

TIGER TIPS

RESOURCES FOR AUBURN RESEARCHERS

Significant Changes of the New NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG)

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has released a new Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) that is effective for proposals submitted or due on or after **January 14, 2013**.

In reviewing the proposed changes, the following are a number of the highlighted changes that would have a direct effect on the development of NSF proposals (PAPPG Part I, *Grant Proposal Guide*):

- **Chapter I.G.1 (Electronic Requirements)** has been revised to omit special instructions for proposals containing high resolution graphics.
- **Chapter II.C.2.b (Project Summary)** has been revised to remove language regarding the inclusion of separate headings to address the two merit review criteria. The Fastlane system will be modified to display three separate boxes in which proposers must provide and address the “Intellectual Merit” and “Broader Impacts” of the proposed activity. Note that the summary will still be limited to one-page.
- **Chapter II.C.2.d (Project Description)** has been revised to include a clarification that “prior” NSF support includes “current” NSF support. This section was also updated to indicate that information should be included irrespective of whether or not the support was directly related to the proposal, **OR** whether or not salary support was provided. In the past, the Project Description needed to include a description of broader impacts as an integral part of the narrative. Under the new PAPPG, the Project Description must now contain, as a separate section within the narrative, a discussion of the broader impacts of the proposed activities.
- **Chapter II.C.2.e (References Cited)** has been updated to specify that if there are no references cited, a statement to that effect should be included in this section of the proposal and uploaded into Fastlane.
- **Chapter II.C.2.f(i)(c) (Biographical Sketch(es))** has been revised to rename the “Publications” section to “Products” and to amend terminology and instructions accordingly. This change makes clear that products may include, but are not limited to, publications, data sets, software, patents, and copyrights.
- **Chapter II.C.2.g(i)(c) (Budget)** has been updated to describe a new functionality in FastLane regarding senior personnel and the budget. If no person months and no salary

are being requested for senior personnel, they should be removed from Section A of the budget. This change was made for consistency with NSF's cost sharing policy.

- **Chapter II.C.2.g(v) (Participant Support)** has been augmented with language explaining that an allowance for indirect costs associated with participant support costs may be established or negotiated in advance when circumstances indicate that the grantee could be expected to incur significant expenses in administering participant payments.
- **Chapter II.C.2.g(vi)(e) (Subawards)** has been amended to state that foreign subawards are not eligible for indirect cost recovery unless the entity has a previously negotiated rate agreement with a U.S. Federal agency that has a practice of negotiating rates with foreign entities.
- **Chapter II.C.2.i (Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources)** has been supplemented to indicate that an aggregated description of the internal and external resources that are, or will be available to the project (both physical and personnel) should be provided. A new format for submission of the Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources information will be available in FastLane when the PAPPG becomes effective in January 2013. The new format will assist proposers in complying with the NSF cost sharing policy. In addition, if there are no facilities, equipment and other resources information, a statement to that effect should be included in this section of the proposal and uploaded into FastLane.

More details regarding these changes, and proposed changes to the PAPPG Part II, *Award & Administration Guide* can be found in the new [PAPPG](#). If you have questions regarding how these changes may affect you or the development of new proposals, do not hesitate to contact the Office of Sponsored Programs or your college-level designee (as appropriate).