



**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)
Research Terms & Conditions
Agency Specific Requirements
Effective for Awards Made on or After May 20, 2024¹**

National Science Foundation website address: <<http://www.nsf.gov>>
Research Term & Conditions website address:
<<http://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/rtc.jsp>>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Article Subject

1. [Awards Covered by the Research Terms & Conditions](#)
2. [Prior Approval Requirements Not Included in the Research Terms & Conditions](#)
3. [Categories of Costs Aside from Those Identified in Subpart E of the Uniform Guidance that are Unallowable as Direct Charges](#)
4. [Contact Information for Technical Matters](#)
5. [Contact Information for Administrative Matters](#)
6. [Contact Information for Intellectual Property](#)
7. [Revised Budget Requirements](#)
8. [Format, Content and Timing of Required Reports](#)
9. [Expenditure Reports](#)
10. [Additional Documentation Besides Progress Reports Needed to Trigger Incremental Funding](#)
11. [Indirect Costs](#)

Additional NSF Agency Specific Requirements

12. [Recipient Responsibilities and Federal Requirements](#)
13. [Participant Support Costs](#)
14. [Travel](#)
15. [Information Collection](#)
16. [Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research](#)
17. [Safe and Inclusive Working Environments for Off-Campus or Off-Site Research](#)
18. [Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation](#)
19. [System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements](#)
20. [Academic Technology Transfer and Commercialization of University Research](#)
21. [Federal Tax Obligations](#)
22. [Payments](#)
23. [Cost Sharing or Matching](#)
24. [Revision of Budget & Program Plans](#)

¹ Unless otherwise specified.

25. Audit and Records
26. Equipment
27. Intangible Property
28. Copyrighted Material
29. Public Access to Copyrighted Material
30. Publications
31. Program Income
32. Reporting Classifiable Information
33. Animal Welfare
34. Investigator Financial Disclosure Policy
35. State Sales and Use Taxes
36. Domestic Preferences for Procurements
37. Build America, Buy America
38. Breach of Personally Identifiable Information
39. Notification Requirements Regarding Sexual Harassment, Other Forms of Harassment, or Sexual Assault
40. Post-award Disclosure of Current Support and In-Kind Contribution Information
41. Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program Certification
42. Postaward Additions of Postdoctoral Scholars or Graduate Students
43. Individual Development Plans for Postdoctoral Scholars and Graduate Students
44. Termination and Enforcement
45. Termination Review Procedure
46. Resolution of Conflicting Conditions

Other Considerations

47. Liability
48. Sharing of Findings, Data, and Other Research Products
49. Government Permits and Activities Abroad

1. Awards Covered by the Research Terms & Conditions

Effective May 20, 2024, awards made to institutions of higher education and non-profit organizations will incorporate by reference the *Research Terms & Conditions* (RTC) dated November 12, 2020, and the *NSF Agency Specific Requirements* (ASR) dated May 20, 2024.

The *Research Terms & Conditions* will not be applied to NSF cooperative agreements or to NSF fellowship awards made to individuals.

2. Prior Approval Requirements Not Included in the Research Terms & Conditions

The recipient must obtain written approval from NSF as specified in the [Research Terms and Conditions Appendix A, Prior Approval Matrix](#).

Unless otherwise specified in the award notice, no additional NSF prior written approvals beyond those specified in Appendix A and these terms and conditions are required.

Requests for NSF prior written approval in the matrix specified above must be submitted via Research.gov. Those prior approval requirements that do not have a specific request type must be submitted via use of the "Other" category in Research.gov.

3. Categories of Costs Aside from Those Identified in Subpart E of the Uniform Guidance that are Unallowable as Direct Charges

None.

4. Contact Information for Technical Matters

Questions of a programmatic or technical nature should be directed to the cognizant NSF Program Officer identified in the award notice.

5. Contact Information for Administrative Matters

Questions of an administrative nature should be directed to the cognizant NSF Grants and Agreements Officer identified in the NSF award notice.

6. Contact Information for Intellectual Property

Questions regarding intellectual property matters should be directed to the NSF Office of the General Counsel at (703) 292-8060.

7. Revised Budget Requirements

Revised budgets, when required, must be submitted electronically via use of the Submitted Proposals Module in Research.gov. See *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* (PAPPG) [Chapter III.D](#) and [Chapter VII.B](#) for further instructions.

8. Format, Content and Timing of Required Reports

a. Annual Project Reports

1. Submission Requirement. Annual project reports are required for both standard and continuing awards.²

2. Content of Annual Project Reports. Unless otherwise specified in the award, the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR), as implemented by NSF in Research.gov, must be used for preparation of annual project reports to address progress in all activities of the project, including any activities intended to address the Broader Impacts criterion that are not intrinsic to the research. The recipient shall include subaward activities in annual project reports that are submitted to NSF.

3. Timing of Annual Project Reports. Annual project reports must be submitted electronically, via Research.gov, no later than 90 days prior to the end of the current budget period to provide sufficient time for review and approval by the cognizant NSF Program Officer. The report becomes overdue the day after the end of the current budget

²Submission of an "interim" report via [Research.gov](#) does not constitute compliance with the annual reporting requirement.

period if it has not been submitted by the Principal Investigator (PI) or co-Principal Investigator (co-PI)³ and approved by the cognizant NSF Program Officer.

The report becomes overdue the day after the 90-day period ends. Failure to submit timely reports will delay NSF processing of additional funding and administrative actions, including, but not limited to, no-cost extensions. In the case of continuing awards, failure to submit timely reports will delay processing of funding increments.

It should be noted that the final annual report serves as the project's final report and must be submitted in accordance with paragraph b. below.

Continuing awards also are subject to the same policies regarding report submission as outlined in this article. For continuing awards that have a duration of 18 months or more per increment, two annual reports are required. A report must be submitted for the first 12 months of the project, and then another report for the remaining months of the increment. Continuing awards which include an increment of 24 months will require an annual report for each 12-month period.

b. Final Annual Project Report

1. Submission Requirement. A final annual project report is required for both standard and continuing awards.

2. Content of Final Annual Project Report. The final annual project report is the last annual report of the project and should be written specifically for the most recently completed budget period. It should address progress in all activities of the project in its final year, including any activities intended to address the Broader Impacts criterion that are not intrinsic to the research. This report is not cumulative. By submitting the final annual project report, the PI or co-PI is signifying that the scope of work for the project has been completed and that the PI or co-PI does not anticipate that any further research activities (including a no-cost extension, supplemental funding, or transfer of the award) need to be completed on the project. Submission of the final annual project report, however, does not preclude the recipient from requesting any further payments for costs incurred during the period of performance.

3. Timing of Final Annual Project Report. Unless otherwise specified in the award, the final annual project report must be submitted in Research.gov no later than 120-days following the end date of the award. As reflected in the Project Report System, the report is considered due during the 120-day period. If the report has not been submitted by the PI or co-PI and approved by the cognizant NSF Program Officer within the 120-day period, the report becomes overdue.

4. Additional Requirements. The recipient also shall provide to the cognizant NSF Program Officer, within 120-days following the end date of the award:

- any unique reports or other end items specified in the award, including any reporting requirements set forth in any NSF brochure, guide, solicitation, etc.,

³ For purposes of the terms and conditions, the term PI and co-PI also includes the term Project Director and co-Project Director.

- referenced in the award as being directly related to either the award or the administration of the award.
- a final cost share notification documented and certified by the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) for awards where there is mandatory cost sharing established for the program.
- c. Update of Current Support in Annual and Final Annual Project Reports

PIs and co-PIs on active NSF awards must indicate if there has been a change in active other support since submission of the proposal, or the last reporting period in their annual and final annual project report. If there has been a change, the individual must submit a revised current and pending (other) support document as part of their project report.

NSF may consult with the PI or co-PI and the AOR, if necessary, and determine the impact of the new information on the NSF-funded award, and, where necessary, take appropriate action.

d. Certification Requirements for Annual and Final Annual Project Reports

In submission of each annual and final annual project report, the PI or co-PI is certifying that:

- the statements provided (excluding scientific hypotheses and scientific opinions) are true and complete, and the text and graphics in the report as well as any accompanying publications or other documents, unless otherwise indicated, are the original work of the signatories or individuals working under their supervision; and
- each postdoctoral scholar and graduate student receiving substantial support from the award has an individual development plan that maps educational goals, career exploration, and professional development (see also Article 43).

