



SPRING 2023 NSF

# VIRTUAL GRANTS CONFERENCE

JUNE 5-8, 2023

Image Credit: ESO/M. Kornmesser, Alexander Modys, Department of Geosciences, Florida Atlantic University, and David Baillot/UC San Diego

[www.nsfpolicyoutreach.com/23-spring-grants-conference](http://www.nsfpolicyoutreach.com/23-spring-grants-conference)

# Welcome Letter

*Welcome to the **Spring 2023 National Science Foundation Virtual Grants Conference**. We hope that you find the virtual conference sessions to be both useful and productive.*

*All the live sessions will be recorded and made available shortly after the conference. You will be able to access them on our [Resource Center](#).*

*Please let us know if there is anything that we can do to help make the conference a better learning experience. We appreciate any comments that you may have to help improve future events of this kind, Evaluation surveys will be distributed by e-mail. We also encourage you to send additional feedback by e-mail to [grants\\_conference@nsf.gov](mailto:grants_conference@nsf.gov).*

*Sincerely,*

*Jean Feldman  
Head, Policy Office  
Division of Institution & Award Support  
Office of Budget, Finance & Award Management*

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# Agenda

## Monday, June 5, 2023

**1:00 - 2:30 PM EST**

### **Proposal Preparation**

NSF staff will review how and when to prepare a proposal, including discussion of what constitutes a project and a proposal of high quality. Presenters will discuss do's and don'ts, recent procedural changes, as well as the various sources of NSF programmatic opportunities

**Speakers:** Jean Feldman, Head, Policy Office, Division of Institution and Award Support; Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management

Bogdan Mihaila, Program Director, Division of Physics; Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences

Eleanor Sayre, Program Director, Division of Undergraduate Education; Directorate for STEM Education

**3:00 - 4:15 PM EST**

### **Merit Review Process**

NSF Program Officers will discuss the philosophy of merit review and how it works, as well as ad hoc and multi-tiered reviews. Presenters will also cover the role of the Program Officer, timing of proposal submissions, reviewer selection, release of reviewer comments, and conflict-of-interest issues related to merit review.

**Speakers:** Ellen McCallie, Program Director, Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings; Directorate for STEM Education

Colette St. Mary, Program Director, Division of Integrative and Organismal Systems; Directorate for Biological Sciences

Karen Santoro, Assistant General Counsel (Ethics), Office of the General Counsel

## Tuesday, June 6, 2023

**11:00 - 12:30 PM EST**

### **Award Management**

This session will address award requirements and conditions and will outline the responsibilities of those involved in the award process—principal investigators, grantee institutions, Program Officers, research administrators, and agency grants officials.

**Speakers:** Liz DeHart, Grant and Contract Cost Analyst, Division of Institution and Award Support; Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management

Vanessa Richardson, Team Lead, Division of Grants and Agreements; Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management

Jeff Vieceli, Head, Systems Office, Division of Institution and Award Support; Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management

**1:00 - 2:00 PM EST**

### **Office of the Inspector General (OIG)**

Staff from the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) will discuss the roles and responsibilities of the OIG, as well as how it serves the NSF customer communities. Issues arising from current audits and investigations will also be covered.

**Speakers:** Jeremy Hall, Audit Manager, Office of the Inspector General

Dwayne Meadows, Investigative Scientist, Office of the Inspector General

Brian McCarthy, Special Agent, Office of the Inspector General

Matias Rosner Ortiz, IT Specialist, Office of the Inspector General

## Tuesday, June 6, 2023 (continued)

3:00 - 4:00 PM EST

### Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) – Proposal Submission Logistics

This session will include an overview of CAREER proposal submission logistics presented by a representative from NSF's Division of Information Systems. A demo of how to prepare a CAREER proposal in Research.gov, review of the system-related requirements in the CAREER proposal submission timeline guidance, and a Q&A segment will be included, as well as how to incorporate international components in NSF proposals.

**Speaker:** Stephanie Yee, IT Specialist, Division of Information Systems; Office of Information and Resource Management

3:00 - 4:00 PM EST

### NSF Financial Management Update

NSF's Payment and Analytics Branch, within the Division of Financial Management, will provide an overview of their financial management practices and operations, as well as new initiatives within the branch. Topics covered include awardee financial reporting and reimbursement responsibilities, best practices and frequently asked questions, recurring monitoring activities, critical fiscal year timelines, as well as new innovations in grant monitoring. This session will be helpful to both new and current NSF awardees to learn more about post-award financial activities at NSF.

