

Quick Reference for NSF Grant Proposal Guide Update 14-1 for Fastlane Proposals Submitted Feb. 24, 2014 and beyond.

NSF PAPPG 14-1

General Clarifications/Changes:

- **Format of the Proposal**, has been revised to add instructions that, upon entering the proposal preparation module in FastLane, the PI will be prompted to select whether or not the proposal is a collaborative proposal and the type of proposal being developed.
- **Sections of the Proposal**, has been modified to include a list of required sections for a full proposal submitted via FastLane. The section also clarifies that, "*Not Applicable*" should be inserted or uploaded if the submission instructions do not require a section to be provided.
- **Submission of a collaborative proposal from multiple organizations**, has been supplemented to clarify required sections of the proposal for lead organizations versus non-lead organizations.
- **Proposals for Equipment**, has been revised to explain what information should be included in different sections of the proposal.
- **Proposals for Conferences, Symposia and Workshops**, has been augmented to explain that such proposals should include a description of plans to identify resources for child care and other types of family care at the conference site to allow individuals with family care responsibilities to attend.
- **Unfunded Collaborations**, has been revised to explain that any substantial collaboration with individuals *not included* in the budget should be described in the *Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources section of the proposal and documented in a letter of commitment from each collaborator.

Changes referenced by Proposal Section:

- **Project Summary:**
 - Clarification that a Project Summary containing special characters that is submitted as a PDF file in the Supplementary Documentation section must be formatted with separate headings for the overview, statement on intellectual merit, and statement on broader impacts.
- **Project Description:**
 - **Results from Prior NSF Support:**
 - has been amended to make clear that in the summary of results of the completed work, the accomplishments related to Intellectual Merit and Broader Impact activities must be separately described **under two distinct headings**.
 - has been amended to clarify that in cases where the PI or co-PI has received more than one award (excluding amendments) they need only report on the **one award** most closely related to the proposal.
- **Biographical Sketches:**
 - Biographical Sketch guidance has been updated to state that inclusion of information beyond that specified may result in the proposal being *returned without review*.
- **Products**, has been supplemented with language stating that, if only publications are included, the heading "**Publications**" may be used for this section of the Biographical Sketch.
- **Budget:**
 - **Participant Support**, has been revised to emphasize that indirect costs *are not* allowed on participant support costs.
 - **Other**, has been updated to include guidance on the allowability of visa costs on an NSF proposal, namely short term travel visas that are directly allocable to the project.
 - **Cost Sharing**, has been amended to state that, for purposes of budget preparation, the cumulative cost sharing amount must be entered on Line M of the *first year's budget*. Should an award be made, the organization's cost sharing commitment, as specified on the first year's approved budget, must be met prior to award expiration.
- ***Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources**
 - Clarification is provided that any unfunded and substantial collaboration not included in the budget should be described in this section. Letters of commitment should be obtained from each collaborator and attached as Supplementary Documentation (see clarification below).
- **Special Information and Supplementary Documentation:**
 - This section has been revised to move language regarding letters of support to be co-located with information on letters of commitment. Letters of *commitment* are allowable to document active collaboration on a project, while letters of *support* are only permitted when prescribed by specific program announcements.