



National Science Foundation

FY2022 Budget Request to Congress

TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND PARTNERSHIP DIRECTORATE

A defining moment

The Nation currently faces a defining moment. Global competition for leadership and talent in science, engineering and technology is at an all-time high. For the United States to remain the global leader, we must recommit to investing in people, fostering partnerships, and encouraging the innovative spirit that has been the source of our leadership over the past seven decades.

Scaling investments in technology, innovation, and partnerships

- The relationship between discovery-based, curiosity-driven explorations and use-inspired, solutions-focused innovations is part of NSF's DNA. NSF has been advancing technological progress for the past 71 years because it is already at the heart of everything the agency does. NSF stands ready to meet the demands of this defining moment.
- Since its creation, NSF has evolved to remain agile and responsive to national needs. Building on this robust history, the creation of a new directorate will allow the agency to continue to support innovation across all disciplines of science and engineering, at the speed that is required in today's rapidly changing landscape.
- The Technology, Innovation, and Partnership directorate will be structured similarly to NSF's existing directorates and cut horizontally across them to leverage ongoing research support and grow it at speed and scale, leading more rapidly to societal and economic benefits.

Strong collaboration across NSF

- The new directorate will closely collaborate with each of NSF's existing directorates and offices, as well as with other stakeholders in the Nation's research, innovation, and education enterprise to:
 - advance science and engineering research and innovation leading to breakthrough technologies as well as solutions to national and societal challenges, sustaining and enhancing U.S. competitiveness on a global stage;
 - accelerate the translation of fundamental discoveries from lab to market, strengthening the U.S. economy;
 - create education pathways for every American to pursue new, high-wage jobs, supporting a diverse workforce of researchers, practitioners, and entrepreneurs.
- Any successful initiative will require strong integration with NSF's science and engineering directorates with a specific focus on innovation, commercialization, and workforce development.