**Speakers:** Dorothy Battle, Operating Accountant, Division of Financial Management; Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management

Justin Poll, Senior Accountant, Division of Financial Management; Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management

## Wednesday, June 7, 2023

11:00 - 12:00 PM EST

### Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE)

NSF's Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic (SBE) Sciences supports basic research on people and society. The SBE sciences focus on human behavior and social organizations and how social, economic, political, cultural, and environmental forces affect the lives of people from birth to old age and how people in turn shape those forces. SBE scientists develop and employ rigorous methods to discover fundamental principles of human behavior at levels ranging from cells to society, from neurons to neighborhoods, and across space and time. Such fundamental principles help us understand patterns of stability and change at the individual, group, organizational, and societal levels that can be applied to promote the progress of science and to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare. Through its various core disciplinary and interdisciplinary programs, as well as contributions to cross-directorate NSF investments, SBE supports approximately 5,000 scientists, educators, and students in a typical year. Understanding human behavior individually and in groups has far-reaching impacts from optimizing child development to safeguarding our troops; from exploring the origins of our species to finding our way with GPS; from understanding the state of the science and engineering enterprise to securing cyberspace.

**Speakers:** Betty Tuller, Program Director, Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences

May Yuan, Program Director, Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences

## Wednesday, June 7, 2023 (continued)

11:00 - 12:00 PM EST

### **Directorate for Technology, Innovation and Partnerships (TIP)**

NSF's newest directorate, "TIP," Technology, Innovation and Partnerships — creates breakthrough technologies; meets societal and economic needs; leads to new, high-wage jobs; and empowers all Americans to participate in the U.S. research and innovation enterprise. TIP is a unique opportunity that engages the nation's diverse talent in strengthening and scaling the use-inspired and translational research that will drive tomorrow's technologies and solutions. TIP brings together teams of researchers, practitioners, and users to shape research directions, catalyze iterative co-design and co-creation, develop game changing technologies and solutions to address the nation's societal and economic challenges, and grow the future workforce.

**Speaker:** Barry Johnson, Division Director, Division of Translational Impacts

11:00 - 12:00 PM EST

### **Directorate for STEM Education (EDU)**

The mission of EDU (formerly EHR) is to achieve excellence in U.S. science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education at all levels and in all settings (both formal and informal) to support the development of a diverse and well-prepared workforce of scientists, technicians, engineers, mathematicians, and educators and a well-informed citizenry that have access to the ideas and tools of science and engineering. The purpose of these activities is to enhance the quality of life of all citizens and the health, prosperity, welfare, and security of the nation.

**Speakers:** Ellen McCallie, Program Director, Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings

Eleanor Sayre, Program Director, Division of Undergraduate Education

1:00 - 2:00 PM EST

### **Directorate for Engineering (ENG)**

Research funded by the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Directorate for Engineering (ENG) has enriched the understanding of natural systems, enhanced electronics, fortified the nation's infrastructure and introduced the exciting possibilities of engineering to the next generation. Investments in engineering research and education are critical building blocks for the nation's future prosperity. Engineering breakthroughs address national challenges, such as smart manufacturing, resilient infrastructure, and sustainable energy systems. Engineering also brings about new opportunities in areas ranging from advanced photonics to prosthetic devices.

**Speaker:** Prakash Balan, Program Director, Division of Engineering Education and Centers

1:00 - 2:00 PM EST

### **Directorate for Geosciences (GEO)**

GEO supports basic research that advances the frontiers of knowledge and drives technological innovation while improving our understanding of the many processes that affect the global environment. These processes include the role of the atmosphere and oceans in climate, the planetary water cycle, and ocean acidification. Support is provided for interdisciplinary studies that contribute directly to national research priorities such as: understanding, adapting to, and mitigating the impacts of global change; developing and deploying integrated ocean observing capabilities to support ecosystem-based management; and understanding future availability of fresh water. Lives are saved and property is preserved through better prediction and understanding of natural environmental hazards such as earthquakes, tornados, hurricanes, tsunamis, drought, and solar storms. Basic research supported by GEO enables preparation for and subsequent mitigation of, or adaptation to, the effects of these and other disruptive natural events. GEO provides about 64 percent of the federal funding for basic research at academic institutions in the geosciences.

**Speaker:** Rebecca Gast, Program Director, Office of Polar Programs

## Wednesday, June 7, 2023 (continued)

1:00 - 2:00 PM EST

### **Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPS)**

The mission of MPS is to harness the collective efforts of the mathematical and physical sciences communities to address the most compelling scientific questions, educate the future advanced high-tech workforce, and promote discoveries to meet the needs of the Nation. The NSF Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences consists of the Divisions of Astronomical Sciences, Chemistry, Materials Research, Mathematical Sciences, and Physics, as well as the Office of Multidisciplinary Activities. These organizations comprise the basic structure for MPS support of research and education. The MPS Divisions support both disciplinary and interdisciplinary activities and partner with each other and with other NSF Directorates to effectively encourage basic research across the scientific disciplines.

