

NSF PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

Introduction

Per the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010, this chapter, together with the Overview, contains basic information about NSF's mission and Strategic Plan, as well as NSF's FY 2018 Annual Performance Plan (APP), Major Management Challenges, and FY 2016 Strategic Objective Progress Update. Information about NSF's performance can also be found on the NSF site in the FY 2016 Annual Performance Report (APR), and the Performance and Financial Highlights Report.¹

The FY 2018 Budget Request highlights NSF's priorities for crosscutting investments and organizational efficiencies. NSF's FY 2018 APP underscores the agency's overall priorities through continued strategic monitoring of key program, infrastructure, and management investments. Together with NSF's longstanding performance goal to make timely award decisions, these performance goals provide the foundation of NSF's annual performance assessments. The FY 2018 APP also includes newer goals that focus on improving the quality of the reviews written by outside reviewers and fostering an inclusive culture within the agency.

Strategic Plan and Strategic Objectives

*Investing in Science, Engineering, and Education for the Nation's Future: NSF Strategic Plan for 2014 – 2018*¹ lays out two strategic goals that embody the dual nature of NSF's mission to advance the progress of science while benefitting the nation: *Transform the Frontiers of Science and Engineering*, and *Stimulate Innovation and Address Societal Needs through Research and Education*. A third goal, *Excel as a Federal Science Agency*, directs NSF to hold itself accountable for achieving excellence in carrying out its mission. This goal structure enables NSF to link its investments to longer-term outcomes. NSF is in the process of developing a new Strategic Plan to begin in FY 2018.

¹ www.nsf.gov/about/performance