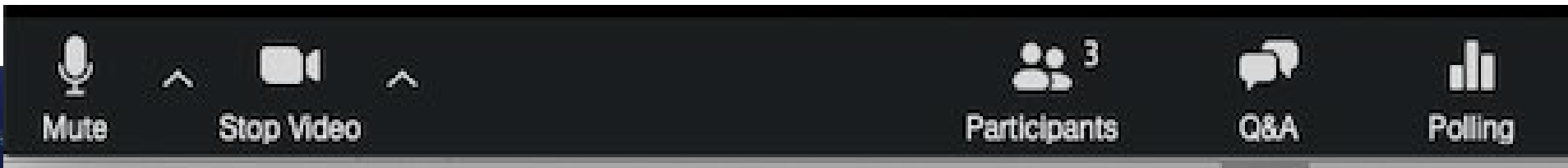
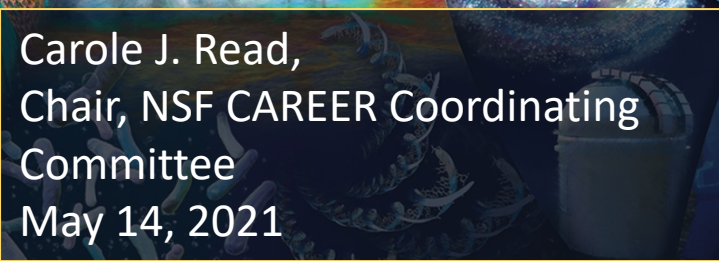


# Webinar Administrative Logistics

- Attendees will be in listen-only mode during the webinar.
- View real-time captions during the webinar at URL:
  - May 14, 2021: <https://www.captionedtext.com/client/event.aspx?EventID=4767924&Customer...>  
Confirmation ID: 4767924
  - May 20, 2021: <https://www.captionedtext.com/client/event.aspx?EventID=4767926&Customer...>  
Confirmation ID: 4767926
- Webinar recording and slides will be available on CAREER Homepage  
[https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=503214](https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503214).
- For specific questions about your project, contact your Program Director.
- Click the Zoom Q&A button to submit questions, comments, and/or concerns for reply during the webinar.









# Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program (NSF 20-525): Goals

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- “A Foundation-wide activity that offers the National Science Foundation’s most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty who have the potential to serve as **academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the mission of their department or organization.**”
- “Activities pursued by early-career faculty should build a firm foundation for a **lifetime of leadership in integrating education and research.**”





# Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program (NSF 20-525)

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- **Next Deadline:** July 26, 2021, 5pm local time, Independent of NSF Division or Program
- **Future Years:**
  - Fourth Monday in July, Annually Thereafter
- **FAQs Document NSF 20-025:** [www.nsf.gov/career](http://www.nsf.gov/career)





# CAREER or Regular proposal?

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- CAREER proposals are ***single-PI*** projects that include research and education activities that are integrated, innovative, and ambitious
- CAREER proposals require a letter of support from the Department Chair
- The CAREER program's aims are lofty – CAREER awards are a lot of work
- Are you at the right stage in your career to undertake the commitments of a CAREER award?
- Have you discussed your ideas with mentors / peers / program directors?
- Have you demonstrated commitment to both research and education?





# Investigator Eligibility Criteria

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- Hold a doctoral degree by proposal deadline
- Be untenured and employed in an at least 50% tenure-track (or tenure-track-equivalent) assistant professor (or equivalent title) position at an eligible institution as of the annual deadline
- Have both research and educational responsibilities at the eligible institution
- Have not previously received a CAREER award
- Have not had more than two CAREER proposals reviewed previously
- Eligibility certified in Departmental Letter





# Investigator Eligibility Criteria-Non Tenure

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- Any non-tenure track faculty is potentially eligible
- Adjunct faculty not eligible
- Continuing appointment that is expected to last the five years of the CAREER award
- Appointment has substantial research and educational goals
- Early career equivalent to pre-tenure
- All other eligibility requirements also apply
- Eligibility certified in Departmental Letter





# Departmental Letter (2 pages)

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- Statement indicating the PI's eligibility for the CAREER program
- Description of how the PI's career goals and responsibilities mesh with that of the organization and department
- Commitment to the PI's proposed CAREER research and education activities
- Description of how the department will contribute to the professional development of the PI with mentoring and whatever is needed to further the PI's efforts to integrate research and education





