



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230

NSF 15-033

Dear Colleague Letter: Special Guidelines for Submitting Proposals - Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and NSF Opportunity for Collaborations in Gravitational Physics

February 27, 2015

Dear Colleague:

The pursuit of scientific goals recognizes no geographic boundaries and as such, international collaborations are today more the norm than the exception. To facilitate the support of collaborative work between US groups and their German counterparts, NSF's Physics Division (PHY) and DFG's Physics, Mathematics and Geosciences Division have recently signed a lead agency agreement that outlines a joint co-review process for projects in the area of Gravitational Physics. German researchers are invited to read http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/announcements_proposals/index.jsp.

International collaborations are invited to submit proposals in the areas described in the Gravitational Physics programs (<http://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=PHY>). These proposals will be reviewed in competition with other proposals received in the same submission window by one of the agencies which will serve as the lead agency. It is important to note that there are no separate funds available for these efforts through the Physics Division; proposals must compete with all other proposals within the program and must succeed on the strengths of their intellectual merit and broader impact. The result of the review process will be shared between the agencies to make final decisions on this basis. Support will be granted for those proposals with both DFG and NSF recommendation for funding.

PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

1. Prior to submission, applicants must discuss within their research team where they feel the largest proportion of research lies, and agree on a proposed lead agency (either NSF or DFG).
2. The eligibility to submit a proposal follows the regulations for the NSF and DFG programs for individual funding respectively. If in doubt, researchers are strongly encouraged to contact the corresponding program officers.
3. Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the proposal preparation requirements of the chosen lead agency via *Fastlane* (NSF) or *elan* (DFG). For NSF, the Solicitation [NSF 14-576](#) and for the DFG, the Guidelines Research Grants Programme 50.01 should be consulted. In parallel to submitting the proposal to the lead agency the partner has to submit the proposal to his/her funding agency (NSF or DFG) to provide the non-lead agency with the necessary information. In a short accompanying letter or email, the applicants should inform DFG and NSF about the chosen lead agency.
4. The proposal must include a description of the full proposed research program and research team and describe the total resources for the joint project (that is, the funds requested for both the German and US groups). However, the budget forms submitted to each agency should only indicate the amount requested from that agency.

5. The proposal should preface the title with "DFG-NSF:".

POINTS OF CONTACT

NSF:

Pedro Marronetti - pmarrone@nsf.gov - (703)292-7372

DFG:

Stefan Krueckeberg - Stefan.Krueckeberg@dfg.de - (49-228)885-2477

Karin Zach - Karin.Zach@dfg.de - (49-228)885-2327

Yours sincerely,

C. Denise Caldwell

Division Director, Division of Physics