False representations may be subject to prosecution and liability pursuant to, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. §§ 287, 1001, 1031 and 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733 and 3802.

e. Project Outcomes Report for the General Public

1. Submission Requirement. A project outcomes report is required for both standard and continuing awards.

2. Content of Project Outcomes Report. This report serves as a brief summary, prepared specifically for the public, of the nature and outcomes of the project. The content of the report should include:

- (a) A description of the project outcomes or findings that address the intellectual merit and broader impacts of the work as defined in the NSF merit review criteria. This description should be a brief (generally, two to three paragraphs) summary of the project's results that is written for the lay reader. PIs or co-PIs are strongly encouraged to avoid use of jargon, terms of art, or acronyms.

- (b) NSF will automatically include all publications associated with the award that are reported in annual and final annual project reports. Other products that have resulted from the award may also be listed. Examples of other products include collections, data sets, software, as well as educational materials.
- (c) Information regarding anticipated publication of project results, as well as any other information that would be of interest to the public also may be included in the project outcomes report.

PIs or co-PIs must ensure that the report does not contain any confidential, proprietary business information; unpublished conclusions or data that might compromise the ability to publish results in the research literature; or invention disclosures that might adversely affect the patent rights or those of the organization, in a subject invention under the award. The project outcomes report must not contain any personally identifiable information such as home contact information, individual demographic data or individually identifiable information collected from human research participants.

The report will be posted electronically by NSF **exactly as it is submitted** and will be accompanied by the following disclaimer:

“This Project Outcomes Report for the General Public is displayed verbatim as submitted by the Principal Investigator (PI) for this award. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this Report are those of the PI and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation; NSF has not approved or endorsed its content.”

3. Timing of Project Outcomes Report. The project outcomes report must be submitted in Research.gov no later than 120 days following the end date of the award. The report becomes overdue the day after the 120-day period ends if it has not been submitted by the PI or co-PI. By submitting the project outcomes report, the PI or co-PI is signifying that the scope of work for the project has been completed and that the PI or co-PI does not anticipate that any further research activities (including a no-cost extension, supplemental funding, or transfer of the award) need to be completed on the project. Submission of the project outcomes report, however, does not preclude the recipient from requesting any further payments for costs incurred during the period of performance. For information about the content of the report, see [PAPPG Chapter VII.D.2](#).

f. Foreign Financial Disclosure Report (FFDR) (CHIPS and Science Act of 2022)

1. Submission Requirement. In accordance with Section 10339B, *Foreign Financial Support*, of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022, (42 U.S.C. § 19040), each "recipient institution of higher education" must annually report all "current financial support, the value of which is \$50,000 or more⁴, including gifts and contracts, received directly or indirectly from a foreign source" which is "associated with a foreign country of concern," as defined in the [PAPPG Introduction, Section D](#). The annual report requirement is per institution, not per award. Negative reports are required to be submitted.

This requirement applies only to direct recipients of NSF funding. This does not include entities that receive subawards or individuals that are the beneficiaries of the award.

⁴ The reporting requirement is a cumulative value of \$50,000 or more per source during the reporting period.

The FFDR must be submitted electronically via Research.gov by an AOR or by an individual(s) authorized by the recipient to submit the foreign financial disclosure report to NSF.

2. Content of Foreign Financial Disclosure Report. [PAPPG Chapter VII.D.3](#) provides additional instructions regarding completion of the FFDR and those instructions are hereby incorporated into this article.

3. Timing of Foreign Financial Disclosure Report. The report must be submitted by July 31 of each calendar year. The first report will be due July 31, 2024, and will cover the reporting period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, to provide the institution with a 30-day period for finalization and submission of the requisite information. Subsequent years' reporting periods will run from July 1st of the previous year to June 30 of the reporting year.

4. Additional Requirements. The institution will maintain a copy of the relevant records subject to the disclosure requirement until the latest of --

- (a) the date that is four years after the end date of the award;
- (b) the date on which the agreement terminates; or
- (c) the last day of any period that applicable State public record law requires a copy of such agreement to be maintained.

Upon review of a submitted disclosure, NSF may request that copies be submitted of any contracts, agreements, or documentation of financial transactions associated with disclosures submitted under this article.

g. Compliance with Reporting Requirements

In accordance with 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 200.344(i), if the recipient does not submit all required reports within one year of the period of performance end date, NSF must report the recipient's material failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the award with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)-designated integrity and performance system (currently Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)). NSF may also pursue other enforcement actions per 2 CFR § 200.339.

9. Expenditure Reports

The recipient must submit final payment requests through the Award Cash Management Service (ACM\$) no later than 120 calendar days after the end date of the award. This requirement applies to all current awards and funding amendments to existing NSF awards, as well as to all new NSF awards.

NSF uses the payment request entries in the ACM\$ to collect the final financial data for awards paid through that system. No additional interim or final financial reporting is required.

For instructions regarding final disbursement reporting, see [PAPPG Chapter VIII.E](#).

10. Additional Documentation Besides Progress Reports Needed to Trigger Incremental Funding

Unless otherwise specified, each successive increment of a continuing award will be funded at the level specified in the original award notice without a formal request from the recipient provided an annual project report has been received from the PI or co-PI and accepted by the cognizant NSF Program Officer.

Continuing funding is contingent on (1) availability of funds; (2) satisfactory scientific/technical progress; and (3) any special conditions of the award.

11. Indirect Costs

Reimbursement of indirect costs should be calculated by applying the approved, negotiated indirect cost rate(s) to the appropriate base(s).

Institutions of Higher Education. 2 CFR § 200, Appendix III, paragraph C.7. requires use of the negotiated facilities and administrative costs (F&A) rate that is in effect at the time of the initial award throughout the life of the award.

Non-profit organizations. In the event that a new U.S. Federally negotiated rate agreement is approved during the award performance period, a revised negotiated rate may be applied.

Excess indirect costs charged to an NSF award due to use of an incorrect rate will be disallowed.

Additional NSF Agency Specific Requirements

12. Recipient Responsibilities and Federal Requirements

The recipient has full responsibility for the conduct of the project or activity supported under this award and for adherence to the award terms and conditions. Although the recipient is encouraged to seek the advice and opinion of NSF on special problems that may arise, such advice does not diminish the recipient's responsibility for making sound scientific and administrative judgments and should not imply that the responsibility for operating decisions has shifted to NSF.

The recipient is responsible for notifying NSF about: (1) any allegation of research misconduct that it concludes has substance and requires an investigation in accordance with NSF research misconduct regulations published at 45 CFR § 689; or (2) any significant problems relating to the administrative or financial aspects of the award.

By acceptance of this award, the recipient agrees to comply with the applicable Federal requirements and to the prudent management of all expenditures and actions affecting the award including the monitoring of subrecipients (if applicable). Specific guidance on subrecipient monitoring and management can be found in 2 CFR §§ 200.331-332.

Documentation for each expenditure or action affecting this award must reflect appropriate organizational reviews or approvals that should be made in advance of the action. The recipient also is responsible for ensuring necessary documentation for all subawards is maintained for the same retention period as the recipient and for making it available to NSF upon request.

Organizational reviews are intended to help assure that expenditures are allowable, necessary and reasonable for the conduct of the project, and that the proposed action:

1. is consistent with the award terms and conditions;
2. is consistent with NSF and recipient policies;
3. represents effective utilization of resources; and
4. does not constitute a project change which requires NSF prior written approval (see Article 2).

Nothing in this article shall be construed to require administrative reviews or documentation that duplicates those already required by existing organizational systems or by applicable Federal standards, e.g., 2 CFR § 200.

The recipient is responsible for ensuring that PIs and co-PIs receive a copy of the award terms and conditions, including: the award notice, the budget, the *Research Terms & Conditions*, any special terms and conditions and any subsequent changes in the award terms and conditions. These award terms and conditions are made available to the recipient by NSF in [electronic form](#) and may be duplicated, copied or otherwise reproduced by the recipient as appropriate. This provision does not alter the recipient's full responsibility for conduct of the project and compliance with all award terms and conditions. Award notices are available electronically via Research.gov at <https://www.research.gov/award-documents-web>.

13. Participant Support Costs

a. *Participant support costs* as defined in 2 CFR § 200.1 are direct costs for items such as stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants (but not employees) in connection with NSF-sponsored conferences. NSF prior written approval is required for any additional categories of participant support costs, such as incentives, gifts, souvenirs, t-shirts and/or memorabilia and the request must be submitted via Research.gov. NSF approval of such changes will be by an amendment to the award. The recipient must account for participant support costs separately. Indirect costs (F&A) are not allowed on participant support costs (see [PAPPG Chapter II.D.2.f\(v\)](#)).

b. Funds provided for participant support must not be used by the recipient for other categories of expense without specific NSF prior written approval. Such requests must be submitted electronically via Research.gov.

