

[NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide \(PAPPG\) \(NSF 24-1\)](#)

Significant Changes

The PAPPG contains the National Science Foundation's policies and procedures applicable to proposal preparation, award management, and award closeout. The changes listed below will be effective for proposals submitted or due on or after **Monday, May 20, 2024**. See the NSF's original [Summary of Significant Changes](#).

Proposal Font, Spacing, and Margin Requirements, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-2-proposal-preparation#ch2C2>

- NSF now allows for submission of proposal documents in a landscape format. "Paper size must be no larger than standard letter paper size (8½ by 11 **or 11 by 8½**)." (emphasis added)
- *Impacts PIs*

Biographical Sketch, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-2-proposal-preparation#ch2D2hi>

- NSF has implemented the [Biographical Sketch Common Form](#) developed by the National Science and Technology Council's Research Security Subcommittee.
- As a reminder, the Biographical Sketch must be prepared using SciENCv.
- NSF has removed the 3-page limitation for the Biosketch. There is no page limitation for this section of the proposal.
- Individuals must disclose participation in foreign government-sponsored talent recruitment programs, as well as any other foreign-government sponsored or affiliated activities.
- The PI, Co-I, or senior/key person must certify in SciENCv that:
 - The information provided is accurate, current, and complete.
 - The individual is not a party to a malign foreign talent recruitment program.
- Biographical Sketch no longer includes Synergistic Activities.
- *Impacts PIs and Research Administrators*

Synergistic Activities, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-2-proposal-preparation#ch2D2hiv>

- As of May 20, 2024, Synergistic Activities are to be submitted in a document separate from the Biographical Sketch, for senior/key personnel, as part of senior/key personnel documents.
- Synergistic Activities are limited to **one page and up to five distinct examples**.
- *Impacts PIs and Research Administrators*

Current and Pending (Other) Support, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-2-proposal-preparation#ch2D2hii>

- NSF has implemented the [Current and Pending \(Other\) Support Common Form](#) developed by the National Science and Technology Council's Research Security Subcommittee.
- As a reminder, Current and Pending (Other) Support must be prepared using SciENCv.
- Individuals must disclose participation in foreign government-sponsored talent recruitment programs, as well as any other foreign-government sponsored or affiliated activities.
- Consulting activities must be disclosed when any of the following apply:
 - The consulting activity will require the senior/key person to perform research as part of the consulting activity;
 - The consulting activity does not involve performing research, but is related to the senior/key person's research portfolio and may have the ability to impact funding, alter time or effort commitments, or otherwise impact scientific integrity; or

- The consulting entity has provided a contract that requires the senior/key person to conceal or withhold confidential financial or other ties between the senior/key person and the entity, irrespective of the duration of the engagement.
- The PI, Co-I, or senior/key person must disclose all in-kind contributions with an estimated dollar value of \$5,000 or more **and** that require a commitment of the individual's time.
- The PI, Co-I, or senior/key person must certify in SciENcv that:
 - The information provided is accurate, current, and complete.
 - The individual is not a party to a malign foreign talent recruitment program.
- *Impacts PIs and Research Administrators*

Definitions, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1#definitions>

- Contains definition of Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program (MFTRP)
- Activities that are generally **not** considered MFTRPs, unless funded, organized, or managed by an institution or program on a list within the National Defense Authorization Act FY2019:
 - Making scholarly presentations and publishing written materials regarding scientific information not otherwise controlled
 - Participation in international conferences or other international exchanges, research projects or programs
 - Advising a foreign student enrolled at an IHE or writing a recommendation for such a student at their request
- *Impacts PIs*

Seeking and Obtaining Tribal Nation Approval for Proposals that May Impact Tribal Resources or Interests, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-2-proposal-preparation#ch2E10>

- Proposals that may impact the resources or interests of a federally recognized American Indian or Alaska Native Tribal Nation (Tribal Nation) **will not be awarded** by NSF without prior written approval from the official(s) designated by the relevant Tribal Nation(s).
- *Impacts PIs and Research Administrators*

Mentoring Plan, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-2-proposal-preparation#ch2D2i-i>

- A mentoring plan must be included in a proposal if a proposal includes funding to support postdocs and graduate students. The inclusion of graduate students in the mentoring plan is new in NSF 24-1. The mentoring plan continues to have a one-page limit.
- Post-Award Additions of Postdocs or Grad Students, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-7-award-administration#ch7B5>
 - If a postdoc or graduate student was not anticipated in the proposal, and the proposal did not include a mentoring plan, but a postdoc or graduate student is added post-award, then a mentoring plan must be submitted to the NSF.
- *Impacts PIs, postdoctoral scholars, and graduate students*

Individual Development Plans (IDP) for Postdoctoral Scholars and Graduate Students, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-7-award-administration#ch7B7>

- Graduate students and postdocs who receive substantial NSF support (one person month or more during the annual reporting period) must have an individual development plan.
- IDP is required to be updated annually.
- PI must certify in the annual and final progress report that graduate students and postdocs have IDPs that map educational goals, career exploration, and professional development.
- *Impacts PIs, postdoctoral scholars, and graduate students*

Scientific Integrity, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-11-other-post-award-requirements#m-scientific-integrity-b09>

- NSF has revised its definition of scientific integrity and included it as the first paragraph of this section.
- *Impacts PIs*

Postaward Additions of Off-Site or Off-Campus Research, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-7-award-administration#ch7B6> (related to **Safe and Inclusive Working Environment for Off-Campus or Off-Site Research**, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-2-proposal-preparation#ch2E9>)

- If off-site or off-campus research was not contemplated in the original proposal, and then is added post-award (either through rebudgeting or supplemental funding), the recipient must develop and maintain a plan.
- *Impacts PIs*

PI Certification Requirements for Annual and Final Annual Reports, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-7-award-administration#ch7D1>

- PIs are expected to make attestations annual and final annual reports about the information provided in and accompanying the reports, as well as related to IDPs for postdocs and graduate students.
- *Impacts PIs*

Award Closeout, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-7-award-administration#ch7D4>

- If a recipient does not submit required reports within one year after end date, NSF must report failure to comply with terms and conditions in FAPIIS and may pursue other enforcement actions.
- *Impacts PIs and UW – Madison*

Organizational Certification Regarding Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-2-proposal-preparation#ch2D1d>

- Authorized Organizational Representative must certify that all senior/key personnel have been made aware of and complied with their responsibility to certify that they are not a party to a malign foreign talent recruitment program.
- *Impacts RSP Proposal Team*

Foreign Financial Disclosure reporting requirements, <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-7-award-administration#ch7D3>

- The reporting requirement only applies to direct recipients (specifically, institutions of higher education) of NSF funding; it does not flow down to subrecipients.
- Recipients must report gifts and contracts with an aggregate value of \$50,000 or more, from a foreign source associated with a foreign country of concern, including amounts received through intermediaries.
- Tuition payments for a specific student(s) are excluded, unless in the form of a grant, scholarship, or other form of financial aid conditioned on a specific criterion, e.g., student's country of origin.
- First report is due July 31, 2024 and covers July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
- Negative reports are required.
- *Impacts Business Services and RSP*