**Speaker:** Bogdan Mihaila, Program Director, Division of Physics

3:00 - 4:00 PM EST

### **Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE)**

The mission of the Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) is to enable the U.S. to uphold its leadership in computing, communications, and information science and engineering; promote understanding of the principles and uses of advanced computing, communications, and information systems in service to society; support advanced cyberinfrastructure that enables and accelerates discovery and innovation across all science and engineering disciplines; and contribute to universal, transparent, and affordable participation in an information-based society. To achieve this mission, CISE supports investigator-initiated research and education in all areas of computer and information science and engineering, fosters broad interdisciplinary collaboration, helps develop and maintain cutting-edge national cyberinfrastructure for research and education, and contributes to the development of a computer and information technology workforce with skills necessary for success in the increasingly competitive global market.

**Speaker:** Ralph Wachter, Program Director, Division of Computer and Network Systems

3:00 - 4:00 PM EST

### **Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO)**

The mission of the Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO) is to enable discoveries for understanding life. BIO-supported research advances the frontiers of biological knowledge, increases our understanding of complex systems, and provides a theoretical basis for original research in many other scientific disciplines.

**Speaker:** Colette St. Mary, Program Director, Division of Integrative Organismal Systems

## Thursday, June 8, 2023

**1:00 - 2:30 PM EST**

### **NSF Systems Update and SciENCv Demonstration**

NSF staff will highlight updates to NSF proposal and award systems. Staff from the National Institutes of Health will demonstrate SciENCv for the preparation of the biographical sketch and current and pending (other) support information.

- Speakers:** Stephanie Yee, IT Specialist, Division of Information Systems; Office of Information and Resource Management
- Alexander Wilson, IT Specialist, Division of Information Systems; Office of Information and Resource Management
- Bart Trawick, Director, Customer Services Division, National Library of Medicine; National Institutes of Health
- Carol Radigan, Product Manager, SciENCv, National Library of Medicine; National Institutes of Health

**3:00 - 4:00 PM EST**

### **Proposal and Award Policy Update**

This session will provide an update to NSF policies and procedures that affect proposal preparation, merit review, and award administration.

- Speaker:** Jean Feldman, Head, Policy Office, Division of Institution and Award Support; Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management

# Acronyms

<b>ABR</b>	Accomplishment Based Renewal	<b>EO</b>	Executive Order	<b>OIA</b>	Office of Integrative Activities
<b>ACH</b>	Automated Clearing House (US Treasury)	<b>F&amp;A</b>	Financial & Administrative Costs	<b>OIG</b>	Office of Inspector General
<b>ACM\$</b>	Award Cash Management Service	<b>FAPIIS</b>	Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System	<b>OLAW</b>	Office for Laboratory Animal Welfare
<b>AD</b>	Assistant Director	<b>FAQs</b>	Frequently Asked Questions	<b>OMB</b>	Office of Management and Budget
<b>ADPE</b>	Automatic Data Processing Equipment	<b>FAR</b>	Federal Acquisition Regulation	<b>ONR</b>	Office of Naval Research
<b>AOR</b>	Authorized Organizational Representative	<b>FDP</b>	Federal Demonstration Partnership	<b>PAPPG</b>	Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide
<b>BFA</b>	Budget, Finance & Award Management	<b>FEMA</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency	<b>PD</b>	Project Director
<b>CAAR</b>	Cost Analysis & Audit Resolution Branch	<b>FIRS</b>	Federal Information Relay Service	<b>PHS</b>	Public Health Service
<b>CAFATC</b>	Cooperative Agreement Financial/Administrative Terms and Conditions	<b>FOIA</b>	Freedom of Information Act	<b>PI</b>	Principal Investigator
<b>CAPTC</b>	Cooperative Agreement Programmatic Terms and Conditions	<b>FWA</b>	Federal-wide Assurance	<b>PNAG</b>	Prospective New Awardee Guide
<b>CEQ</b>	Council on Environmental Quality	<b>GC-1</b>	Grant General Conditions	<b>PO</b>	Program Officer
<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations	<b>GOALI</b>	Grant Opportunities for Academic Liaison with Industry	<b>RAISE</b>	Research Advanced by Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering
<b>CGI</b>	Continuing Grant Increment	<b>GOE</b>	Government-Owned Equipment	<b>RAPID</b>	Rapid Response Research
<b>CMIA</b>	Cash Management Improvement Act	<b>GPO</b>	Government Printing Office	<b>REU</b>	Research Experiences for Undergraduates
<b>COI</b>	Conflict of Interest	<b>GSA</b>	General Services Administration	<b>ROA</b>	Research Opportunity Awards
<b>Co-PD</b>	Co-Project Director	<b>IACUC</b>	Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee	<b>RTC</b>	Research Terms and Conditions
<b>Co-PI</b>	Co-Principal Investigator	<b>IBC</b>	Institutional Biosafety Committee	<b>RUI</b>	Research in Undergraduate Institutions
<b>DACS</b>	Division of Acquisition and Cooperative Support	<b>IPA</b>	Intergovernmental Personnel Act	<b>SBA</b>	Small Business Administration
<b>DAS</b>	Division of Administrative Services	<b>IRB</b>	Institutional Review Board	<b>SBIR</b>	Small Business Innovation Research Program
<b>DCL</b>	Dear Colleague Letter	<b>IRS</b>	Internal Revenue Service	<b>SF</b>	Standard Form
<b>DD</b>	Division Director	<b>ISE</b>	International Science & Engineering	<b>SF LLL</b>	Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
<b>DFM</b>	Division of Financial Management	<b>LOI</b>	Letters of Intent	<b>SPO</b>	Sponsored Projects Office
<b>DGA</b>	Division of Grants and Agreements	<b>MREFC</b>	Major Research Equipment and Facilities	<b>SSN</b>	Social Security Number
<b>DHHS</b>	Department of Health and Human Services	<b>NEPA</b>	National Environmental Policy Act	<b>STTR</b>	Small Business Technology Transfer
<b>DIAS</b>	Division of Institution and Award Support	<b>NIH</b>	National Institutes of Health	<b>TDD</b>	Telephonic Device for the Deaf
<b>DOC</b>	Department of Commerce	<b>NSB</b>	National Science Board	<b>TTY</b>	Text Telephone
<b>DUNS</b>	Data Universal Numbering System	<b>NSF</b>	National Science Foundation	<b>URL</b>	Universal Resource Locator
<b>DURC</b>	Dual Use Research of Concern	<b>ODI</b>	Office of Diversity and Inclusion	<b>USC</b>	United States Code
<b>EAGER</b>	EARly-Concept Grants for Exploratory Research	<b>OGC</b>	Office of the General Counsel	<b>USDA</b>	US Department of Agriculture
<b>EFT</b>	Electronic Funds Transfer	<b>OHRP</b>	Office for Human Research Protections	<b>VSEE</b>	Visiting Scientist, Engineer or Educator