14. Travel

a. Allowability of Travel Expenses

1. Expenses for transportation, lodging, subsistence and related items incurred by project personnel and by outside consultants employed on the project (see [PAPPG Chapter II.D.2.f\(iv\)](#)) who are in travel status on business related to an NSF-supported project are allowable as prescribed in the governing cost principles. Except as noted in paragraph b. below, the requirements for NSF prior written approval specified in 2 CFR § 200.475 are waived.

2. Except as provided in the governing cost principles, the difference between economy airfare and a higher-class airfare is unallowable. A train, bus or other surface carrier may be used in lieu of, or as a supplement to, air travel at the lowest first-class rate by the transportation facility used. If such travel, however, could have been performed by air, the allowance will not normally exceed that for jet economy airfare.

b. Travel Support for Dependents of Key Project Personnel

1. Travel support for dependents of key project personnel is allowable only under the conditions outlined in 2 CFR § 200.475(c)(2). See also 2 CFR § 200.432.

NSF prior written approval is required for travel costs for dependents and must be requested via Research.gov. NSF approval of such changes will be by an amendment to the award.

2. Temporary dependent care costs (as dependent is defined in 26 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 152) above and beyond regular dependent care that directly results from travel to conferences is allowable as outlined in 2 CFR § 200.475(c)(1).

c. Use of U.S.-Flag Air Carriers

1. In accordance with the *Fly America Act* (49 U.S.C. § 40118), any air transportation to, from, between, or within a country other than the U.S. of persons or property, the expense of which will be assisted by NSF funding, must be performed by or under a code-sharing arrangement with a U.S.-flag air carrier if service provided by such a carrier is available (see Comptroller General Decision B-240956, dated September 25, 1991). Tickets (or documentation for electronic tickets) must identify the U.S. flag air carrier's designator code and flight number.

2. For the purposes of this requirement, U.S.-flag air carrier service is considered available even though:

(a) comparable or a different kind of service can be provided at less cost by a foreign-flag air carrier;

(b) foreign-flag air carrier service is preferred by, or is more convenient for, NSF or traveler; or

(c) service by a foreign-flag air carrier can be paid for in excess foreign currency.

3. The following rules apply unless their application would result in the first or last leg of travel from or to the U.S. being performed by a foreign-flag air carrier:

(a) a U.S.-flag air carrier shall be used to destination or, in the absence of direct or through service, to the farthest interchange point on a usually traveled route.

(b) if a U.S.-flag air carrier does not serve an origin or interchange point, a foreign-flag air carrier shall be used only to the nearest interchange point on a usually traveled route to connect with a U.S. flag air carrier.

d. Use of Foreign-Flag Air Carriers

There are certain circumstances under which use of a foreign-flag air carrier is permissible. These circumstances are outlined below:

1. Airline "Open Skies" Agreements

A foreign flag air carrier may be used if the transportation is provided under an air transportation agreement between the United States and a foreign government, which the Department of Transportation has determined meets the requirements of the Fly America Act. For information on "open skies" agreements in which the United States has entered, please refer to the [General Services Administration \(GSA\) website](#).

Note on U.S./European Union Open Skies Agreement

In 2007, the U.S. entered into an "Open Skies" Agreement with the European Union ("EU"). This agreement was modified in June 2010. The current Agreement gives European Community airlines (airlines of Member States) the right to transport passengers and cargo on flights funded by the U.S. government, when the transportation is between: (1) any two points outside the United States; or (2) a point in the United States and any point outside the United States that the EU airline is authorized to serve under the "Open Skies" Agreement.

As of 2011, two significant changes have been made to the U.S./EU Open Skies Agreement. First, EU airlines are now awarded the right to transport civilian agency-funded passengers who are NOT eligible to travel on GSA Airline City Pair Contract fares (e.g., the recipient) between a point in the United States and a point outside the United States even if there is a GSA Airline City Pair Contract fare in effect between the origin and destination points. An individual, however, who is traveling on a route for which there is a City Pair Contract fare in effect, *and who is eligible for such a fare* (e.g., Federal employee), will be required to fly on a U.S. carrier, absent another applicable exception.

Second, under the amended Agreement, EU airlines are now authorized to transport passengers between points in the United States and points outside the EU if the EU airline is authorized to serve the route under the Agreement. This includes flights that originate, arrive, or stop in the EU. Prior to this change, EU airlines were limited to flying passengers between points in the U.S. and points in the EU.

2. Involuntary Rerouting

Travel on a foreign-flag carrier is permitted if a U.S.-flag air carrier involuntarily reroutes the traveler via a foreign-flag air carrier, notwithstanding the availability of alternative U.S.-flag air carrier service.

3. Travel To and From the U.S. on non-European Community Airlines

Use of a non-European Community foreign-flag air carrier is permissible if the airport abroad is:

(a) the traveler's origin or destination airport, and use of U.S.-flag air carrier service would extend the time in a travel status by at least 24 hours more than travel by a foreign-flag air carrier; or

(b) an interchange point, and use of U.S.-flag air carrier service would increase the number of aircraft changes the traveler must make outside of the U.S. by two or more, would require the traveler to wait four hours or more to make connections at that point, or would extend the time in a travel status by at least six hours more than travel by a foreign-flag air carrier.

4. Travel Between Points Outside the U.S. on non-European Community Airlines

Use of a non-European Community foreign-flag air carrier is permissible if:

(a) travel by a foreign-flag air carrier would eliminate two or more aircraft changes en route;

(b) travel by a U.S.-flag air carrier would require a connecting time of four hours or more at an overseas interchange point; or

(c) the travel is not part of the trip to or from the U.S., and use of a U.S.-flag air carrier would extend the time in a travel status by at least six hours more than travel by a foreign-flag air carrier.

5. Short Distance Travel

For all short distance travel, regardless of origin and destination, use of a foreign-flag air carrier is permissible if the elapsed travel time on a scheduled flight from origin to destination airport by a foreign-flag air carrier is three hours or less and service by a U.S.-flag air carrier would double the travel time.

15. Information Collection

Information collection activities performed under this award are the responsibility of the recipient, and NSF support of the project does not constitute NSF approval of the survey design, questionnaire content or information collection procedures. The recipient shall not represent to respondents that such information is being collected for or in association with the National Science Foundation or any other Government agency without the specific written approval of such information collection plan or device by the Foundation. This requirement, however, is not intended to preclude mention of NSF support of the project

in response to an inquiry or acknowledgment of such support in any publication of this information.

16. Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research

In accordance with Section 7009 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science (COMPETES) Act (42 U.S.C. § 1862o-1), as amended, NSF requires that the recipient must have a plan in place to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research (RECR) to undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, faculty, and other senior/key personnel who will be supported by NSF to conduct research. Such training must include mentor training and mentorship. Training plans are subject to review, upon request.

The recipient must designate one or more persons to oversee compliance with the RECR training requirement. The recipient is responsible for verifying that undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, faculty, and other senior/key personnel supported by NSF to conduct research have received training in the responsible and ethical conduct of research, in accordance with the plan the recipient has put in place for their organization.

The recipient shall ensure that these RECR requirements flow down to all subrecipients or are otherwise appropriately addressed in the subaward.

17. Safe and Inclusive Working Environments for Off-Campus or Off-Site Research

For awards that conduct research off-campus or off site⁵, the recipient is required to have a plan in place for that awarded proposal that describes how the following types of behavior will be addressed:

- Abuse of any person, including, but not limited to, harassment, stalking, bullying, or hazing of any kind, whether the behavior is carried out verbally, physically, electronically, or in written form; or
- Conduct that is unwelcome, offensive, indecent, obscene, or disorderly.

The plan should also identify steps the recipient will take to nurture an inclusive off-campus or off-site working environment, e.g., trainings; processes to establish shared team definitions of roles, responsibilities, and culture, e.g., codes of conduct; and field support, such as mentor/mentee support mechanisms, regular check-ins, and/or developmental events.

