

NSF Significant Changes and Clarifications to the Proposal & Award Policies and Procedures Guide

NSF-18-1

Research Administrators Forum
01/23/2018

Significant Changes Effective 01/29/2018

- **Who May Submit Proposals**
 - **Eligibility of international branch campuses of US institutions of higher education.** Definition of colleges and universities in Chapter I.E.1 has been updated to refer to institutions of higher education, for consistency with 2 CFR § 200 (Uniform Guidance). In addition, changes have been made to the eligibility requirements for foreign organizations. (*Chapter I.E*)
 - Special Instructions for International Branch Campuses of US IHEs
 - If the proposal includes funding to be provided to an international branch campus of a US institution of higher education (including through use of subawards and consultant arrangements), the proposer must explain the benefit(s) to the project of performance at the international branch campus, and justify why the project activities cannot be performed at the US campus.

Significant Changes, continued

- **Collaborators & Other Affiliations Information**

- information regarding collaborators and other affiliations **(COA) provided through use of a standard NSF COA template.** Footnotes have been added to address frequently asked questions relating to the new COA template. *(Chapter II.C.1.e)*

Significant Changes, continued

- **Project Description**

- modified to reflect that the **Project Description must now contain a separate section specifically identified as "Intellectual Merit"** (*Chapter II.C.2.d*)

- **Budget and Budget Justification**

- revised to **increase the number of pages allowed for the budget justification to no more than five pages per proposal. This change applies to budget justifications for both proposers and subawardees.** (*Chapter II.C.2.g*)

Significant Changes, continued

- **Grantee Notifications to NSF**
 - restructured to remove information on requests for NSF approval. In addition, Exhibit VII-1 has been deleted, as **coverage on grantee requests for approval from NSF is contained in the Research Terms and Conditions Appendix A and Chapter X.A.3. (Chapter VII.A.2)**
- **Prior Written Approvals**, has been updated to reference the **Research Terms and Conditions Appendix A**, which is the authoritative source of NSF prior approval requirements. (Chapter X.A.3)

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Link to Significant Changes and Clarifications

https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg18_1/sigchanges.jsp