



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
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ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230

NSF 15-048

Dear Colleague Letter: Innovative Uses of STAR METRICS & NCSES Data to Illuminate Science Policy

February 23, 2015

Dear Colleagues:

The purpose of this Dear Colleague Letter is to advise of funding opportunities at the National Science Foundation's Science of Science and Innovation Policy (SciSIP) Program for innovative projects using data from STAR METRICS (Science and Technology for America's Reinvestment: Measuring the Effect of Research on Innovation, Competitiveness and Science) or the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES).

STAR METRICS (<https://www.starmetrics.nih.gov/>) is a multi-agency venture led by the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. The objective of STAR METRICS Level I was to examine the impact of science spending using data from research institutions' existing database records. Access to the STAR METRICS Level I data is limited; however, investigators are encouraged to propose research studies based on similar institutional data. STAR METRICS Level II, or Federal RePORTer (Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tool), provides a searchable database of scientific awards from Federal agencies. Investigators may familiarize themselves with the details of the STAR METRICS data collection effort by reviewing information available online at <https://www.starmetrics.nih.gov/>.

NCSES, the nation's leading provider of statistical data on the U.S. science and engineering enterprise, collects data related to the science and engineering enterprise in the United States and other nations. More information is available at <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics>. An overview of available data can be found at <http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/NCSES/Datasets.pdf>.

The SciSIP program invites EARly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) proposals to develop research projects that use these data to examine the relationship between science funding, employment, and outcome metrics. This is not a new competition or a new program; interested investigators should first submit a one page summary of their ideas to initiate discussion with the program director listed in this letter by May 9, 2015. Upon approval, investigators may then submit an EAGER proposal to the SciSIP program via PD 09-7626. EAGER proposals should be prepared in accordance with the guidance found in Chapter II.D.2 of the NSF Grant Proposal Guide (http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=gpg). To be considered for funding this fiscal year, proposals must be submitted by July 15, 2015.

Questions should be directed to Maryann Feldman (mfeldman@nsf.gov).

Sincerely,

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