Communications within team and to the recipient should be considered in the plan, minimizing singular points within the communications pathway (e.g., a single person overseeing access to a single satellite phone), and any special circumstances such as the involvement of multiple organizations or the presence of third parties in the working

⁵ For purposes of this requirement, off-campus or off-site research is defined as data/information/samples being collected off-campus or off-site, such as fieldwork and research activities on vessels and aircraft.

environment should be taken into account. The process or method for making incident reports as well as how any reports received will be resolved should also be accounted for.

The plan must be disseminated to individuals participating in the off-campus or off-site research prior to departure. Recipients are not required to submit the plan for review by NSF, however, the plan is subject to review, upon request.

If the recipient rebudgets funds to support off-campus or off-site research and a Plan for Safe and Inclusive Working Environments was developed for the original proposal, no further documentation is necessary. If a Plan for Safe and Inclusive Working Environments was not developed for that proposal, then the recipient must develop and maintain the plan in the organization's records as described in [PAPPG Chapter II.E.9](#).

If supplemental funding is requested to support off-site or off-campus research and the original proposal did not require a Plan for Safe and Inclusive Working Environments, then the recipient must develop and maintain the plan in the organization's records as described in PAPPG Chapter II.E.9.

18. Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation

This award term was extracted verbatim from Appendix A to Part 170. For these purposes, the term “you” means the NSF recipient.

- a. Reporting of first-tier subawards.
 1. Applicability. Unless exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, you must report each action that equals or exceeds \$30,000 in Federal funds for a subaward to a non-Federal entity or Federal agency (see definitions in paragraph e. of this award term).
 2. Where and when to report.
 - i. The non-Federal entity or Federal agency must report each obligating action described in paragraph a.1. of this award term to <http://www.fsrs.gov>.
 - ii. For subaward information, report no later than the end of the month following the month in which the obligation was made. (For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2010, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2010.)
 3. What to report. You must report the information about each obligating action that the submission instructions posted at <http://www.fsrs.gov> specify.
- b. Reporting total compensation of recipient executives for non-Federal entities.
 1. Applicability and what to report. You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if—
 - i. the total Federal funding authorized to date under this Federal award equals or exceeds is \$30,000 or more as defined in 2 CFR § 170.320;

- ii. in the preceding fiscal year, you received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR § 170.320 (and subawards), and
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR § 170.320 (and subawards); and,
- iii. the public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>.)
- 2. Where and when to report. You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph b.1. of this award term:
 - i. As part of your registration profile at <https://www.sam.gov>.
 - ii. By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter.
 - c. Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives.
 - 1. Applicability and what to report. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, for each first-tier non-Federal entity subrecipient under this award, the recipient shall report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if—
 - i. in the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR § 170.320 (and subawards) and,
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts), and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act (and subawards); and
 - ii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>.)

2. Where and when to report. You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph c.1. of this award term:

i. To the recipient.

ii. By the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if a subaward is obligated on any date during the month of October of a given year (i.e., between October 1 and 31), you must report any required compensation information of the subrecipient by November 30 of that year.

d. Exemptions

If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report:

i. Subawards,

and

ii. The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any subrecipient.

e. Definitions. For purposes of this award term:

1. *Federal Agency* means a Federal agency as defined at 5 U.S.C. 551(1) and further clarified by 5 U.S.C. 552(f).

2. *Non-Federal entity* means all of the following, as defined in 2 CFR § 25:

i. A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;

ii. A foreign public entity;

iii. A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization; and,

iv. A domestic or foreign for-profit organization.

3. *Executive* means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.

4. *Subaward*:

i. This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.

ii. The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see 2 CFR § 200.331).

iii. A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.

5. *Subrecipient* means a non-Federal entity or Federal agency that:
 - i. Receives a subaward from you (the recipient) under this award; and
 - ii. Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.
6. *Total compensation* means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the recipient's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year and includes the following (for more information see 17 CFR § 229.402(c)(2)).

19. System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements

This award term was extracted verbatim from Appendix A to Part 25. For these purposes, the term “you” means the NSF recipient.

A. Requirement for System for Award Management

Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 CFR § 25.110, you as the recipient must maintain current information in the SAM. This includes information on your immediate and highest level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all of your predecessors that have been awarded a Federal contract or Federal financial assistance within the last three years, if applicable, until you submit the final financial report required under this Federal award or receive the final payment, whichever is later. This requires that you review and update the information at least annually after the initial registration, and more frequently if required by changes in your information or another Federal award term.

B. Requirement for Unique Entity Identifier

If you are authorized to make subawards under this Federal award, you:

1. Must notify potential subrecipients that no entity (see definition in paragraph C of this award term) may receive a subaward from you until the entity has provided its Unique Entity Identifier to you.
2. May not make a subaward to an entity unless the entity has provided its Unique Entity Identifier to you. Subrecipients are not required to obtain an active SAM registration but must obtain a Unique Entity Identifier.

C. Definitions

For purposes of this term:

1. *System for Award Management (SAM)* means the Federal repository into which a recipient must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the SAM Internet site (currently at <https://www.sam.gov>).
2. *Unique Entity Identifier* means the identifier assigned by SAM to uniquely identify business entities.

3. *Entity* includes non-Federal entities as defined at 2 CFR § 200.1 and also includes all of the following, for purposes of this part:

- a. A foreign organization;
- b. A foreign public entity;
- c. A domestic or foreign for-profit organization; and
- d. A Federal agency.

4. *Subaward* has the meaning given in 2 CFR § 200.1.

5. *Subrecipient* has the meaning given in 2 CFR § 200.1.

20. Academic Technology Transfer and Commercialization of University Research

a. Any institution of higher education (as such term is defined in section 101(A) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. § 1001(a)) that receives National Science Foundation research support (i.e., any award or cooperative agreement awarded by NSF) and has received at least \$25,000,000 in total Federal research awards in the most recently completed Federal fiscal year shall keep, maintain, and report annually to the National Science Foundation the universal resource locator (URL) for a public website that contains information concerning its general approach to and mechanisms for transfer of technology and the commercialization of research results, including:

1. contact information for individuals and university offices responsible for technology transfer and commercialization;
2. information for both university researchers and industry on the institution's technology licensing and commercialization strategies;
3. success stories, statistics, and examples of how the university supports commercialization of research results;
4. technologies available for licensing by the university where appropriate; and
5. any other information deemed by the institution to be helpful to companies with the potential to commercialize university inventions.

For purposes of determining whether an institution meets the threshold for this requirement, both the NSF research support and the Federal research awards must have been active at some point during the most recently completed Federal fiscal year.

The institution's URL containing the information required in section a. must be electronically submitted to the following email alias: ACA520@nsf.gov. The URLs are available to the public on Research.gov at: <https://new.nsf.gov/academic-technology-transfer-commercialization>.

b. Trade Secret Information - Notwithstanding section a., an institution shall not be required to reveal confidential, trade secret, or proprietary information on its website.

21. Federal Tax Obligations

Article 21 applies only to awards that have cumulative budgets that exceed \$5,000,000.

In accordance with the *Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020*, the recipient affirms that they:

- (1) have filed all required Federal tax returns during the three years preceding the certification;
- (2) have not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and
- (3) have not, more than 90 days prior to certification, been notified of any unpaid Federal tax assessment for which the liability remains unsatisfied, unless the assessment is the subject of an installment agreement or offer in compromise that has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service and is not in default, or the assessment is the subject of a non-frivolous administrative or judicial proceeding.

22. Payments

Except as noted in [PAPPG Chapter VIII.C](#), the recipient is required to request payments electronically through the ACM\$. Under ACM\$, the recipient must provide award level detail at the time of the payment request. The recipient should request payments in amounts necessary to meet their current needs, pursuant to the guidelines contained in 31 CFR § 205.

23. Cost Sharing or Matching

a. General

1. The recipient must cost share in accordance with any amount specified on Line M of the award budget. Cost sharing participation in other projects may not be counted towards meeting the specific cost sharing requirements of the award and must come from non-Federal sources.
2. Should the recipient become aware that it may be unable to provide the cost sharing of at least the amount identified on Line M of the NSF award budget, it must: a) immediately provide written notification to the cognizant NSF Grants and Agreements Officer of the situation; and b) indicate steps it plans to take to secure replacement cost sharing; or c) indicate the plans it has to either continue or phase out the project in the absence of the approved level of cost sharing.
3. Should NSF agree to the organization's proposed plans, the NSF Grants and Agreements Officer will modify the award accordingly, including, if appropriate, reducing the amount of NSF support. Should the organization's plans be unacceptable to NSF, the

award may be subject to termination. NSF modifications to proposed cost sharing revisions are made on a case-by-case basis.

