Division of Environmental Biology Virtual Office Hour

PAPPG: Cracking the code – Understanding NSF policies and procedures that shape your funding opportunities

Please submit questions via the Q&A button available to you on Zoom.

Please set to "Send anonymously"

Welcome!
Division of Environmental Biology

NSF staff in attendance today:

- Jeremy Wojdak (host) – Population and Community Ecology
- Chris Balakrishnan – Systematics and Biodiversity Science
- Leslie Rissler – Evolutionary Processes
- Robyn Smyth – Ecosystem Science

Facilitators – Megan Lewis, Christina Washington, and Bill Lawson

DEB Virtual Office Hour

DEB Office Hours: second Monday of each month, 1-2pm Eastern

Upcoming Topics:

April 10: Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUI)

May 8: CAREER Solicitation (NSF 22-586)

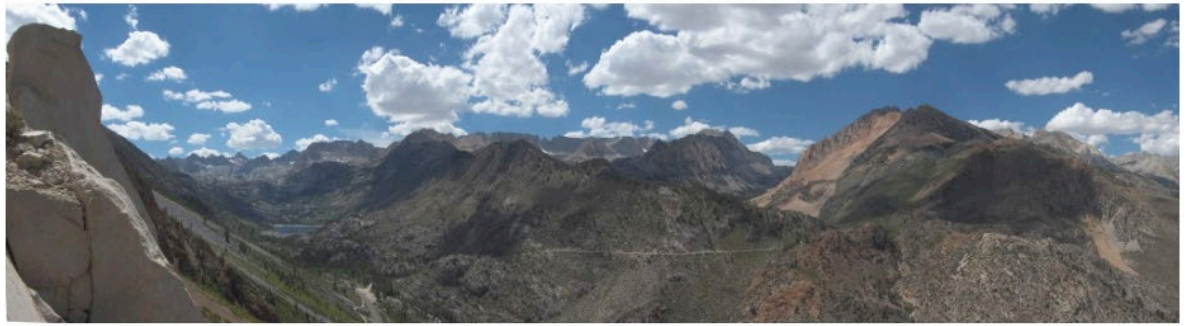
DEB Blog posts upcoming topics, registration, and recap posts

https://debblog.nsfbio.com/office-hours/

DEBrief

Blog of the Division of Environmental Biology, NSF

Home | DEB Resources and Links | Office Hours | About | Blog Policies



Office Hours

Join us the **second Monday of each month from 1pm-2pm Eastern Time** for the Division of Environmental Biology's (DEB) Virtual Office Hours. Representatives from each of the four clusters will be available to discuss specific programs and funding opportunities. There will then be an open question and answer period – questions can be on any NSF or DEB topic.

Join us remotely and bring your questions! Please use the registration link below to set up your

NOVEMBER 16, 2021 BY DEB SCIENCE STAFF

11/8/21 Virtual Office Hours Recap – Biodiversity on a Changing Planet

The Division of Environmental Biology (DEB) held its latest Virtual Office Hour on November 8, 2021. We host these office hours 1-2pm EST on the 2nd Monday of every month. There is a designated theme each time, but attendees are welcome to ask about other NSF-related topics. Program Officers provided an introduction to the new solicitation, Biodiversity on a Changing Planet (BoCP, NSF 22-508).The presentation and other documents are available here:

Slides (PDF)

PAPPG 22-1

If you were unable to attend, here are some of the questions asked during the Q & A section:

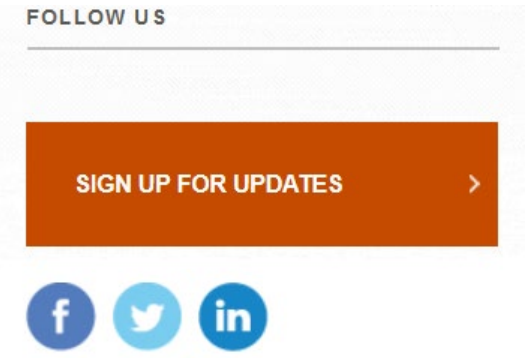
Q: Will proposals for the Implementation Track for BoCP be competitive if they are proposed by entirely new teams rather than previously established collaborations?

A: Competitiveness is about the quality of the proposal, as defined by the merit review

BIO Newsletter

Quarterly updates on new priorities and solicitations, highlights from the community, and more!

