



## ABOUT NSF

- Funds basic, non-biomedical research and education
- All fields of Science & Technology (S&T)
- Opportunities for all levels of education (K12 through experienced researchers)
- Organization: Research and education support through 7 directorates and 2 program offices, which are then further subdivided into area-specific divisions

### Directorates & Program Offices

[Biological Sciences \(BIO\)](#)

[Computer and Information Science and Engineering \(CISE\)](#)

[Education and Human Resources \(EHR\)](#)

[Engineering \(ENG\)](#)

[Geosciences \(GEO\)](#)

[International Science & Engineering \(OISE\)](#)

[Integrative Activities \(OIA\)](#)

Contact NSF Directorates and POs “EARLY AND OFTEN” to discuss your ideas

## APPLYING TO NSF



## WEBSITE

[www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov)

## ADDRESS

2415 Eisenhower Ave  
Alexandria, VA 22314

## MISSION

To promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national

## GOVERNANCE

As an independent federal agency, NSF’s activities are guided by the [National Science Board \(NSB\)](#), which also serves as a policy advisory to the President and Congress.



## Phase I: Proposal Preparation and Submission

### 1) Opportunity Announced

- a. Find a [funding opportunity](#)
- b. Contact a NSF Program Officer “**Early and Often**” to discuss your ideas  
*This is strongly encouraged throughout the proposal preparation process, but is especially important at the pre-proposal stage*
- c. Review [NSF FastLane application instructions](#) early in your proposal development process
- d. Search [NSF FastLane](#) for examples of similar funded proposals

### 2) Proposal Submitted

- a. Submit your application via [Grants.gov](#) or [NSF FastLane](#)  
*Follow the Proposal & awards Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG), as well as the solicitation guidelines when preparing your proposal for submission*

### 3) Proposal Received

## Phase II: Proposal Review and Processing

### 4) Reviewers Selected

- a. [Become a NSF Reviewer](#)

### 5) Peer Review

- a. [Merit Review](#)  
*All proposals submitted to NSF undergo a peer review process and use 2 criteria:  
Intellectual Merit & Broader Impacts*

### 6) Program Officer Recommendation

### 7) Division Director Review (& Decision)

## Phase III: Award Processing

### 8) Business Review

### 9) Award Finalized

## RESOURCES

- Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide ([January 2018](#))
- NSF [Proposal and Award Process Timeline \(pdf\)](#)
- NSF [Proposal and Award Process Description \(pdf\)](#)