4. Failure by the organization to notify NSF, in accordance with paragraph 2. above, may result in the disallowance of some or all of the costs charged to the award; the subsequent recovery by NSF of some or all of the NSF funds provided under the award; possible termination of the award; and may constitute a violation of the terms of the award so serious as to provide grounds for subsequent suspension or debarment.

b. Cost Sharing Records

The recipient must maintain records of all project costs that are claimed by the recipient as cost sharing as well as records of costs to be paid by the Government. Such records are subject to audit. Acceptable forms of cost sharing contributions are those that meet the criteria identified in 2 CFR § 200.306. Unless otherwise specified in the award, approval is given to include unrecovered indirect costs (also known as facilities and administrative costs for institutions of higher education) as part of cost sharing or matching contributions. If the recipient's cost participation includes in-kind contributions, the basis for determining the valuation for volunteer services and donated property must be documented.

c. Cost Sharing Reports

The amount of mandatory cost sharing must be documented (on an annual and final basis), certified by the Authorized Organizational Representative, and reported to the cognizant NSF Program Officer via Research.gov. Such notifications must be submitted no later than 90 days prior to the end of the current budget period to meet the annual notification requirement, and no later than 120 days following the end date of the award to meet the final notification requirement. The cost share notification is considered due during the 90- or 120-day period respectively. The notification becomes overdue **the day after the respective 90- or 120-day period ends.**

24. Revision of Budget & Program Plans

The recipient must obtain written approval from NSF as specified in the *Research Terms and Conditions Appendix A, Prior Approval Matrix* (see also Article 2).

25. Audit and Records

In order to avoid duplicate record keeping, NSF may make special arrangements with the recipient to retain any records that are needed for joint use. NSF may request transfer to its custody of records not needed by the recipient when it determines that the records possess long-term retention value. When the records are transferred to, or maintained by NSF, the three-year retention requirement is not applicable to the recipient. In the rare event that this provision is exercised, NSF will negotiate a mutually agreeable arrangement with the recipient regarding reimbursement of costs.

All awards issued by NSF meet the definition of “*Research and Development*” (R&D) at 2 CFR § 200.1. As such, auditees should identify NSF awards as part of the R&D cluster on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA). The auditor should test NSF awards for compliance as instructed in Part V, Clusters of Programs. NSF recognizes that

some awards may have another classification for purposes of indirect costs. The auditor is not required to report the disconnect (i.e., the award is classified as R&D for audit purposes but non-research for indirect cost rate purposes), unless the auditee is charging indirect costs at a rate other than the rate(s) specified in the award document(s).

26. Equipment

Equipment falls under the umbrella of property, which consists of real property and personal property (tangible and intangible). The standards for managing, tracking, and disposing of property funded by NSF or any property acquired for a project under an NSF award are outlined in 2 CFR §§ 200.310-316.

a. Title to Equipment – Exempt Property

Unless otherwise specified in the award, title to equipment purchased or fabricated with NSF award funds will vest with the recipient upon acquisition. Such equipment is considered exempt property and shall be acquired and used in accordance with paragraph b. below. The recipient holds title to the property in trust consistent with [2 CFR § 200.316](#), unless and until the expiration of 120 days from the award end date providing the government has not exercised its conditional interest as further described in paragraph b.7.

b. Conditions for Acquisition and Use of Equipment

1. Recipient Assurance. The recipient will assure that for each purchase of equipment, it is:

- (a) necessary for the research or activity supported by the award;
- (b) not otherwise reasonably available and accessible;
- (c) of the type normally charged as a direct cost to sponsored agreements; and
- (d) acquired in accordance with organizational practice.

2. General Purpose Equipment. Expenditures for general-purpose equipment are typically not eligible for support (see [PAPPG Chapter IX.E.2.b](#)).

3. Equipment Usage. The equipment must remain in use for the specific project for which it was obtained in accordance with [2 CFR § 200.313\(c\)\(1\)](#), unless the provision in [2 CFR § 200.313\(c\)\(4\)](#) applies.

4. Equipment Sharing. The equipment must be shared on other projects or programs in accordance with [2 CFR § 200.313\(c\)\(1\)](#).

5. Property Management Requirements. The recipient shall maintain a property management system that, at a minimum, meets the requirements of [2 CFR § 200.313\(d\)](#), which requires a physical inventory every two years, ensures adequate safeguards to prevent loss, damage, or theft of the property, and provides for maintenance procedures to keep the property in good condition.

6. Competition. The recipient must not use equipment acquired with the Federal award to provide services for a fee that is less than private companies charge for equivalent services, unless specifically authorized by Federal statute for as long as the Federal government retains an interest in the equipment in accordance with [2 CFR § 200.313\(c\)\(3\)](#).

7. Right to Transfer Title. In accordance with 2 CFR § 200.313(e), NSF may identify items of equipment having an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more where NSF reserves the right to transfer the title to the Federal Government or a third party named by the Federal Government at any time during the award period. In cases where NSF elects to transfer the title, disposition instructions will be issued no later than 120 days after the end date of the NSF-supported project for which it was acquired.

c. Reporting Requirements for Federally-owned Property

In the event that title to equipment is vested in the Federal Government, such Federally-owned property (FOP) must be identified, tagged or segregated in such a manner as to clearly indicate its ownership by the Federal government. Unless otherwise provided in the award, such government property must be used only for the performance of the project. An inventory report must be submitted in accordance with paragraph 1. below and a physical inventory of FOP must be conducted every two years pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.313(d)(2).

1. Annual Inventory Report for Federally-owned Property

(a) Submission Requirement: The recipient must submit an annual inventory report by NSF award number for all FOP having an original acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.312(a). The annual inventory report should be submitted to the NSF Property Administrator, Division of Administrative Services, no later than October 15 each year using the NSF Central Property Inventory Repository (CPIR) system.

(b) Content of Annual Inventory Report: The report should include the below information for all FOP purchased or constructed, including land and buildings, under the award, inclusive of all subawards. In addition, the report should include any FOP acquired through the GSA Federal Excess Personal Property Utilization Program and the Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation Program. In the event that the recipient is in possession of FOP under multiple awards, the reporting must be specific to each NSF award number. The recipient may use the OMB-approved Post-Award Reporting forms for Tangible Personal Property (Standard Form (SF)-428, SF-428A, SF-428B, SF-428C, and SF-428S) accessed on the [Grants.gov](#) website.

Required inventory information:

- description of the property;
- serial number or other identification number;
- cost of the property;
- acquisition date;
- use and condition of the property;
- the source of funding for the property (including the Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN));
- who holds title;
- percentage of Federal participation in the project costs for the Federal award under which the property was acquired;
- the location;
- any ultimate disposition data including the date of disposal and sale price of the property; and
- a description of Construction-in-Progress (CIP) and Work-in-Progress (WIP) items and construction costs incurred to date.⁶

2. Final Inventory Report for Federally-owned Property

Upon expiration of the award, the recipient will report all the FOP purchased or constructed under the award or acquired through the GSA Federal Excess Personal Property Utilization Program and the Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation Program to the NSF Property Administrator for further agency utilization and disposition using the CPIR system. The final inventory report must include the same contents as the annual inventory report described in paragraph c.1 above and include the recipient's disposition request (see [PAPPG Chapter IX.E.3](#)).

27. Intangible Property⁷

The following Intangible Property article (implementing the Bayh-Dole Act., [35 U.S.C. § 200 et seq.] shall apply to all awards for scientific or engineering research unless special provisions have been negotiated. The recipient shall include this article in all subawards for scientific or engineering research activities.

a. Definitions

1. *Invention* means any invention or discovery which is or may be patentable or otherwise protectable under Title 35 of the U.S.C., to any novel variety of plant which is or may be protected under the Plant Variety Protection Act ([7 U.S.C. § 2321 et seq.](#))

⁶ CIP is defined as real property that is in the process of being manufactured or fabricated but is not yet complete. WIP is defined as equipment that is in the process of being manufactured or fabricated but is not yet complete. CIP and WIP consist of the costs of direct materials, direct labor, direct purchased services and indirect costs, including general and administrative and overhead costs. Costs coded as such should not be depreciated.

⁷ The recipient is reminded that, in view of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in [Stanford v. Roche](#), employee assignment agreements should include a present conveyance of rights ("I hereby assign" rather than a promise or intent to assign) in order to effectively convey patent rights to the institution, allowing the institution to meet its responsibility under the Bayh-Dole Act to provide the agency with a license to patented inventions.