# CAREER Personnel and Budgets

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- Co-PIs on cover sheet are not allowed
- Request for support of other senior personnel, consultants, or sub-awards is allowed, commensurate with a limited role in the project
- International activities are encouraged and may be supported by the Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE)
- Programs may support buy-out of academic year time for teaching-intensive institutions (check with your Program Director)
- Programs may or may not prefer to make awards with budget close to the anticipated minimum size (check with your Program Director)





# CAREER varies across NSF

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- CAREER proposals are submitted to, and reviewed by, one or more of the disciplinary research programs
- Typical award sizes vary according to Directorate/Division/Program
- Expectations for scope of research and education activities vary with disciplinary community norms
- Contact relevant Program Directors to discuss your ideas and seek more information. If need help to identify a suitable program, contact Division Contact(s) - <http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/career/contacts.jsp>
- For interdisciplinary proposals, contact all relevant Program Directors or Division Contacts





# Merit Review of CAREER varies across NSF

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- Ad hoc & Panel (review with other proposals under consideration by the disciplinary program):
  - most of GEO (AGS uses ad hoc only)
  - BIO and SBE
- Primarily dedicated CAREER Panels :
  - ENG, CISE, EHR
- MPS varies by Division:
  - AST : Panel only
  - CHE, DMR – Mix of ad hoc & panels
  - DMS – Mostly panel
  - PHY – Mostly ad hoc





# CAREER Proposal Criteria

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- Evaluated using NSF's two merit review criteria:
  - What is the intellectual merit of the proposed activity?
  - What are the broader impacts of the proposed activity?
- Additional Consideration for CAREER proposals
  - Integration of Research and Education





# NSF Merit Review Criteria

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The following elements should be considered for **INTELLECTUAL MERIT** and **BROADER IMPACTS**

1. What is the potential for the proposed activity to:
  - a) **INTELLECTUAL MERIT:** Potential to advance knowledge; and
  - b) **BROADER IMPACTS:** Potential to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes
2. To what extent do the proposed activities suggest and explore creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts?
3. Is the plan for carrying out the proposed activities well-reasoned, well organized, and based on a sound rationale? Does the plan incorporate a mechanism to assess success?
4. How well qualified is the individual, team, or institution to conduct the proposed activities?
5. Are there adequate resources available to the PI (either at the home institution or through collaborations) to carry out the proposed activities?





# Integration of Research and Education

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- All CAREER proposals must have an integrated research and education plan at their core.
- NSF recognizes that there is no single approach to an integrated research and education plan; but encourages all applicants to think creatively about how their research will impact their education goals and, conversely, how their education activities will feed back into their research.
- These plans should reflect the proposer's own disciplinary and educational interests and goals, as well as the needs and context of his or her organization.
- Because there may be different expectations within different disciplinary fields and/or different organizations, a wide range of research and education activities may be appropriate for the CAREER program





# Finding a research home

- Are you proposing scientific research?
- No?
  - Look for support from other sources
- Yes?
  - Your research objective determines the NSF program fit, not the application of your research results.
- Be prepared to answer the question: “What is your research objective?” in 25 words or less to help form your topic area
- Check out the CAREER program contacts page:

