



National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

CREDIT GATEWAY FOR REMITTANCES

JANUARY 2024



PAB

PAYMENTS AND ANALYTICS BRANCH

BUDGET, FINANCE AND AWARDS MANAGEMENT | DIVISION OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



WHY CREDIT GATEWAY

- ▶ NSF is exploring alternative methods to remit funds to NSF for institutions who have expressed they are unable to use Pay.gov or have continued to use checks
- ▶ The goal is to reduce the administrative burden and processing time for both the institutions and NSF staff
- ▶ NSF partnered with Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal Service to utilize their Credit Gateway tool as an additional method to receive these remittances





REMITTANCE OPTIONS AT NSF

NSF has a variety of options to remit payments back to NSF:

Electronic Submission



- ▶ The preferred methods are still ACM\$ Credit/Offset and Pay.gov
- ▶ We are expanding our offerings to include Credit Gateway as an alternative to paper checks





WHAT IS THE CREDIT GATEWAY

- ▶ Deposit program for receipt of federal agency Fedwire and ACH credits
- ▶ Individuals and businesses can pay directly from their checking or savings account by ACH Credit
- ▶ It is a service provided by the Fiscal Service's financial agent, US Bank, resides on US Bank's infrastructure and is operated by bank staff
- ▶ It interfaces directly with the Federal Reserve Bank's Fedwire Funds Service and Fed-ACH Operations and is settled directly through Treasury routing numbers at the Federal Reserve
- ▶ It posts transactions to agency accounts and sends deposit reporting information to the agency



WHY CREDIT GATEWAY WORKS VS PAY.GOV

- ▶ Automated Clearing House (ACH) Debit vs. ACH Credit
 - ▶ An ACH debit transaction involves the receiver **pulling** money from the sender's account, for instance, by a company to whom the sender owes money
 - ▶ An ACH credit transaction allows the sender to **push** money into different accounts, for example, to pay a bill or make a purchase
- ▶ Pay.gov uses ACH debit, which is likely why it is not accessible for your agency to utilize
- ▶ Credit Gateway uses ACH Credit, so it is initiated by the institution. It cannot be done through an online portal like Pay.gov, but needs to be done directly with the institution's bank so that it is authorized/approved by the owner





BENEFITS OF CREDIT GATEWAY

- ▶ Secure vs check payments
 - ▶ Eliminates paper transactions and prevents the need to mail a check
 - ▶ Reduces fraud
 - ▶ Checks account for ~ 69% of nationwide payment fraud; ACH credit is less than 7%
- ▶ Expedition of the process
 - ▶ Agencies receive collections sooner, as ACH eliminates the clearing and settlement delay associated with the mail and processing of paper checks
 - ▶ Can provide the right level of detail with the transaction which allows NSF staff to reconcile and process quicker





WHO NEEDS TO BE INVOLVED AT YOUR INSTITUTION

- ▶ Stakeholders from your institution who will be involved with the implementation should, at a minimum, include a representatives from:
 - ▶ The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP; or equivalent) responsible for cash management activities; and
 - ▶ The Finance Office/CFO responsible for the Accounts Payable activities and to include an authorized user of your organization's bank account





SUBMISSION OF FORM

- ▶ The Credit Gateway requires the institution to communicate with their bank to initiate the transaction
- ▶ You will need to communicate a specific code to allow the bank to submit a CCD+(Corporate Credit or Debit plus Addenda) transaction with NSF's account on the Credit Gateway
- ▶ NSF has customized a spreadsheet to make the process as easy as possible for you
 - ▶ It uses a form similar to the one for Pay.gov and populates the entries for you
 - ▶ Part of the form is submitted to NSF and the other part needs to be submitted by an authorized user to your bank

Note: NSF will provide a copy of the form by email from the institution – the email will be marked CUI due to the sensitive information provided in the template form





National Science Foundation
Credit Gateway Remittance Form

Here is an example of the Excel Spreadsheet Form:

- ▶ The required fields will need to be filled out to populate the CCD+ code to communicate to your bank
- ▶ Then you will pdf print a copy of the form to send to the NSF PAB Mailbox when your office confirms they are ready to send the payment information to the bank (preferably when they are ready to contact the bank, not when the initial request is made)

Date	<input type="text" value="4/3/2023"/>
<small>* Required Field</small>	
Institution Information	
Institution/Individual Name*	<input type="text" value="University"/>
Institution ID*	<input type="text" value="0001234567"/>
State	<input type="text" value="Virginia"/>
Contact Information	
Contact Name*	<input type="text" value="John Doe"/>
Contact Phone (including area code)*	<input type="text" value="555-555-5555"/>
Extension	<input type="text"/>
Contact Email*	<input type="text" value="jdoe@university.edu"/>
Payment Information	
Amount to be paid*	<input type="text" value="\$1,200.00"/>
Award Number*	<input type="text" value="1234567"/>
Purpose of Remittance (select)*	<input type="text" value="Excess Cash on Hand"/>
Comments	<input type="text"/>

*Indicates a required field



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
ACH Credit Instructions

- ▶ The following tab is then populated for you to provide to your bank

Please provide the following instructions to your Financial Institution for the remittance of Automated Clearing House (ACH) credits to the National Science Foundation (NSF).

NACHA Record Type Code	NACHA Field	NACHA Data Element Name	Required Information
5	3	Company Name	University
5	6	Standard Entry Class Code	CCD+
5	9	Effective Entry Date	4/3/2023
6	2	Transaction Code*	22
6	3 & 4	Receiving DFI Identification (ABA routing #)	[REDACTED]
6	5	DFI Account Number	[REDACTED]
6	6	Amount	1200.00
6	8	Receiving Company Name	National Science Foundation
7	3	Payment Related Information	RMR*AP*1234567\REF*AP*1200.00\N1*8R*0001234567\



NEXT STEPS

- ▶ If your organization is currently unable to use ACM\$ or Pay.gov for remittances, and you are interested in exploring Credit Gateway as a check alternative, here are some steps you should take to get started:
 1. Contact the appropriate parties at your institution to ensure they are onboard and able to accommodate the Credit Gateway remittance process.
 2. Reach out to your PAB Grant Accountant for access to the submission form.
 3. Work with your institution implementation team to determine the process for the remittance. Some questions to answer include:
 - a) How/by whom will it be processed in your financial system?
 - b) How will it be communicated to Accounts Payable?
 - c) How/by whom will it be communicated to your bank?
 - d) How long will this process take for each step?





THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING CREDIT GATEWAY

To identify your PAB Grant Accountant, click here:

<https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dfm/cmeab.jsp>

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