2. *Subject Invention* means any invention of the recipient conceived or first actually reduced to practice in the performance of work under this award, provided that in the case of a variety of plant, the date of determination (as defined in section 41(d)) must also occur during the period of performance.

3. *Practical Application* means to manufacture in the case of a composition or product, to practice in the case of a process or method, or to operate in the case of a machine or system; and, in each case, under such conditions as to establish that the invention is being utilized and that its benefits are to the extent permitted by law or Government regulations available to the public on reasonable terms.

4. *Made* when used in relation to any invention means the conception or first actual reduction to practice of such invention.

5. *Small Business Firm* means a small business concern as defined at section 2 of Public Law 85-536 (15 U.S.C. § 632) and implementing regulations of the Administrator of the Small Business Administration. For the purpose of this article, the size standards for small business concerns involved in government procurement and subcontracting at 13 CFR § 121.3-8 and 13 CFR § 121.3-12, respectively, will be used.

6. *Non-profit Organization* means a domestic university or other institution of higher education or an organization of the type described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (26 U.S.C. § 501(c)) and exempt from taxation under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. § 501(a)) or any domestic non-profit scientific or educational organization qualified under a State non-profit organization statute.

7. *Statutory Period* means the one-year period before the effective filing date of a claimed invention during which exceptions to prior art exist per 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as amended by the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, Public Law 112-29.

8. *Contractor* means any person, small business firm or nonprofit organization, or, as set forth in section 1, paragraph (b)(4) of Executive Order 12591, as amended, any business firm regardless of size, which is a party to a funding agreement.

b. Allocation of Principal Rights

The recipient may retain the entire right, title and interest throughout the world to each subject invention subject to the provisions of this Intangible Property article and 35 U.S.C. § 203. With respect to any subject invention in which the recipient retains title, the Federal Government shall have a non-exclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to practice or have practiced for or on behalf of the U.S. the subject invention throughout the world. If the award indicates it is subject to an identified international agreement or treaty, NSF also has the right to direct the recipient to convey to any foreign participant such patent rights to subject inventions as are required to comply with that agreement or treaty.

c. Invention Disclosure, Election of Title and Filing of Patent Applications by Recipient

1. The recipient will disclose each subject invention to NSF within two months after the inventor discloses it in writing to recipient personnel responsible for the administration of patent matters. The disclosure to NSF shall be in the form of a written report and shall

identify the award under which the invention was made and the inventor(s). It shall be sufficiently complete in technical detail to convey a clear understanding of the nature, purpose, operation and, to the extent known, the physical, chemical, biological or electrical characteristics of the invention. The disclosure shall also identify any publication, on sale or public use of the invention and whether a manuscript describing the invention has been submitted for publication and, if so, whether it has been accepted for publication at the time of disclosure. In addition, after disclosure to NSF, the recipient will promptly notify NSF of the acceptance of any manuscript describing the invention for publication or of any on sale or public use planned by the recipient.

2. The recipient will elect in writing whether or not to retain title to any such invention by notifying NSF within two years of disclosure to NSF. However, in any case where a patent, a printed publication, public use, sale or other availability to the public has initiated the one-year statutory period wherein valid patent protection can still be obtained in the U.S., the period for election of title may be shortened by NSF to a date that is no more than 60 days prior to the end of the statutory period.

3. The recipient will file its initial patent application on an invention to which it elects to retain title within one year after election of title or, if earlier, prior to the end of any statutory period wherein valid patent protection can be obtained in the U.S. after a publication, on sale, or public use. If the recipient files a provisional application as its initial patent application, it shall file a non-provisional application within 10 months of the filing of the provisional application. The recipient will file patent applications in additional countries or international patent offices within either ten months of the first filed patent application, or six months from the date when permission is awarded by the Commissioner of Patents to file foreign patent applications when such filing has been prohibited by a Secrecy Order.

4. For any subject invention with NSF and recipient co-inventors, where NSF determines that it would be in the interest of the government, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 207(a)(3), to file an initial patent application on the subject invention, NSF, at its discretion and in consultation with the recipient, may file such application at its own expense, provided that the recipient retains the ability to elect title pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 202(a).

5. Requests for extension of the time for disclosure to NSF, election and filing under subparagraphs 1., 2. and 3 may, at the discretion of NSF, be awarded. When a recipient has requested an extension for filing a non-provisional application after filing a provisional application, a one-year extension will be awarded unless NSF notifies the contractor within 60 days of receiving the request.

d. Conditions When the Government May Obtain Title

The recipient will convey to NSF, upon written request, title to any subject invention:

1. if the recipient fails to disclose or elect the subject invention within the times specified in paragraph c. above, or elects not to retain title;

2. in those countries in which the recipient fails to file patent applications within the times specified in paragraph c. above, provided, however, that if the recipient has filed a patent application in a country after the times specified in paragraph c. of this article, but

prior to its receipt of the written request of NSF, the recipient shall continue to retain title in that country; or

3. in any country in which the recipient decides not to continue the prosecution of any non-provisional patent application for, to pay a maintenance, annuity or renewal fee on, or defend in a reexamination or opposition proceeding on, a patent on a subject invention.

e. Minimum Rights to Recipient

1. The recipient will retain a non-exclusive royalty-free license throughout the world in each subject invention to which the Government obtains title, except if the recipient fails to disclose the subject invention within the times specified in paragraph c. above. The recipient's license extends to its domestic subsidiaries and affiliates, if any, within the corporate structure of which the recipient is a party and includes the right to award sublicenses of the same scope to the extent the recipient was legally obligated to do so at the time the award was made. The license is transferable only with the approval of NSF except when transferred to the successor of that part of the recipient's business to which the invention pertains.

2. The recipient's domestic license may be revoked or modified by NSF to the extent necessary to achieve expeditious practical application of the subject invention pursuant to an application for an exclusive license submitted in accordance with applicable provisions at [37 CFR § 404](#). This license will not be revoked in that field of use or the geographical areas in which the recipient has achieved practical application and continues to make the benefits of the invention reasonably accessible to the public. The license in any foreign country may be revoked or modified at discretion of NSF to the extent the recipient, its licensees or its domestic subsidiaries or affiliates have failed to achieve practical application in that foreign country.

3. Before revocation or modification of the license, NSF will furnish the recipient a written notice of its intention to revoke or modify the license, and the recipient will be allowed 30 days (or such other time as may be authorized by NSF for good cause shown by the recipient) after the notice to show cause why the license should not be revoked or modified. The recipient has the right to appeal, in accordance with applicable regulations in [37 CFR § 404](#) concerning the licensing of Government-owned inventions, any decision concerning the revocation or modification of its license.

f. Recipient Action to Protect Government's Interest

1. The recipient agrees to execute or to have executed and promptly deliver to NSF all instruments necessary to: (i) establish or confirm the rights the Government has throughout the world in those subject inventions for which the recipient retains title; and (ii) convey title to NSF when requested under paragraph d. above, and to enable the Government to obtain patent protection throughout the world in that subject invention.

2. The recipient agrees to require, by written agreement, its employees, other than clerical and non-technical employees, to disclose promptly in writing to personnel identified as responsible for the administration of patent matters and in a format suggested by the recipient each subject invention made under this award in order that the recipient can comply with the disclosure provisions of paragraph c. above, to assign to the recipient the entire right, title and interest in and to each subject invention made under the award,

and to execute all papers necessary to file patent applications on subject inventions and to establish the Government's rights in the subject inventions. The disclosure format should require, as a minimum, the information requested by paragraph c.1 above. The recipient shall instruct such employees through the employee agreements or other suitable educational programs on the importance of reporting inventions in sufficient time to permit the filing of patent applications prior to U.S. or foreign statutory bars.

3. For each subject invention, the recipient will no less than 60 days prior to the expiration of the statutory deadline, notify NSF of any decision: not to continue the prosecution of a non-provisional patent application; not to pay a maintenance, annuity or renewal fee; not to defend in a reexamination or opposition proceeding on a patent, in any country; to request, be a party to, or take action in a trial proceeding before the Patent Trial and Appeals Board of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, including but not limited to post-award review, review of a business method patent, *inter partes* review, and derivation proceeding; or to request, be a party to, or take action in a non-trial submission of art or information at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, including but not limited to a pre-issuance submission, a post-issuance submission, and supplemental.

4. The recipient agrees to include, within the specification of any U.S. patent application and any patent issuing thereon covering a subject invention, the following statement:

"This invention was made with Government support under (identify NSF award number) awarded by the National Science Foundation. The Government has certain rights in this invention."

