

National Science Foundation Update

EPSCoR Conference

May 19, 2014



National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

Presenter

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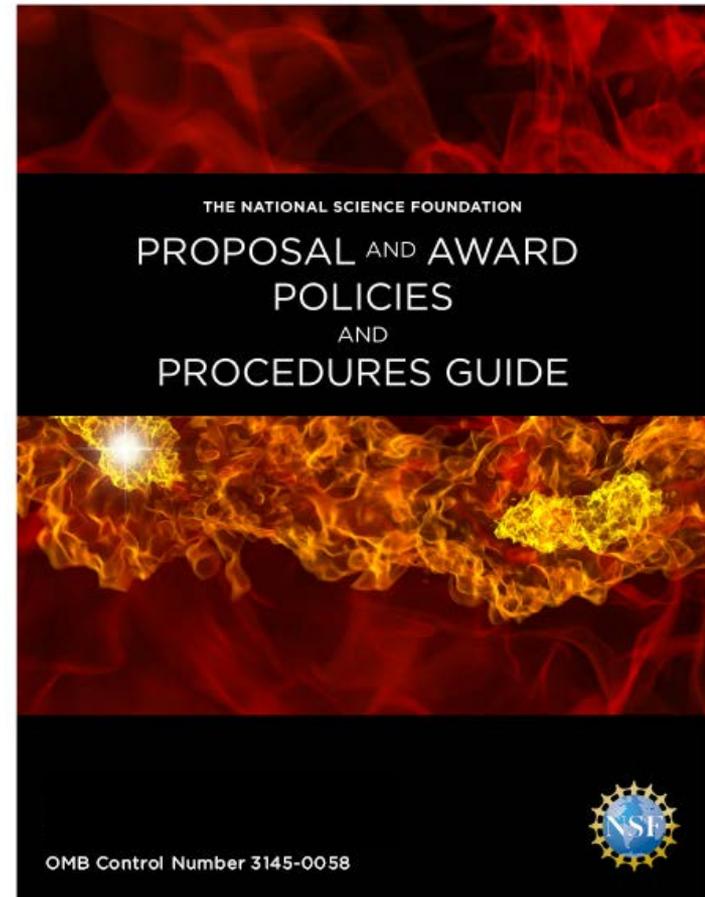
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Topics

- PAPPG Update
- Policy FAQs
- Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR)
- Award Cash Management Service (ACM\$)
- NSB Task Force on Administrative Burdens Update
- OMB's Uniform Guidance Implementation
- Research.gov Modernization Effort
- Q&A

Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG)

- New PAPPG effective for proposals submitted or due on or after **February 24, 2014**



PAPPG Changes

- Format of the Proposal
- Project Summary
- Participant Support
- International Implications -- now International Activities
 - Types Include: International Activities, International Conferences, and Work in foreign countries
- Cost sharing clarification
- Project Reporting – Not Cumulative

Automated Compliance Checking: What the Future Holds

- Currently evaluating existing GPG policies and procedures to identify where automated compliance checking can occur.
- Extensive outreach and communication will precede any further compliance checking changes.
- Spring 2014 solicitation-specific pilots

Results from Prior NSF Support

Results from Prior NSF Support (extracted from 92-89)

If the Principal Investigator(s) has received NSF funding in the past five years, information on the prior award is required:

1. The NSF award number, amount, and period of support;
2. The title of the project;
3. A summary of the results of the completed work, including, for a research project, its contribution to the development of human resources in science and engineering;
4. List of publications resulting from the NSF award;
5. Brief description of available data, samples, physical collections, and other related research products not described elsewhere; and
6. If the proposal is for a renewal of a grant, a description of the relation of the completed work to the proposed work.

Results from Prior NSF Support (extracted from 14-1)

If any PI or co-PI identified on the project has received NSF funding (including any current funding) in the past five years, information on the award(s) is required, irrespective of whether the support was directly related to the proposal or not. In cases where the PI or co-PI has received *more than one award* (excluding amendments), they need only report on the one award most closely related to the proposal. Funding includes not just salary support, but any funding awarded by NSF. The following information must be provided:

- (a) the NSF award number, amount and period of support;
- (b) the title of the project;
- (c) a summary of the results of the completed work, including accomplishments, supported by the award. The results must be separately described under two distinct headings, Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts;
- (d) the publications resulting from the NSF award;
- (e) evidence of research products and their availability, including, but not limited to: data, publications, samples, physical collections, software, and models, as described in any Data Management Plan; and
- (f) if the proposal is for renewed support, a description of the relation of the completed work to the proposed work.

