes Effective January 25, 2016

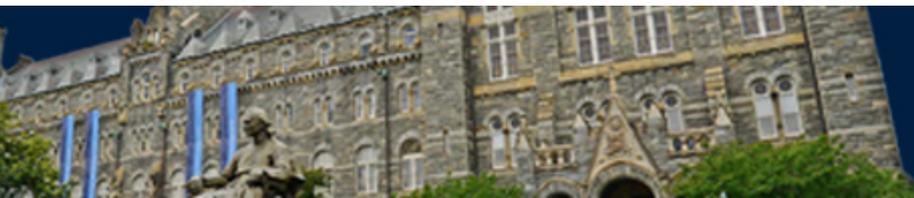
- Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) Submission
 - AOR signature will be required for the following:
 - Proposal Submission
 - Proposal File Updates
 - Revised Budgets
 - Proposal Withdrawals
 - Notifications and Requests
 - PI Transfers
 - Supplemental Funding Requests
 - NSF will no longer provide a 5-day grace period between the submission of a document to NSF and receiving an AOR signature
 - Sponsor Projects Office (SPO) representatives who do not have AOR permissions will not be able to submit documents to NSF.
 - Organizations should ensure a designee with AOR permissions is available to submit proposals before their respective deadlines through the FastLane Research Administration's Account Management module

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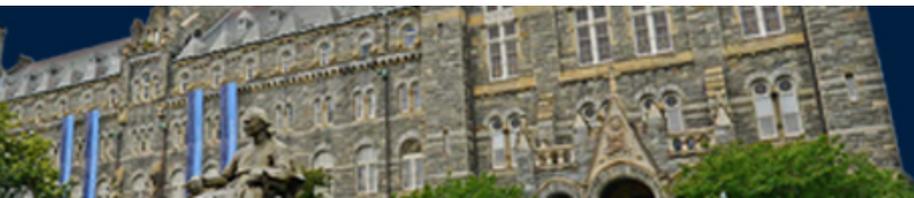


PAPPG Changes Effective January 25, 2016

- New Proposal Preparation Policies
 - Prepare a new single copy document for “Collaborators and Affiliations” for each Senior Personnel listed on a proposal
 - Add a new certification to the coversheet of each Dual Use Research of Concern (DURC)
 - Upload each Current and Pending Support for Key Personnel in a single PDF file or as text associated with the individual. These support documents can no longer be grouped together in a single PDF document
 - Upload each Biographical Sketch of each Key Senior Personnel as a single PDF file or as text associated with the individual



Feedback and Questions



Additional Resources

- Listserv to get updates on events and enhancements to Research.gov and/or FastLane:
mailto:system_updates-subscribe-request@listserv.nsf.gov
- NSF Public Access
 - https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/public_access/
 - NSF's Public Access Plan
 - FAQs Now Available:
<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2016/nsf16009/nsf16009.jsp?org=LIB>

