



# Presentation Outline

1. Common myths about NSF funding
2. Prospective PI Preparation Timeline
3. Review of the Program



# Common myths about NSF funding

1. NSF only funds scholars at elite institutions
2. NSF only funds (students of) “famous” academics
3. Once declined, always declined
4. Advisory committees make funding decisions
5. NSF is only interested in quantitative approaches
6. Qualitative and quantitative approaches are mutually exclusive
7. NSF proposals must have hypotheses



# Preparation timeline for prospective students



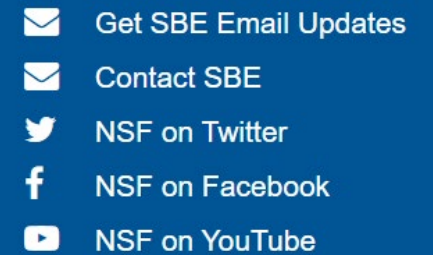
- Not exhaustive
- Not meant to be a rigid schedule



# Get to know the “language of NSF”...

## 1. Find **copies of proposals** – both funded and unfunded

- NSF cannot provide these
- Read them alongside a relevant solicitation



## 2. Sign up for **SBE email updates**



# While developing your research ideas...



1. Read the **NSF 101** blog series
2. Get to know your **SRO** & the process of submitting grants at your institution, including ethical approvals
  - Understand your institution's workflow process
3. Identify what makes your research idea **unique** and consider how to best convey this in your proposal
4. Read program descriptions to determine **best fit** for your research

1 year  
before  
applying



6 months  
before  
applying



3 months  
before  
applying



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## Funding Search

All Fields ▾

A magnifying glass icon inside a blue square button.

An information icon inside a blue square button.

**628** results

[Export Results .csv](#)

### Filter:

Limited Submissions ▾

Award Type ▾

Advancing Diversity ▾

Directorate ▾

Division ▾

Education Level ▾

☐ Show only NSF-wide/cross-directorate opportunities (73)



# Explore program page

How do I know if my research is a good fit with the program?



[← Search for more funding opportunities](#)

## Important Information for Proposers

A revised version of the *NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG)* (NSF 22-1), is effective for proposals submitted, or due, on or after October 4, 2021. Please be advised that, depending on the specified

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Supports doctoral research aimed at understanding patterns, causes and consequences of human social and cultural variation, including research that has implications for confronting anthropogenic problems.

## Synopsis

The primary objective of the Cultural Anthropology Program is to support basic scientific research on the causes, consequences, and complexities of human social and cultural variability.

Anthropological research spans a wide gamut, and contemporary cultural anthropology is an arena in which diverse research traditions and methodologies are valid. Recognizing the breadth of the field's contributions to science, the Cultural Anthropology Program welcomes proposals for empirically grounded, theoretically engaged, and methodologically sophisticated research in all sub-fields of cultural anthropology. Because the National Science Foundation's mandate is to support basic research, the NSF Cultural Anthropology Program does not fund

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## Program Contacts

Jeffrey Mantz - Program Director	<a href="mailto:jmantz@nsf.gov">jmantz@nsf.gov</a>	(703) 292-7783	SBE/BCS
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Jeremy Koster - Program Director	<a href="mailto:jkoster@nsf.gov">jkoster@nsf.gov</a>	(703) 292-8740	SBE/BCS
Angelica T. Brewer - Program Specialist	<a href="mailto:abrewer@nsf.gov">abrewer@nsf.gov</a>	(703) 292-4636	SBE/BCS

## Program Webinars

Cultural Anthropology Program Office Hour - January 18, 2022  
Cultural Anthropology Program Office Hour - January 25, 2022  
Cultural Anthropology Program Office Hour - February 1, 2022  
Cultural Anthropology Program Office Hour - February 8, 2022  
Cultural Anthropology Program Office Hour - February 15, 2022

## Upcoming Due Dates

### Full Proposal

2022

**August 15** - Target Date  
C August 15, Annually Thereafter

2023

**January 15** - Target Date  
C January 15, Annually Thereafter

## Program Guidelines

### Award Information

Anticipated Funding Amount is \$800,000 pending availability of funds. Project budgets should be developed at scales appropriate for the work to be conducted. The total direct costs for CA DDRIG awards may not exceed \$20,000; applicable indirect costs are in addition to (that is, on top of) that amount.