Results from Prior NSF Support

- Confusion over what should be included in this section.

GPG states:

In cases where the PI or co-PI has received more than one award (excluding amendments), they need only report on the one award most closely related to the proposal.

- If PI or co-PI has more than one in past five years, they can choose the one that is most relevant.
- If PI or co-PI only has one NSF award in past five years they must report this award regardless of whether it's relevant or not.
- See GPG Chapter II.C.2d(iii)

Visa Costs

New Guidance regarding inclusion of visa costs is as follows:

Short-term, travel visa costs (as opposed to longer-term, immigration visas) are generally allowable expenses that may be proposed as a direct cost on an NSF proposal.

To be included on an NSF budget, they must :

- Be critical and necessary for the conduct of the project;
- Be allowable under the applicable cost principles;
- Be consistent with the organization's cost accounting practices and organizational policy; and
- Meet the definition of “direct cost” as described in the applicable cost principles.

Budget Justification

- Policy requires a budget justification of up to three pages per NSF proposal;
- If subrecipient is identified at the time of proposal submission, subrecipient budget justification must be submitted as part of the primary budget justification, i.e., you get three-pages for the entire proposal, including subs;
- System has been allowing multiple budget justifications to be submitted in excess of the maximum three-page limit;
- FastLane is working to resolve this issue.

Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) – Recent Enhancements

- 68,000+ project reports submitted via Research.gov
- Continuous enhancements to improve user experience
 - Pre-population
 - BibTeX Upload
 - Copy/paste Functionality
 - Demo Site
 - Video Tutorial

BIBTEX

RPPR – Key Points to Remember

- The reports are not intended to be cumulative with the final report being the last annual report;
- For separately submitted collaborative proposals, each separate component must report;
- Project Outcome Reports for the General Public **are still required**;
- Annual and final reports can not be recalled once an NSF PO has approved it;
- At this time, only PIs and co-PIs have the ability to work on and submit project reports in Research.gov.

Award Cash Management Service (ACM\$)

- New awardee payment service in Research.gov
- Fully implemented for NSF Awardee institutions as of June 30, 2013
 - Requires submission of award level payment amounts each time funds are requested
 - Eliminates quarterly Federal Financial Reports (FFR)
 - Implements monthly award financial closeout 90 days after the award expiration date (effective July 2013)
 - ACM\$ Info Page: Go to Research.gov, under “Our Services” and click on the link for “Award Cash Management Service”

ACM\$: Program Income

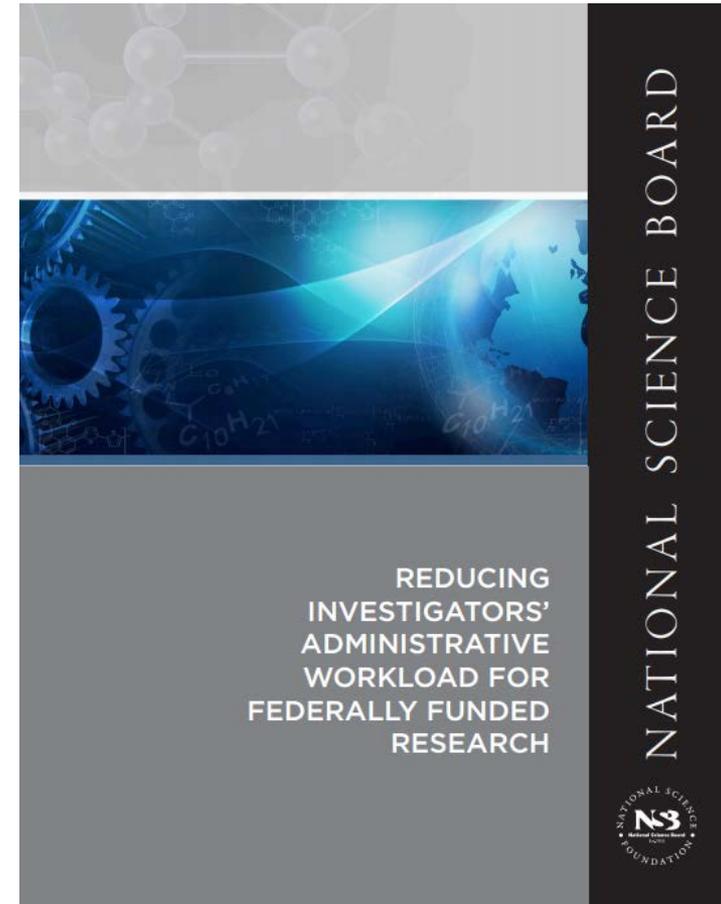
- Number of awardees reporting program income has risen dramatically.
- Awardees must report the amount earned and expended at the award level.
- Awardee organizations must submit a Program Income Reporting Worksheet to:
 - Report program income earned/expended
 - Validate that they did not earn/expend program income
- Effective March 2014
- For more info, see AAG, Chapter III.4b