5. The recipient or its representative will complete, execute and forward to NSF a confirmation of a License to the U.S. Government and the page of a United States patent application that contains the Federal support article within two months of filing any domestic or foreign patent application.

g. Subawards

1. The recipient will include this Intangible Property article, suitably modified to identify the parties, in all subawards, regardless of tier, for experimental, developmental or research work. The subrecipient will retain all rights provided for the recipient in this Intangible Property article, and the recipient will not, as part of the consideration for awarding the subaward, obtain rights in the subrecipients' subject inventions.

2. In the case of subawards, at any tier, when the prime award by NSF was a contract (but not a cooperative agreement), NSF, subrecipient and contractor agree that the mutual obligations of the parties created by this Intangible Property article constitute a contract between the subrecipient and the Foundation with respect to those matters covered by this Intangible Property article.

h. Reporting on Utilization of Subject Inventions

Upon request, the recipient agrees to submit on request periodic reports no more frequently than annually on the utilization of a subject invention or on efforts at obtaining such utilization that are being made by the recipient or its licensees or assignees. Such reports shall include information regarding the status of development, date of first

commercial sale or use, gross royalties received by the recipient and such other data and information as NSF may reasonably specify. The recipient also agrees to provide additional reports in connection with any march-in proceeding undertaken by NSF in accordance with paragraph j. of this Intangible Property article. As required by [35 U.S.C. § 202\(c\)\(5\)](#), NSF agrees it will not disclose such information to persons outside the Government without the permission of the recipient.

i. Preference for United States Industry

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Intangible Property article, the recipient agrees that neither it nor any assignee will award to any person the exclusive right to use or sell any subject invention in the U.S. unless such person agrees that any products embodying the subject invention or produced through the use of the subject invention will be manufactured substantially in the U.S. However, in individual cases, the requirement for such an agreement may be waived by NSF upon a showing by the recipient or its assignee that reasonable but unsuccessful efforts have been made to award licenses on similar terms to potential licensees that would be likely to manufacture substantially in the U.S. or that under the circumstances domestic manufacture is not commercially feasible.

j. March-in Rights

The recipient agrees that with respect to any subject invention in which it has acquired title, NSF has the right in accordance with procedures at [37 CFR § 401.6](#) and the NSF [PAPPG Chapter XI.D.1.i.](#) to require the recipient, an assignee or exclusive licensee of a subject invention to award a non-exclusive, partially exclusive or exclusive license in any field of use to a responsible applicant or applicants, upon terms that are reasonable under the circumstances and if the recipient, assignee or exclusive licensee refuses such a request, NSF has the right to award such a license itself if NSF determines that such action is necessary:

1. because the recipient or assignee has not taken or is not expected to take within a reasonable time, effective steps to achieve practical application of the subject invention in such field of use;
2. to alleviate health or safety needs which are not reasonably satisfied by the recipient, assignee, or their licensees;
3. to meet requirements for public use specified by Federal regulations and such requirements are not reasonably satisfied by the recipient, assignee, or licensee; or
4. because the agreement required by paragraph i. of this Intangible Property article has not been obtained or waived or because a licensee of the exclusive right to use or sell any subject invention in the U.S. is in breach of such agreement.

k. Special Provisions for Awards with Non-profit Organizations

If the recipient is a non-profit organization, it agrees that:

1. rights to a subject invention in the U.S. may not be assigned without the approval of NSF, except where such assignment is made to an organization which has as one of its primary functions the management of inventions, provided that such assignee will be subject to the same provisions as the recipient;
2. the recipient will share royalties collected on a subject invention with the inventor, including Federal employee co-inventors (when NSF deems it appropriate) when the subject invention is assigned in accordance with [35 U.S.C. § 202\(e\)](#) and [37 CFR § 401.10](#);
3. the balance of any royalties or income earned by the recipient with respect to subject inventions, after payment of expenses (including payments to inventors) incidental to the administration of subject inventions, will be utilized for the support of scientific or engineering research or education; and
4. it will make efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to attract licensees of subject inventions that are small business firms and that it will give preference to a small business firm if the recipient determines that the small business firm has a plan or proposal for marketing the invention which, if executed, is equally likely to bring the invention to practical application as any plans or proposals from applicants that are not small business firms; provided that the recipient is also satisfied that the small business firm has the capability and resources to carry out its plan or proposal.

The decision whether to give a preference in any specific case will be at the discretion of the recipient. However, the recipient agrees that NSF may review the recipient's licensing program and decisions regarding small business applicants, and the recipient will negotiate changes to its licensing policies, procedures or practices with NSF when NSF's review discloses that the recipient could take reasonable steps to implement more effectively the requirements of this paragraph k.4. In accordance with 37 CFR § 401.7, NSF or the recipient may request that the Secretary review the recipient's licensing program and decisions regarding small business applicants.

I. Communications. All communications required by this Intangible Property article must be submitted through the [iEdison Invention Information Management System](#) maintained by the National Institute of Standards & Technology unless prior permission for another form of submission is obtained from the Patent Assistant at patents@nsf.gov or at Office of the General Counsel, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314.

28. Copyrighted Material

Except as otherwise specified in the award or by this paragraph, the recipient may own or permit others to own copyright in all subject writings. *Subject writing* means any material that:

1. is or may be copyrightable under Title 17 of the U.S.C.; and
2. is produced by the recipient or its employees in the performance of work under this award.

Subject writings include such items as reports, books, journal articles, software, databases, sound recordings, videotapes, and videodiscs.

The recipient agrees that if it or anyone else does own copyright in a subject writing, the Federal government will have a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, royalty-free license to exercise or have exercised for or on behalf of the U.S. throughout the world all the exclusive rights provided by copyright. Such license, however, will not include the right to sell copies or phonorecords of the copyrighted works to the public.

a. Awards Affected by International Agreements

If the award indicates it is subject to an identified international agreement or treaty, NSF can direct the recipient to convey to any foreign participant or otherwise dispose of such rights to subject writings as are required to comply with that agreement or treaty. In such cases, the standard clauses for Copyrighted Material or Intangible Property will be modified through the addition of the following:

“This project is supported under the cooperative program listed below. Your rights in inventions, writings and data may be affected.”

The applicable agreement or treaty will be identified immediately beneath that sentence.

b. Recipient Action to Protect Government Interests

The recipient agrees to acquire, through written agreement or an employment relationship, the ability to comply with the requirements of the preceding paragraphs and, in particular, to acquire the ability to convey rights in a subject writing to a foreign participant if directed by NSF under the previous paragraph. The recipient further agrees that any transfer of copyright or any other rights to a subject writing, by it or anyone whom it has allowed to own such rights, will be made subject to the requirements of this article.

29. Public Access to Copyrighted Material

NSF’s policy on public access to copyrighted material ([Public Access Policy](#)) reflects the Foundation’s commitment to making certain that, to the extent possible, the American public, industry and the scientific community have access to the results of federally funded scientific research. Pursuant to this policy, the recipient must ensure that all articles in peer-reviewed scholarly journals and papers in juried conference proceedings:

- are deposited in a public access compliant repository (as identified in the Public Access Policy);
- are available for download, reading and analysis within 12 months of publication;
- possess a minimum set of machine-readable metadata elements as described in the Public Access Policy;
- are reported in annual and final annual reports with a persistent identifier.

Either the final printed version or the final peer-reviewed manuscript is acceptable for deposit.

30. Publications

a. Acknowledgment of Support

The recipient is responsible for assuring that an acknowledgment of NSF support is made in alignment with [PAPPG Chapter XI.E](#), [NSF Policy on Brand Standards](#) and the [NSF Brand Standards Manual](#)⁸ including:

1. Written and visual acknowledgment on any publication (including World Wide Web pages) of any material based on or developed under this project, by including the NSF logo along with written acknowledgement in the following terms:

"This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. National Science Foundation under award No. (NSF award number)."

2. Instrumentation/equipment must be marked with the NSF logo by the recipient if the purchase price is \$150,000 or more, in accordance with the guidance specified in the NSF Brand Standards Manual.

3. Awards of \$1 million or more must follow additional guidelines found in the NSF Policy on Brand Standards related to:

- (a) use and naming conventions;
- (b) signage;
- (c) websites;
- (d) social media; and
- (e) filming and advertising.