The proposer may concurrently submit a doctoral dissertation proposal to other funding organizations. Please indicate this in the "Current and Pending Support" section of the NSF proposal, so that NSF may coordinate funding with the other organizations. The "Current and Pending Support" section of the NSF proposal should also list the proposal itself. The proposer may submit a DDRIG proposal to only one NSF Program although they may request that the proposal be co-reviewed with one or more other NSF Programs; actual co-review will be at the discretion of the relevant Program Officers.

### Estimated Number of Awards

40 to 50 - During a fiscal year, Cultural Anthropology expects to

## Awards Made Through This Program

[Browse projects funded by this program](#)

## Related programs

Cultural Anthropology Scholars Awards





# Find funded projects and read abstracts

What has been funded through a particular program?

Export up to 3,000 Awards:	<a href="#">CSV</a>   <a href="#">XML</a>   <a href="#">Excel</a>   <a href="#">Text</a>	<a href="#">Email this Link</a>   <a href="#">Export All Results</a>
Sort By: <span>Relevance</span>	Results size: <span>30 per page</span>	<span>Table</span>   <span>List</span>   Page <span>1</span> of <span>5</span>   <span>Displaying 1 - 30 of 124</span>
<b>Doctoral Dissertation Research: Psychiatric Deinstitutionalization and Community Mental Health Transitions</b> Award Number:2116127; Principal Investigator:Jocelyn Chua; Co-Principal Investigator:Julio Villa-Palomino; Organization:University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill;NSF Organization:BCS Start Date:08/01/2021; Award Amount:\$16,075.00; Relevance:62.54;		
<b>Doctoral Dissertation Research: Networks of Support and Solidarity in Carceral Contexts</b> Award Number:2148008; Principal Investigator:Kaya Williams; Co-Principal Investigator:Jarrett Drake; Organization:Harvard University;NSF Organization:BCS Start Date:05/01/2022; Award Amount:\$25,200.00; Relevance:61.69;		
<b>Doctoral Dissertation Research: Real Estate Speculation and its Impact on Agricultural Access to Water Resources in Contexts of Rapid Urbanization</b> Award Number:2049507; Principal Investigator:Donald Nonini; Co-Principal Investigator:Julio Gutierrez; Organization:University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill;NSF Organization:BCS Start Date:08/15/2021; Award Amount:\$24,954.00; Relevance:61.69;		
<b>Doctoral Dissertation Research: Intersections of worldviews in the co-management of environmental resources</b> Award Number:2147716; Principal Investigator:Mark Moritz; Co-Principal Investigator:Chelsea Hunter; Organization:Ohio State University;NSF Organization:BCS Start Date:03/01/2022; Award Amount:\$31,484.00; Relevance:61.28;		
<b>Doctoral Dissertation Research: Marine Conservation, Demography, and Family Planning</b> Award Number:2116661; Principal Investigator:Michael Dove; Co-Principal Investigator:Manon Lefevre; Organization:Yale University;NSF Organization:BCS Start Date:09/01/2021; Award Amount:\$25,200.00; Relevance:61.28;		

## ABSTRACT

This award is funded in whole or in part under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2).

Psychiatric deinstitutionalization continues to pose challenges to local communities. These challenges encompass how to better provide care for the severely mentally ill at community mental health centers and within the community at large. In addition to providing funding for the training of a graduate student in anthropology in the methods of empirical data collection and analysis, this doctoral dissertation project provides a scientific analysis of the social effects of psychiatric deinstitutionalization in the everyday lives of community members, caregivers, and clients. By examining scientifically the effects of psychiatric deinstitutionalization, this dissertation project will provide greater understanding of its effects in the everyday lives of community residents. The project also broadens the participation of underrepresented groups in science.

This doctoral dissertation research project examines how community members become involved in caring for deinstitutionalized clients and their community. It asks three main questions: (1) How are community residents involved in the process of psychiatric deinstitutionalization? (2) How are practices of community care enacted? (3) Does psychiatric deinstitutionalization reshape the boundaries between the clinic and the community? The researcher will conduct ethnographic observation, semi-structured interviews, focus groups, and archival research to explore the social effects of psychiatric deinstitutionalization in the community. Remote fieldwork methods such as virtual interviews, photovoice, and journaling, will also be used. Data will be thematically coded and analyzed carefully to explore how discourses around psychiatric deinstitutionalization, community mental health, and community care are developed and enacted by caregivers, clients, and community members. By scientifically investigating how community members participate in community care activities for deinstitutionalized clients, and by asking what happens to the boundaries between clinic and community, this dissertation project will make significant contributions to research on mental health care in the community setting.

