



2022 NSF
POLICY OFFICE
WEBINAR SERIES
Concept Outlines at NSF

Speakers

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Topics

- Types of NSF submissions
- Concept Outlines – NSF policy and requirements
- Program Suitability and Proposal Concept Tool (ProSPCT)
- ProSPCT Demonstration

Types of Submissions

- Concept Outlines
- Letters of Intent (LOI)
- Preliminary Proposals
- Full Proposals

Concept Outlines

- The Draft *Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide* (PAPPG) (23-1) elevates the Concept Outline as a new submission type
- Primary Purposes
 - Ensure the concept being proposed is appropriate for the proposal type/funding opportunity
 - Help reduce the administrative burden associated with submission of a full proposal

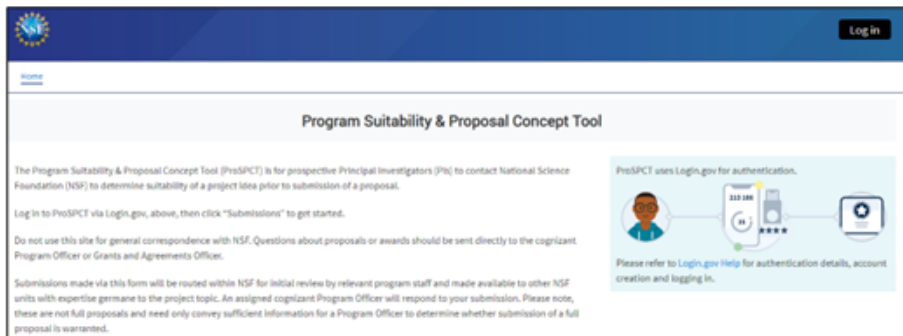


When to Submit Concept Outlines

- Types of Proposals in the PAPPG that require submission of Concept Outlines
 - Planning
 - Rapid Response Research (RAPID)
 - EARly-Concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER)
 - Research Advanced by Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering (RAISE)
- Funding Opportunities that require submission of Concept Outlines
- Concept Outlines also may be submitted at any time

Program Suitability & Proposal Concept Tool (ProSPCT)

- ProSPCT consists of a dashboard and webform to prepare, send and track the status of submissions
- Users must have a valid Login.gov account to access and use ProSPCT



The screenshot shows the ProSPCT website interface. At the top right is a "Log in" button. The main heading is "Program Suitability & Proposal Concept Tool". Below this, there are three paragraphs of text: 1) A description of the tool's purpose for prospective Principal Investigators (PIs) to contact the NSF. 2) Instructions to log in via Login.gov and click "Submissions". 3) A disclaimer that the site is for general correspondence and that full proposals should be sent to the cognizant Program Officer. To the right of the text is a diagram illustrating the authentication process: a person icon connects to a smartphone icon with a "Log in" button, which then connects to a laptop icon with a "Log in" button. Below the diagram is a note to refer to Login.gov Help for authentication details.

The Program Suitability & Proposal Concept Tool (ProSPCT) is for prospective Principal Investigators (PIs) to contact National Science Foundation (NSF) to determine suitability of a project idea prior to submission of a proposal.

Log in to ProSPCT via Login.gov, above, then click "Submissions" to get started.

Do not use this site for general correspondence with NSF. Questions about proposals or awards should be sent directly to the cognizant Program Officer or Grants and Agreements Officer.

Submissions made via this form will be routed within NSF for initial review by relevant program staff and made available to other NSF units with expertise germane to the project topic. An assigned cognizant Program Officer will respond to your submission. Please note, these are not full proposals and need only convey sufficient information for a Program Officer to determine whether submission of a full proposal is warranted.

ProSPCT uses Login.gov for authentication.

Please refer to [Login.gov Help](#) for authentication details, account creation and logging in.

<https://suitability.nsf.gov/s/>

The background features a repeating geometric pattern of light gray diamonds on a white background. Four triangular inset images are positioned at the corners: top-right shows blue plastic bags and a petri dish with green colonies; bottom-right shows a hand in a purple glove holding a petri dish; bottom-left shows a petri dish with green colonies and blue plastic bags; top-left shows a hand holding a pipette tip. The text "ProSPCT Demonstration" is centered in the middle of the slide.

ProSPCT Demonstration