Visit www.nsf.gov



Volunteer to review:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DEBexpertise

Recent Funding Opportunities

Find links to all recent solicitations and DCL at the left side of the BIO webpage under Funding

Remember – Many BIO solicitations have no deadlines and no submission limits.

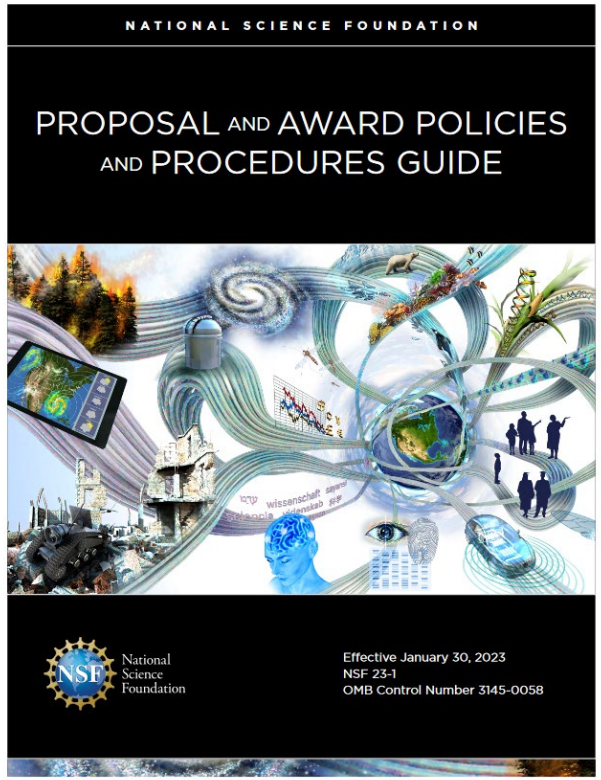
- NSF 23-549 – Division of Environmental Biology Core Programs - No deadline
- NSF 22-591 – Opportunities for Promoting Understanding through Synthesis (OPUS) – No deadline
- NSF 23-542 – Biodiversity on a Changing Planet – Deadline March 29
- NSF 23-546 – Incorporating Human Behavior in Epidemiological Models (IHBEM) – Window April 3 – 14
- NSF 23-557 – Global Centers – Track 1 Deadline May 10, Track 2 Window April 12 – May 10
- DCL 22-122 – Planning Proposals to Catalyze Innovative and Inclusive Wildland Fire Science through Diverse Collaborations
- DCL 23-055 – Bioinspired Design Collaborations to Accelerate the Discovery-Translation Process (BioDesign)
- DCL 23-066 – Announcement of Upcoming Topics for the 2023 NSF's Convergence Accelerator Solicitation
- DCL 21-021 – Career-Life Balance Supplement
- BIO 18-001 – Biological Sciences Temporary/Rotator Program Officer

New DEB Core Program Solicitation
NSF 23-549

- **Data Management Plan:** New guidance for specimen management.
- **IntBIO Track**: An Integrative Research in Biology (IntBIO) track invites submission of collaborative proposals to tackle bold questions in biology that require an integrated approach to make substantive progress.
  - must span two or more sub-disciplinary boundaries in biology
  - Projects suitable for review in a single existing BIO program should be submitted to that program (i.e. not IntBIO)
- **Small Grants:** Complete research projects, up to $200,000
- **Safe and Inclusive Work Environments** for off-site research

Check out the DEB Blog for more information

Changes to the Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG)



- **Chapter II.D.2.f(vi)(e), Subawards**, need to obtain prior NSF approval to change a subaward organization post-award.
- **Chapter II.E.5, Proposals Involving Human Subjects**, PI may conduct preliminary work that does not involve human subjects while the protocol is being developed or under review, consistent with organizational guidelines.
- **Chapter II.D.2.h(i and ii), Biographical Sketch(es) and Current and Pending Support**, have been revised to increase standardization and to require the use of SciENcv for the preparation of this document effective in October 2023.
- **Chapter II.F, Other Types of Proposals**, RAPIDS, EAGERS, etc. includes the requirement to submit a Concept Outline prior to the submission of a full proposal, with the Program Suitability and Proposal Concept Tool (ProSPCT) as an option for use in submission.
- **Chapter VII.D, Technical Reporting Requirements**, has been clarified to indicate when NSF required reports become overdue.

https://beta.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/23-1/summary-changes

PAPPG 23-1

Effective for proposals submitted or due on or after January 30, 2023

- **Chapter IX.B.1, Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research (RECR)**, now requires appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, faculty, and other senior personnel. The revised section also identifies that the content of the training must address mentor training and mentorship.
- **Chapter II.E.9, Safe and Inclusive Working Environments for Off-Campus or Off-Site Research**, describes the new requirement for the AOR to certify that an organization has a plan in place for safe and inclusive research for any proposal that proposes to conduct off-campus or off-site research. This section also provides considerations for plan development, communication, and dissemination.