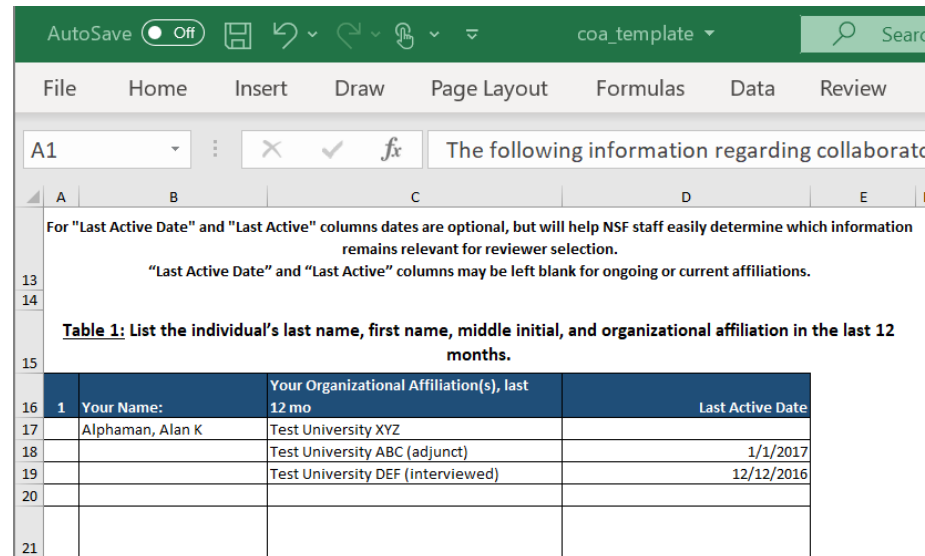
You can review the abstracts of awards made through a particular program.



# Cover your bases...

## 1. Keep track of your **collaborators**

- Prepare your Collaborators and Other Affiliations Information (COA) form early



The screenshot shows the Microsoft Excel interface with the 'coa\_template' file open. The ribbon includes 'File', 'Home', 'Insert', 'Draw', 'Page Layout', 'Formulas', 'Data', and 'Review'. The active cell is A1, containing the text 'The following information regarding collaborato'. The spreadsheet area contains instructions for the 'Last Active Date' and 'Last Active' columns, followed by a table with the following data:

1	Your Name:	Your Organizational Affiliation(s), last 12 mo	Last Active Date
17	Alphaman, Alan K	Test University XYZ	
18		Test University ABC (adjunct)	1/1/2017
19		Test University DEF (interviewed)	12/12/2016
20			
21			

6 months before  
applying



3 months before  
applying

# Cover your bases....

## 1. Keep track of your **collaborators**

- Prepare your Collaborators and Other Affiliations Information (COA) form early

## 2. Work with your IRB; work on your biographical sketch, data management plan, letters of support, budget, justification

1 year  
before  
applying



6 months  
before  
applying



3 months  
before  
applying



# Cover your bases.....

## 1. Keep track of your **collaborators**

- Prepare your Collaborators and Other Affiliations Information (COA) form early

## 2. Work on ancillary documents

## 3. Have a question? **Contact the program officer**

- Prepare a one-page synopsis of your project and submit to program officers for feedback

1 year  
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applying



6 months  
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applying



3 months  
before  
applying



# Example One-Pager

## 1. Overview



- Background/Situate your study
- Research questions/hypotheses

## 2. Intellectual Merit



- Potential to advance knowledge
- Theoretical contribution to Cultural Anthropology

## 3. Broader Impacts



- Potential to benefit society
- Contribution to achievement of specific societal outcomes



# While polishing your proposal...

## 1. Read and re-read the **program solicitation**

- Identify solicitation-specific preparation instructions & review criteria

### V. PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

#### A. Proposal Preparation Instructions

**Full Proposal Preparation Instructions:** Proposers may opt to submit proposals in response to this Program Solicitation via FastLane, Research.gov, or Grants.gov.