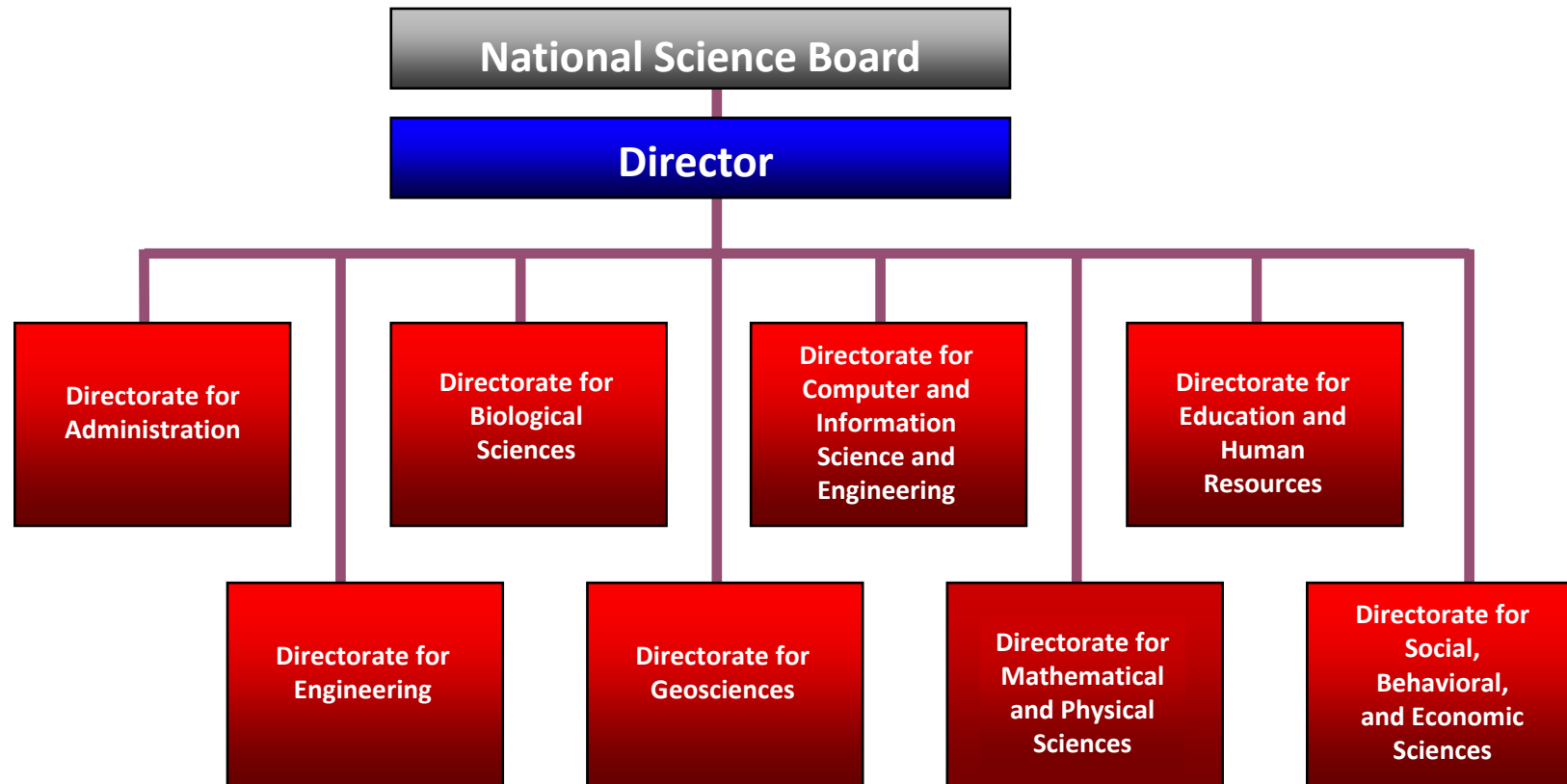
<https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/career/contacts.jsp>





# NSF is Organized Around Research Topics

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# The Next Step: You submit to a program

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- Look at NSF's web site: [www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov) and [www.nsf.gov/funding](http://www.nsf.gov/funding)
  - Check out research programs
  - Read what research topics they support
  - Abstracts for recent awards
  - Workshop reports
- Not sure who to contact with idea? Check out the division and directorate CAREER Contacts:  
<https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/career/contacts.jsp>





# Award Search Capabilities

<http://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch>

NSF Award Search: Advanced Search - Internet Explorer

https://www.nsf.gov/awar... Nation... NSF Award Search: Advan... x

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Play Daily Crossword - Th... Log In - NSF Wiki Home - Executive Develo... IPA Performance Manage... Microsoft Forefront TMG Employee Express - Home... Suggested Sites

### Awards Advanced Search

[Overview of Award Search Features](#)

#### Awardee Information

Principal Investigator First Name

Principal Investigator Last Name

☐ Include Co-Principal Investigator in name search

Organization

State

Zip Code

Country

#### Program Information

NSF Organization

Element Code

☐ Any ☒ All

Reference Code

☐ Any ☒ All

HINT: The "Program" box searches both program element and program reference names and codes.

Program

Program Officer

#### Additional Information

Keyword

HINT: The Keyword field searches on the title and abstract only.