# Resources

## [Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide](#)

The Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) is comprised of documents relating to the Foundation's proposal and award process for the assistance programs of NSF. We recommend conference registrants unfamiliar with the PAPPG scan through the various chapters of the guide prior to attending the conference.

## [About NSF](#)

How much do you already know about NSF? Visit the organization's About NSF webpage to fill-in any knowledge gaps on the basics.

## [NSF's Big Ideas](#)

Since 2017, NSF has been building a foundation for the Big Ideas through pioneering research and pilot activities. In 2019, NSF will invest \$30 million in each Big Idea and continue to identify and support emerging opportunities for U.S. leadership in Big Ideas that serve the Nation's future.

## [Proposal & Award Policy FAQs](#)

Frequently Asked Questions on Proposal Preparation and Award Administration Related to NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) (NSF 23-1)

## [NSF Budget Requests](#)

The National Science Foundation's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request to Congress.

## [Submit Questions](#)

NSF wants to know what you are interested in learning more about at the Virtual Grants Conference. Is there a program or funding opportunity of particular interest to you? Are there administrative questions that often come up at your organization? Is there additional information you would like to know about NSF?



# Technical Tips

We will be using Zoom to host this year's virtual conference. We recommend that you verify the system requirements below prior to joining the virtual conference.

## Zoom

- Ensure access to Zoom
- Most recent version of Chrome, Firefox, Edge or Safari
- Operating system: Windows 7+, Mac OS X 10.9+, or Ubuntu 12.4+
- Zoom's Bandwidth Requirements are:
  - o Mbps up and down for single screen
  - o Mbps up 4.0 Mbps down for dual screen
  - o For audio VoIP: 60-80kbps
  - o For more information please visit Zoom.

## Other Tips

- It can help to close other tabs, browsers and programs while streaming the live conference. It also may help to hardwire your Internet connection, instead of using a wireless network connection.
- If you are having trouble hearing the webcast audio, check the volume on your computer and on your video player.
- If your computer screen freezes, please refresh your browser.

If you lose access to the event, please try to log back in before contacting IT support. All presentations will be recorded and made available in the [Resource Center](#) on the Policy Outreach website. On-demand videos will be made available shortly after the virtual conference.

## QUESTIONS?

E: [grants\\_conference@nsf.gov](mailto:grants_conference@nsf.gov)

W: [nsfpolicyoutreach.com](http://nsfpolicyoutreach.com)

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