Important ACM\$ Update

- ACM\$ goes off line for payments from September 18 through October 14
- Grantees will be allowed to draw sufficient funds to cover transition period (through 10/13/14)
- Beginning October 1, NSF will begin making all payments using System for Award Management (SAM) banking information

NSB Task Force on Administrative Burdens

- *Reducing Investigators' Administrative Workload for Federally Funded Research*
- *Recommendations*
 - Focus on the Science
 - Eliminate or Modify Ineffective Regulations
 - Harmonize and Streamline Requirements
 - Increase University Efficiency and Effectiveness



Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards “Uniform Guidance” Implementation: Key Dates

- OMB published Uniform Guidance on **December 26, 2013**
- Agencies are required to submit implementation plans, policies and procedures on **June 26, 2014**
- Guidance will apply to awards and funding increments on existing award made on or after **December 26, 2014**
- Visit cfo.gov/cofar/ for the latest information.

Uniform Guidance Implementation: NSF Implementation

- NSF submitted request to use policy document in lieu of regulation to implement the Uniform Guidance
- This request was approved by OMB on April 23, 2014
- NSF posted notice of intent to revise the PAPPG in the Federal Register on May 8, 2014
- Comments from the external community accepted until cob **July 8, 2014**
 - Uniform Guidance related changes highlighted in yellow
 - Policy Changes highlighted in blue
- Deviations from the Uniform Guidance requested in only two areas:
 - Limitation to two months salary compensation for faculty; and
 - Alternative to the Federal Financial Report.