☐ Search Award Title Only

Award Number

From  To

Award Amount

Award Instrument

HINT: Data prior to 1976 may be less complete.

☒ Active Awards ☐ Expired Awards

Original Award Date  From  To

Start Date  From  To

End Date  From  To

Search Reset









# Suggested Proposal Submission Timeline

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- It is important to communicate with your sponsored research office (SRO) on their timeline for submitting your proposal to plan your timeline
- In the solicitation 20-525 refer to Section V. PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS and review the suggested proposal submission timeline document
- The document gives guidance on common questions on submitting via Fastlane, Research.gov, and Grants.gov

[https://www.research.gov/common/attachment/Common/Career\\_deadline.pdf](https://www.research.gov/common/attachment/Common/Career_deadline.pdf)





# Suggested Proposal Submission Timeline

10 days	Friday, July 16, 2021	<b>Submit CAREER proposal through Grants.gov</b>	Proposals submitted via Grants.gov must go through additional processing before they are accepted at NSF. For this reason, if submitting via Grants.gov, we recommend allowing extra time to resolve any system errors and avoid high volume delays at the NSF Help Desk if problems arise.
7 days	Monday, July 19, 2021	<b>Submit CAREER proposal through Research.gov or FastLane</b>	Aim to submit your proposal by this date to allow time to resolve any system errors in advance of the deadline and avoid high volume delays at the NSF Help Desk. Print the file to a PDF and view it online to make sure the correct version was submitted. Corrections are automatically accepted before the deadline.
0 days	Monday, July 26, 2021	<b>Proposal submission deadline</b>	Proposals are due by 5 p.m. submitter's local time. Proposals that arrive after the deadline will be returned without review.

[https://www.research.gov/common/attachment/Common/Career\\_deadline.pdf](https://www.research.gov/common/attachment/Common/Career_deadline.pdf)





# We encourage you to contact Program Directors

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- Email the appropriate program director(s) and ask if your research project fits their program
  - One-page summary (preferred)
- Your program director can:
  - Confirm program fit
  - Give advice on common proposal preparation errors
  - Help you understand the review of a previous proposal
  - Point you to resources you can use to help write a better proposal next time
  - Give general guidance on good proposal writing





# Take home: Proposal Basics

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- Your proposal will be evaluated by the reviewers
- Reviewers need to know just a few things:
  - What is it about (the research objective)?
  - How will you do it (the technical approach)?
  - Can you do it (you and your facilities)?
  - Is it worth doing (intellectual merit and broader impacts)?
  - Will the effort provide a firm foundation for your career plans (integration of education and research)?
- This is, basically, all the proposal needs to convey – but it needs to convey this





# CAREER Proposal Ingredients

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- An integrated plan for research and education, ambitious but feasible
- Compelling argument that project will achieve effective integration of or synergy between research and education activities
- Departmental Letter demonstrating commitment to the career development of the investigator
- A budget that is consistent with the scope of the research and education activities





# Volunteer to Be a Reviewer

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- Proposal review is an important service to your community
- There's no better way to see how the system works
- There's no better way to understand what makes a proposal compelling



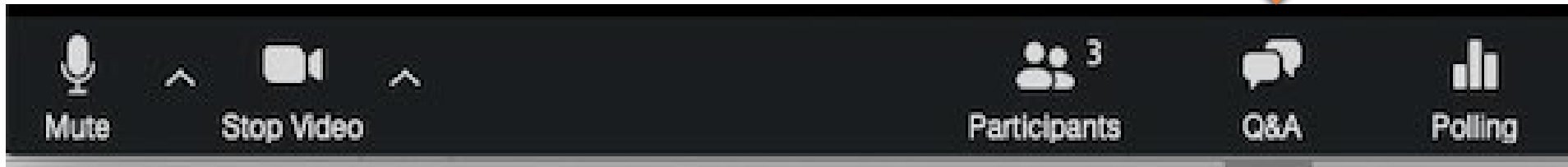




# Questions?

Cassandra Cox, [ccox@associates.nsf.gov](mailto:ccox@associates.nsf.gov)

Carole Read, [cread@nsf.gov](mailto:cread@nsf.gov)



# CAREER PROPOSAL SUBMISSION LOGISTICS WEBINAR

**May 19, 2021 3pm to 4:30 pm eastern**

**Sign up on CAREER Webpage:**

[https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=503214](https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503214)

