National Science Foundation (NSF)

Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE)

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About SBE

- 1 of 7 NSF Directorates
- Funds more than 50% of federally funded basic research in SBE fields in academic institutions
- Most of the funds go to peer-reviewed grants to individuals and small groups
- Also provides funding to major surveys; to collect data on the nation’s science and engineering enterprise
Social and Economic Sciences (SES)

- Decision, Risk, & Management Science
- Economics
- Law & Social Sciences
- Methodology, Measurement, & Statistics
- Political Science
- Science of Organizations
- Science Technology, & Society
- Sociology
Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS)

- Archaeology
- Cultural Anthropology
- Biological Anthropology
- Geography & Spatial Sciences
- Cognitive Neuroscience
- Developmental & Learning Sciences
- Endangered Languages
- Linguistics
- Perception, Action, & Cognition
- Social Psychology
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES)

- Nation’s primary source of data and analysis on the science & engineering enterprise
- Designs, supports, and directs about 11 periodic surveys, other data collections & research projects
  - Major surveys on innovation in business
- 30 publications yearly
- Congressionally-mandated publications:
  - Science & Engineering Indicators
  - Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering
Science of Science and Innovation Policy (SciSIP)
Science of Learning Centers (SLC)
Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Sites
SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (SPRF)
  - Broadening Participation
  - Interdisciplinary Research
Interdisciplinary Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (IBSS)
2013 NSF Themes for SBE

- Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability (SEES)
- Cyberinfrastructure Framework for 21st Century Science and Engineering (CIF21)
- Expeditions in Education (E²)
- Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative (CNCI)
NSF Major Investments and SBE

- Innovation Corps Program (I-Corps)
- Integrated NSF Support Promoting Interdisciplinary Research and Education (INSPIRE)
- Build on Core Programs to Support Innovative Science
Other SBE Priorities and Investments

- Cognitive Science and Neuroscience
- International activities
- Science of Learning Centers
- Science of Science and Innovation Policy
- Science of Broadening Participation
- NCSES research program
- CAREER
- Cyberlearning: Transforming Education
- Enhancing Access to the Radio Spectrum
SBE FY13 Investments in CIF21

- Community Development
- Access to SBE-supported surveys
- Advanced Computing Infrastructure
- Building Community and Capacity for Data-Intensive Research (SBE/EHR)
SBE FY13 Investments in SEES

- Water Sustainability and Climate
- Coupled Natural and Human Systems
- Sustainability Research Networks
- SEES Fellowships
- Sustainable Energy Pathways
- Decision making, coastal communities, vulnerability, and resilience
Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC):
- Fund research to enable a cybersecure society via the production of high-quality digital systems and a well-trained workforce.

SBE focus: To understand and, if possible, predict:
- Prevention, attack, and/or defense behaviors
- Design of incentives, markets, or institutions
- Motivations of individuals
Innovation Corps (I-Corps)

- Assesses the readiness of emerging technology concepts to transition into new products
- Brings together technological, entrepreneurial, and business know-how to move discoveries towards commercialization

SBE focus:
- Strengthen collaboration between social scientists and practitioners
- Improve social science students’ understanding of innovation
Integrated NSF Support Promoting Interdisciplinary Research and Education (INSPIRE)

- **INSPIRE** (second year pilot program)
  - Interdisciplinary and potentially transformative
  - Internal merit-reviewed by program directors
  - Open to all NSF-supported fields—no favored topics
  - Substantial funding; not limited to exploratory stage

- **SBE Focus:**
  - Support interdisciplinary research and training aligned with the SBE Transformed Portfolio, SBE 2020
SBE 2020 Themes

- Population change: family, migration, aging
- Disparities: health, gender, race and ethnicity, education and more
- Communication, language, brain, behavior
- New technology, social media and social networks
A Few Tips

- Check NSF Awards Database for funded projects in your field(s) – ask university SPO for help
- Get Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval early; at least have it pending at submission
- Monitor the progress of your proposal through NSF FastLane – do not contact your PO
- For FastLane issues contact FastLane Help Desk - do not contact your PO
- For budget guidelines, eligibility and other clarifications on program solicitation, ask university SPO for help before contacting your PO
- Contact PO for questions on suitability of your research project, review process and criteria, etc.
Read carefully the program description and/or solicitation
Email appropriate persons to ask questions, if any
Make sure your proposal complies with the program requirements
Submit proposal well before the deadline

Questions?
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Thanks!