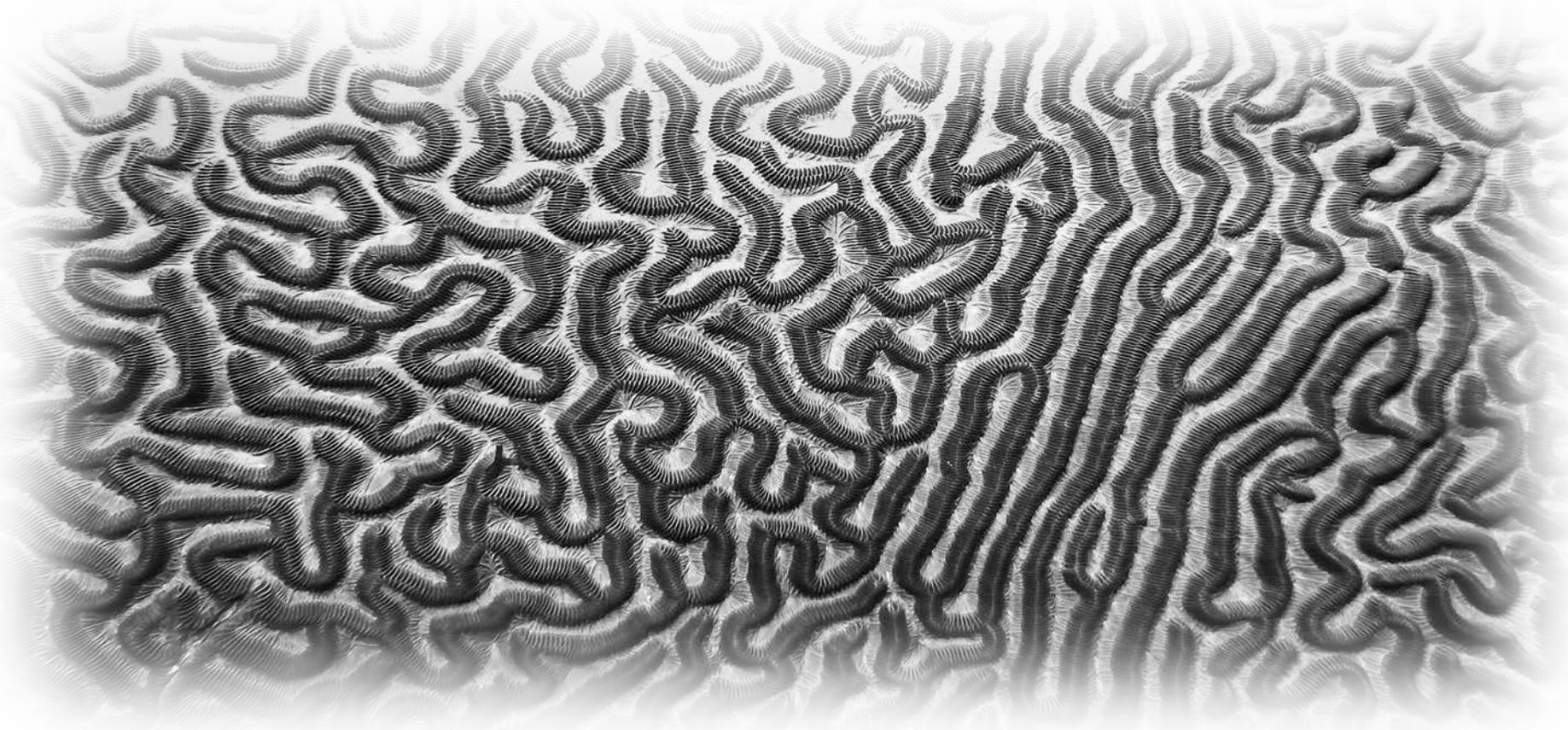
Proposed Policy-Related Changes in PAPPG

- NSF's electronic capabilities modernization status
- NSF closure in the event of inclement weather
- Ideas Labs
- Dual Use Research of Concern
- NSF's Risk Management Framework and the Decision to Award or Decline Proposals
- Process to Appeal NSF's Decision to Decline a Proposal for Financial or Administrative Reasons

Uniform Guidance Implementation: NSF Implementation

- Draft PAPPG
 - http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/papp/papp15_1/fedregdraft/nsf15_1draft.pdf
- Federal Register Notice:
 - <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-05-09/pdf/2014-10685.pdf>
- Direct Questions to: policy@nsf.gov

RESEARCH.GOV MODERNIZATION EFFORTS



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Single Sign-on Capabilities

- Researchers and SPOs can use their university-issued user ID and password to login to Research.gov via InCommon
 - 57 institutions are connected with Research.gov (30 more in the pipeline)

The logo for InCommon, featuring the word "InCommon" in a blue, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol.

- Single Sign-on between Research.gov and FastLane

Institution Profile Management

- New project to minimize effort of registering a new institution and maintaining institution profiles
 - Minimizes data entry
 - SAM as authoritative data source
 - Cleans up data
 - Updates registration process



Post-award Notifications & Requests

- Plan to migrate to Research.gov
 - Planning and development activities will begin in FY 2014
 - Improved navigation and workflow
 - Implement OMB's Uniform Guidance

Proposal Submission

- Planning activities began in FY 2014
- Evaluating proposal preparation and submission capabilities in FastLane
- Identifying process, data, and technology enhancements and phased approach to migrating functionality to Research.gov

Additional Research.gov Resources

- New Research.gov Listserv - System_Updates-subscribe-request@listserv.nsf.gov
- [Project Reporting Demo Site](#)
- [Online Help](#)
- [Research.gov Services Fact Sheets](#)
- [Project Reporting Video Tutorial](#)
- Research.gov BibTeX Video Tutorial – Coming Soon



For More Information.....

Ask Early, Ask Often!

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nsf.gov/staff

nsf.gov/staff/orglist.jsp