OSP Newsflash

Implementation of the revised NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (NSF 20-1)

May 22, 2020

NSF has decided "to delay the requirement to use NSF-approved formats for the biographical sketch and current and pending support sections of NSF proposals until October 1, 2020." Below is the message that was issued today.

Dear Colleagues:

On June 1, 2020, NSF will implement the *Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide* (PAPPG) (NSF 20-1) for proposals submitted or due on or after this date. The revised PAPPG implements a variety of changes and clarifications, the highest profile of which requires use of an NSF-approved format for the preparation of the biographical sketch and current and pending support.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing stress on proposers, the research community has not been able to adequately prepare and train their staff for the implementation of the new requirements.

NSF has therefore made the decision to delay the requirement to use NSF-approved formats for the biographical sketch and current and pending support sections of NSF proposals until October 1, 2020. Proposers must continue to format these documents in accordance with PAPPG requirements (see PAPPG sections II.C.2.f and II.C.2.h). NSF encourages the community to use these formats and continue to provide valuable feedback as we enhance them for future implementation.

Over the coming week, NSF will make updates to existing policy guidance, websites and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to reflect the change. NSF will communicate further with the community once these updates have been made.

Webinars covering the use of NSF-approved formats as well as all of the significant changes to the PAPPG are available on the [NSF Policy Outreach website](#).

NSF will continue to implement all other changes to the PAPPG beginning June 1, 2020, including the following:

- New requirement for proposing organizations to submit government-wide representations and certifications in the System for Award Management (SAM);

- New requirement for providing e-mail documentation of Program Officer approval for the submission of RAPID and EAGER proposals; and

- Clarifications to current and pending support coverage as well as other changes throughout the document.

You are encouraged to review the by-chapter summary of changes provided in the Introduction section of the PAPPG. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the DIAS/Policy Office at policy@nsf.gov.

Regards,
Jean Feldman
Head, Policy Office
Division of Institution & Award Support
National Science Foundation
email: policy@nsf.gov