- Mark human subjects as pending, approved, or exempted.
- 2. Project Summary
  - This section must include as separate sections an Overview, the Intellectual Merit, and the Broader Impacts of the proposed activity.
- 3. Project Description
  - This section is limited to 10 single-spaced pages of text with one-inch margins, in one of the fonts approved by the NSF PAPPG, and no more than six lines per vertical inch of text. The Project Description must have page numbers; note that FastLane does not automatically paginate.
  - If the proposal is a resubmission, the first paragraph of the Project Description must summarize how the proposal has responded to previous reviewer concerns.
  - The Project Description must include:
    - a statement of the research problem and its scientific importance, specific aims, expectations, or hypotheses;
    - A section labeled Intellectual Merit, that describes the project's potential contribution to advancing anthropological theory beyond the site and context of the project itself, a focused review of what is thought to be known already, and a clear statement of what the project's original contribution will be and why that contribution would be significant. A section labeled Broader Impacts of the Proposed Work, that discusses the broader impacts of the proposed activities and the pathways by which those broader impacts will be realized. Broader Impacts are significant effects beyond basic science. They might include communicating results to policy makers; contributing to the knowledge base to solve an important social problem; engaging students of any age in the research enterprise; doing outreach to the public; producing data bases that contribute to scientific infrastructure; strengthening international research collaborations; broadening the scientific participation of underrepresented communities; and/or strengthening research capacity in developing nations.
    - a discussion of any preliminary studies performed by the student, the results of those studies, and how they inform the project;
    - an account of whether the student has the relevant technical training, language competence, and other preparation necessary to make the project feasible; this must also include an explanation of how the student has obtained the relevant methodological training (at their institution or elsewhere) to conduct a scientific research project;
    - a research design that includes a discussion of the research site(s) and source(s) of data, the methods by which data will be collected, and the reasons those methods are the most appropriate;
    - a developed data analysis plan (usually at least a page in length) that explains how the data will be analyzed to address the research questions, aims, and/or hypotheses;
    - a research schedule or timeline.
  - The Project Description must describe the project's potential contribution to advancing anthropological theory beyond the site and context of the project itself. Projects that are focused narrowly on the sociological or cultural context of a particular site, and fail to frame the project in terms of a larger, generalizable set of questions, will be returned without review.
  - The research questions or hypotheses must be empirically-driven. Projects that are motivated strictly by philosophical or humanistic questions, or that source information in service of a particular theoretical position (without putting that theoretical position at risk of falsification through data collection and analysis), will be judged to be unsuitable for funding and returned without review.
  - The CA program discourages projects that return to a previous site of employment or volunteer work unless a strong justification is made for the scientific suitability of that particular site, with an explanation of why the co-PI's previous experience will not jeopardize objectivity and impartiality.
  - The Research Schedule should indicate the date that funds are required.
  - The "Results from Prior NSF Support" section is NOT required for DDRIG proposals.

...is included.  
...ation system is acceptable. There are no page limits for the References Cited section.  
...st be submitted for both the PI and the Co-PI. Each may not exceed 2 pages.  
...cribed in Chapter II of the NSF PAPPG.

1 year  
before  
applying



6 months  
before  
applying



3 months  
before  
applying



# While polishing your proposal...continued

2. Make sure **biosketch** is updated

3. Make sure all **ancillaries** are completed

- Facilities, Equipment, & Other Resources (FER); Current & Pending Support, etc.

4. Make sure **ethical approvals** are in the works

- You do not need to have approval at the time of proposal submission

5. Get any **letters of collaboration** in order

- Follow directions in the solicitation and PAPPG

6. Work with your **research office** and pay attention to **internal deadlines**

1 year  
before  
applying



6 months  
before  
applying



3 months  
before  
applying



# Of Note...

- If solicitation and PAPPG are in conflict, **go with solicitation**
- \$20,000 in direct costs, max, DDRI
- Two-time submission rule
- Two “target dates” per year (1/15, and 8/15)
- Review is typically by **panel** (DDRI), combo panel/ad hoc/ internal (senior)
- Make project feasible in light of **COVID-19**



# Good habits

- Case for *scientific* **generalizability** must be clear
- Make research design and data analysis plan work for *your* project
- Speak to your narrow audience *and* the broader CA audience



# Bad habits

- Foregone conclusions/arguments
- “Laundry-list” research questions, literature reviews, methods
- Jargon
- Poor definitions/operationalization of variables
- Advocacy/activist objectives
- Subjectivity





# Co-Review

- You suggest
- We suggest internally
- HEGS, Biological Anthropology, Archaeology, STS, Arctic Social Science



# Odds and Ends

- Sign up to be a reviewer or panelist
- Consider sharing your demographic data
- Sign up for NSF notices:  
<https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNSF/subscribe/new>
- Ask us for outreach/meetings



# Questions?



## Contact information:

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Siobhán Mattison, email: [smattiso@nsf.gov](mailto:smattiso@nsf.gov)