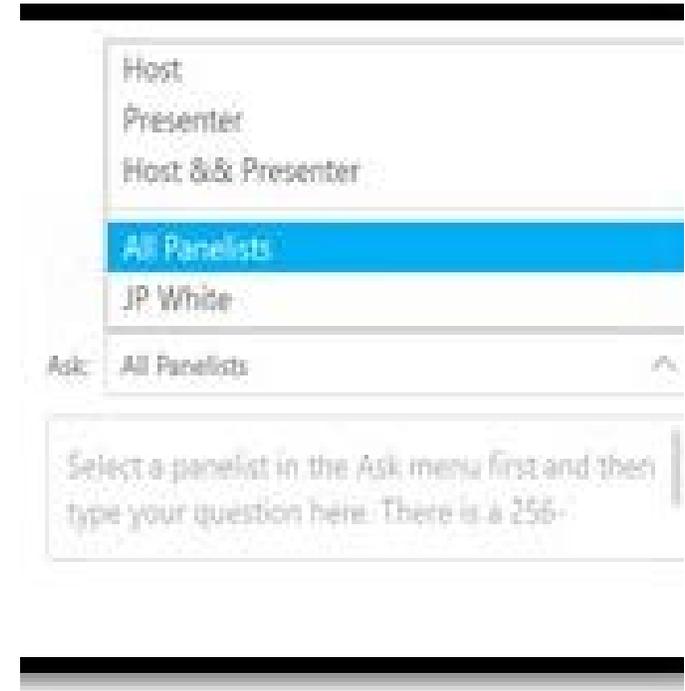


Convergence Accelerator Pilot
Dear Colleague Letter
Webinar
March 27, 2019



Webinar Administrative Logistics

- Attendees will be in listen-only mode.
- Use WebEx Q&A to submit questions to “All Panelists” for reply during the webinar.
- View real-time captions at:
<https://www.captionedtext.com/client/event.aspx?EventID=3947483&CustomerID=321>
- The presentation slides, webinar recording, and FAQs will be available at
<https://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/convergence-accelerator> as soon as available.



Overview of webinar

- What is a convergence accelerator?
- Timeline
- What happens during the Pilot's Phase 1?
- Tracks A1, B1, and B2
- How to submit a research concept outline
- Questions

What is a convergence accelerator?

- A new effort at NSF to accelerate use-inspired convergent research directed at solutions for important national challenges.
- Multi-disciplinary teams including academic and non-academic partners conduct work in phases, with approximately 50 Pilot Phase 1 awards up to \$1 million, then a smaller number of Pilot Phase 2 awards up to \$5 million.

C-Accel Pilot Timeline

**Phase 1:
Team formation
and research plan
development**

Research Concept Outlines Target April 15, 2019	Proposals Due June 3, 2019	Projects Start Q3 2019	Pitch Competition Q1 2020
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Blue Ribbon
Panel

**Phase 2:
Creating
deliverables**

Proposals Due Q1 2020	Projects Start Q2 2020	Deliverables Q2 2022
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What happens during the Pilot's Phase 1?

- 6-9 months in duration
- Build project teams and partnerships
- Create research and development plans
- Move towards proof of concept
- Cohort activities (training and collaboration)
- Pitch competition at end

Track A1

- Part of Harnessing the Data Revolution Big Idea
- **Open Knowledge Network.** Create a nonproprietary shared knowledge infrastructure, with a particular focus on publicly available U.S. Government and similar public datasets. Challenges include underlying representation of facts, services that perform reasoning tasks, and secured access. Domains include geosciences, education, smart health, and manufacturing.

Track B1

- Part of Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier Big Idea.
- **AI and Future Jobs.** Develop tools to link workers with future jobs, reflecting the need for reskilling and lifelong learning. Components include predictive AI, labor market analyses, and educational technology. May focus on particular industries or regions, populations, or types of workplaces. Ethical and fair treatment of workers is essential.

Track B2

- Part of Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier Big Idea.
- **National Talent Ecosystem.** Innovative approaches for employers to support workers seeking the skills required for 21st century work related to data science, predictive analytics, AI/machine learning, and other technologies of the future. Prototypes of learning environments, platforms, interfaces, or simulations, tools for analysis, assessment, or prediction, and vehicles for recruitment and engagement, with potential for take-up by industry.

How to submit a research concept outline

- **Target date: April 15, 2019**
- Email two-pager to C-Accel@nsf.gov
 - **Title.** Beginning with C-Accel Pilot - Track A1 (Open Knowledge Network), C-Accel Pilot - Track B1 (Future Jobs and AI), or C-Accel Pilot - Track B2 (National Talent Ecosystem).
 - **Project Description**
 - How the project idea requires researchers from two or more intellectually distinct disciplines.
 - Intended practical application or useful results and the timeframe for these deliverables.
 - Names and organizational affiliations of the proposed **team**, including designation of a **Principal Investigator**
 - How the multi-stakeholder convergence team includes, or will include, academic and non-academic organizations, including private sector entities.
 - How each team members will contribute to creating a bold research and development plan and advancing the convergence research
- Short response time for initial review. Invitation required to submit full proposal by June 3, 2019.

Thank you!

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