



**REVISION OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FINANCIAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS (CA-FATC)
EFFECTIVE JUNE 1st, 2007**

Effective June 1st, 2007, new NSF cooperative agreements and funding amendments to existing cooperative agreements will begin referencing and are subject to the Cooperative Agreement Financial and Administrative Terms and Conditions (CA-FATC) dated 06/01/07. The complete text of the CA-FATC (as well as other NSF grant and cooperative agreement policy issuances) is available electronically on the NSF website.¹

A comprehensive summary of the significant changes is included below. Any questions regarding these changes may be directed to the Policy Office, Division of Institution and Award Support, on (703) 292-8243 or by e-mail to policy@nsf.gov.

Significant Changes to the Cooperative Agreement Financial and Administrative Terms and Conditions (CA-FATC) Dated 06/01/07

- ◆ **Overall document** has been revised to incorporate references to the new *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide*. Previously, the *NSF Grant Proposal Guide* (GPG) was a standalone document which has now been incorporated as Part I of the new Guide. The *NSF Grant Policy Manual* (GPM) has also been incorporated into the Guide as Part II and has been renamed the *NSF Award & Administration Guide* (AAG). Previous GPM references in the terms and conditions have been updated with references to the applicable AAG section. In addition, references and links have been updated as necessary and minor editorial changes have been made to either clarify or enhance the intended meaning of a sentence or section.

- ◆ **Prior Approval Requirements, Article 3**, has been clarified to specify that all requests for no cost extensions must be submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in AAG Chapter I.D.3.c.(ii.), as well as a reminder that Grantee-Approved Extensions are not applicable to cooperative agreements.

¹ The Policy Office website address is: <http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/>

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- ◆ **Allowable Costs, Article 12**, has been updated with the most current references to the applicable portions of 2 CFR.
- ◆ **Payments, Article 13**, has been revised to more clearly delineate the process for requesting payments. It also makes it clear that the requirement to remit interest annually to the Department of Health and Human Services does not apply to awardees subject to the Cash Management Improvement Act.
- ◆ **Project Reporting Requirements, Article 15** has been clarified to indicate that the final annual report serves as the project's final project report; therefore, submission of both an annual and final report in the last year of the award is not required.
- ◆ **Expenditure Reports, Article 16**, has been updated to notify awardees that, beginning July 2007, they will have the option of submitting the NSF Federal Financial Report (FFR) in lieu of the Federal Cash Transactions Report. Further information on FFR implementation also is provided.
- ◆ **Patent Rights, Article 21**, has been updated to reflect that all communications required by the Patent Rights clause must be submitted electronically to NSF via the iEdison Invention Information Management System maintained by the National Institutes of Health, unless prior permission for another form of submission has been obtained from the NSF Patent Assistant.
- ◆ **Cost Sharing and Cost Sharing Records, Article 22**, has been substantially revised for consistency with the National Science Board's (NSB) revised cost sharing policy. Specific changes include:
 - Reiteration that the awardee must cost share in accordance with any amount identified on Line M of the NSF award budget;
 - Elimination of the statutory (1%) cost sharing requirement. In accordance with prior Congressional requirements, NSF required that each awardee share in the cost of research projects resulting from unsolicited proposals. The appropriations providing funds to NSF no longer contain this language and therefore, the statutory cost sharing requirement of 1% is eliminated.
 - Some prior NSF awards still contain cost sharing, so for those awards with cumulative cost sharing over \$500,000, an annual and final cost sharing notification (with an associated certification) must be provided via the FastLane Notifications and Requests Module. The notification must be submitted annually at least 90 days prior to the end of each budget period and, in the final year of the award, 90 days following the expiration of the award.

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- ◆ **Nondiscrimination, Article 27**, has been revised to state that, by electronically signing the proposal, the Authorized Organizational Representative is providing the requisite certification of compliance with NSF Nondiscrimination regulations and policies. The obligations set forth in this certification also apply to subrecipients, subawardees and subcontractors under the award. The awardee, therefore, shall obtain the NSF Nondiscrimination Certification from each organization that applies to be or serves as a subrecipient, subgrantee or subcontractor under the award (for other than the provision of commercially available supplies, materials, equipment or general support services) prior to entering into the subaward arrangement.

- ◆ **Reporting Classifiable Information, Article 28**, has been modified to remind awardees that NSF awards are for unclassifiable research that is publicly releasable and that the awardee will not be granted access to classified information. Should research results involve potentially classifiable information, the Principal Investigator should contact the cognizant NSF Program Officer.