

TIGER TIPS

RESOURCES FOR AUBURN RESEARCHERS

Significant Changes Proposed for the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG)

The National Science Foundation (NSF) intends to release a new Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) in October 2012, with an anticipated start date of January 2013. This was formally announced in the Federal Register on May 25, 2012 and the comment period runs through July 12, 2012.

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 remove 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 provide two separate text boxes to address “Intellectual Merit” and “Broader Impacts” of the proposed activity.
- **Chapter II.C.2.d (Project Description)** has been revised to include a clarification that “prior” NSF support includes “current” NSF support.
- **Chapter II.C.2.e (References Cited)** has been updated to include instructions for use in preparation of this section of the proposal when no references are cited.
- **Chapter II.C.2.f(i)(c) (Publications)** has been renamed “Products” and updated 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(v) (Participant Support)** has been updated to emphasize that this budget category is eligible for application of indirect costs only when specified in the negotiated rate agreement.
- **Chapter II.C.2.g(vi)(e) (Subawards)** has been updated to clarify 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 the description of resources that are, or will be available to the project should cover both physical and personnel resources. A new format for submission of this information will be available in the Fastlane system when the PAPPG becomes effective in January 2013.

More details regarding these changes, and proposed changes to the PAPPG Part II, *Award & Administration Guide* can be found in the draft 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).