Proposal Cover Page – last box should be checked

THIS PROPOSAL INCLUDES ANY OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW

- ☐ TYPE OF PROPOSAL _____
- ☐ COLLABORATIVE STATUS _____
- ☐ BEGINNING INVESTIGATOR
- ☐ DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES
- ☐ PROPRIETARY & PRIVILEGED INFORMATION
- ☐ HISTORIC PLACES
- ☐ LIVE VERTEBRATE ANIMALS IACUC App. Date _____

  PHS AnimalWelfareAssurance Number _____

- ☐ HUMAN SUBJECTS — Human Subjects Assurance Number _____

  Exemption Subsection _____ or IRB App. Date _____
- ☐ FUNDING OF INT'L BRANCH CAMPUS OF U.S IHE
- ☐ FUNDING OF FOREIGN ORGANIZATION OR FOREIGN INDIVIDUAL
- ☐ INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES: COUNTRY/COUNTRIES INVOLVED

  _____
- ☐ POTENTIAL LIFE SCIENCES DUAL USE RESEARCH OF CONCERN
- ☐ OFF-CAMPUS OR OFF-SITE RESEARCH

Proposal Certification Page – AOR signature

Certification Regarding Safe and Inclusive Working Environments for Off-Campus or Off-Site Research

(This certification applies only to proposals in which data/information/samples are being collected off-campus or off-site, such as fieldwork and research activities on vessels and aircraft.)

By electronically signing the Certification Pages, the Authorized Organizational Representative is certifying that, in accordance with the NSF Proposal & Award Policies and Procedures Guide, Chapter II.E.9, the organization has a plan in place **for this proposal** regarding safe and inclusive working environments.

AUTHORIZED ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE	SIGNATURE	DATE

Safe and Inclusive Work Environments Plan

Off-campus or off-site research is defined as data, information and/or samples being collected off-campus or off-site, such as fieldwork or research activities on vessels or aircraft.

BIO & GEO Pilot: Requires two-page SAI Plan for review

- Brief description of the field setting and unique challenges for the team
- Steps the proposing organization will take to nurture an inclusive off-campus or off-site working environment, including processes to establish shared team definitions of roles, responsibilities, and culture, e.g., codes of conduct, trainings, mentor/mentee mechanisms and field support that might include regular check-ins, and/or developmental events;
- Communication processes within the off-site team and to the organization(s) that minimize singular points within the communication pathway (e.g., there should not be a single person overseeing access to a single satellite phone); and
- The organizational mechanisms that will be used for reporting, responding to, and resolving issues of harassment if they arise.

Participating solicitations (to date) and due dates

BIO:

- Biodiversity on a Changing Planet (due 29 March)
- DEB, MCB, IOS core solicitations (no deadlines; proposals submitted after April 18)

GEO:

- GEOPAths (due 27 March)
- Cultural Transformation in the Geoscience Community (due 3 April)

Reviewers must evaluate plan within Broader Impacts criterion

- Is there a compelling plan (including the procedures, trainings, and communication processes) to establish, nurture, and maintain inclusive off-campus or off-site working environment(s)?
- Does the proposed plan identify and adequately address the unique challenges for the team and the specific off-campus or off-site setting(s)?
- Are the organizational mechanisms to be used for reporting, responding to, and resolving issues of harassment, should they occur, clearly outlined?

Summary – for proposals with data, information, and/or samples collected off-campus or off-site

1) **Checkbox on Cover Page –** marked if any off-campus or off-site research is proposed *(effective as of 30 Jan 2023)*

2) **Chapter II.E.9 of PAPPG – Safe and Inclusive Working Environments for Off-Campus or Off-Site Research –** new stipulation associated with AOR certification indicating that an organization has a plan in place if work proposes off-campus or off-site research *(effective as of 30 Jan 2023)*

3) **BIO and GEO Pilot –** 2-page Supp Doc that will be reviewed as part of the Broader Impacts merit review criterion of each proposal with off-campus or off-site research *(effective date depends on solicitation)*