4. Oral acknowledgment of NSF support during all media interviews including, but not limited to, social media, podcasts, radio, television, film and other publications.

b. Disclaimer

The recipient is responsible for assuring that every publication of material (including World Wide Web pages) based on or developed under this award, except scientific articles or papers appearing in scientific, technical or professional journals, contains the following disclaimer:

"Any opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. National Science Foundation."

See [PAPPG Chapter XI.E](#) for additional information on Publication/Distribution of Award Materials.

⁸ Any questions regarding the NSF Policy on Brand Standards or the NSF Brand Standards Manual should be addressed to the NSF Office of Legislative and Public Affairs at: NSFbranding@nsf.gov.

c. Copies for NSF

The recipient is responsible for assuring that the cognizant NSF Program Officer is provided access to, either electronically or in paper form, a copy of every publication of material based on or developed under this award, clearly labeled with the award number and other appropriate identifying information, promptly after publication.

d. Costs for Publication or Dissemination of Research Results

In accordance with 2 CFR § 200.461, costs for publication or dissemination of research results may be charged to this award during closeout if the costs are not incurred during the period of performance. If charged to the award during closeout, these costs must be charged to the final budget period, unless otherwise specified by NSF.

31. Program Income

a. Standard Treatment

Unless otherwise specified in the award, program income received or accruing to the recipient during the period of the award is to be retained by the recipient, added to the funds committed to the project by NSF, and thus used to further project objectives. The recipient has no obligation to NSF with respect to program income received beyond the period of the award.

The recipient also shall have no obligation to NSF with respect to program income earned from license fees and royalties for copyrighted material, patents, patent applications, trademarks and inventions produced under an award (see [PAPPG Chapter VIII.D.4](#)). However, Patent and Trademark Amendments (35 U.S.C. § 18) shall apply to inventions made under an award.

Efforts should be made to avoid having unexpended program income remaining at the end date of the award. Program income earned during the project period should be expended prior to requesting reimbursement against the award. In the event the recipient has unexpended program income remaining at the end of the award, it must be remitted to NSF by crediting costs otherwise chargeable against the award. If it is not possible to record the credit via ACM\$, the excess program income must be remitted to NSF electronically or by check payable to the National Science Foundation.

b. Special Treatment

In exceptional circumstances, NSF may approve use of a special award provision to restrict or eliminate the recipient's control of income earned through NSF-supported activities if it determines that this would best serve the purposes of a particular program or award. The special provisions may require treatment of the program income via use of the deductive method, the Federal share of program income be kept in a separate account or reported on and/or remitted for such periods as may be reasonable under the circumstances.

If, in accordance with the award terms and conditions, program income is designated for deductive treatment, it must be remitted to NSF by crediting costs otherwise chargeable against the award. Program income in excess of the award will be remitted to NSF electronically or by check payable to the National Science Foundation.

c. Records Retention

The recipient is required to retain appropriate financial and other records relating to program income earned during the award period of performance and for three years beyond the date of submission of the final financial disbursements in ACM\$. For instructions regarding final disbursement reporting, see [PAPPG Chapter VIII.E](#).

d. Reporting Requirements

On an annual basis, the recipient is required to submit a Program Income Reporting Worksheet to NSF in order to report program income earned and expended for any of their awards or to validate that they did not earn and expend program income for any of their awards during the applicable period. The Program Income Reporting Worksheet utilizes the standard OMB-approved Government-wide data elements from the Program Income section of the Federal Financial Report (SF 425) and is due 45 days after the end of the Federal Fiscal Year. The Program Income Reporting Worksheet and related instructions are available through Research.gov (<http://research.gov/programincome>).

Failure to report program income or to validate that no program income was earned/expended could result in suspension of future award payments.

32. Reporting Classifiable Information

NSF awards are intended for unclassified, publicly releasable research. The recipient will not be awarded access to classified information. NSF does not expect that the results of the research project will involve classified information.

If, however, in conducting the activities supported under an award, the PI or co-PI is concerned that any of the research results involve potentially classifiable information that may warrant Government restrictions on the dissemination of the results, the PI or co-PI should promptly notify the cognizant NSF Program Officer.

33. Animal Welfare

a. Any recipient performing research on live vertebrate animals⁹ must comply with the *Animal Welfare Act* [7 U.S.C. §§ 2131 et seq.] and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the Secretary of Agriculture [9 CFR §§ 1.1-4.11] pertaining to the humane care, handling and treatment of live vertebrate animals held or used for research, teaching or other activities supported by Federal awards. The recipient is expected to ensure that the guidelines described in the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) Publication, "*Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*" are followed and to comply with the *Public Health Service Policy and Government Principles Regarding the Care and Use of Animals* (included as Appendix D to the NASEM Guide). Further

⁹ In addition to live vertebrate animals covered by the Animal Welfare Act, the requirements specified in this article also are extended to rats, birds, and mice.

guidance on the use of live vertebrate animals in NSF funded projects can be found in [PAPPG Chapter XI.B.3](#).

b. The recipient must include NSF-supported activities with live vertebrate animals as covered activities in their Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) Animal Welfare Assurance. Further, they must promptly report situations involving NSF-supported animal activities to OLAW as required by the Public Health Service (PHS) [Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals](#) Section IV.F.3. The cognizant NSF Program Officer also must be notified.

c. Any changes to, or lapses in, the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee approved animal use protocols associated with an NSF award must be reported promptly by the recipient to the cognizant NSF Program Officer.

d. In the event the recipient's multi-project Assurance is cancelled or lapses, the recipient must immediately notify the cognizant NSF Grants and Agreements Officer identified in the award notice.

e. Research facilities subject to the *Animal Welfare Act* using or intending to use live animals in research and who receive Federal funding are required to register the facility with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture. The location of the nearest APHIS Regional Office, as well as information concerning this, and other APHIS activities may be obtained at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/>.

34. Investigator Financial Disclosure Policy

If the recipient employs more than 50 persons, the recipient must maintain an appropriate written and enforced policy on conflict of interest consistent with the provisions of [PAPPG Chapter IX.A](#).

35. State Sales and Use Taxes

The recipient is reminded that the governing cost principles limit the allowability of taxes to those the organization is required to pay. The recipient must avail itself of any tax exemptions for which any activities supported by Federal funds may qualify, including any applicable exemptions from State or local sales and use taxes on the purchase of goods and services made with NSF award funds.

36. Domestic Preferences for Procurements

The recipient is notified of the applicability of 2 CFR § 200.322, entitled *Domestic Preferences for Procurements*.

37. Build America, Buy America

a. The recipient is subject to the Buy America Sourcing requirements under the Build America, Buy America provisions of the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act \(IIJA\)](#) (P.L. 117-58, §§ 70911-70917) when using Federal funds for the purchase of goods, products, and materials on any form of construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of infrastructure in the United States regardless of the appropriation.

These sourcing requirements require that all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in Federally funded infrastructure projects must be produced in the United States. The recipient must implement these requirements in its procurements, and this article must flow down to all subawards and contracts at any tier. For legal definitions and sourcing requirements, the recipient must consult NSF's Implementation of the Act on the [Build America, Buy America website](#).

b. When supported by rationale provided in IIJA § 70914, the recipient must submit a waiver request to the cognizant NSF Program Officer and Grants and Agreements Officer. Non-compliant purchases must not be made in advance of waiver approval. Guidance on the submission of an NSF waiver request is available on the [Build America, Buy America website](#).

38. Breach of Personally Identifiable Information

A recipient that uses or operates a Federal information system or creates, collects, uses, processes, stores, maintains, disseminates, discloses, or disposes of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) within the scope of an NSF award, must have procedures in place to respond to a breach of PII. These procedures should promote cooperation and the free exchange of information with NSF, as needed to properly escalate, refer and respond to a breach. The recipient must notify the cognizant NSF Grants and Agreements Officer upon learning that a breach of PII within the scope of an NSF award has occurred.

39. Notification Requirements Regarding Sexual Harassment, Other Forms of Harassment, or Sexual Assault

The PI and any co-PI(s) identified on an NSF award are in a position of trust. The PI and co-PI(s) and all award personnel must comport themselves in a responsible and accountable manner during the performance of award activities whether at the recipient organization, on-line, or conducted outside the organization, such as at field sites, facilities, or during conferences and workshops.

For purposes of this article, the following definitions apply:

Sexual Harassment: May include but is not limited to gender or sex-based harassment, unwelcome sexual attention, sexual coercion, or creating a hostile environment, as set forth in organizational policies or codes of conduct, statutes, regulations, or executive orders.

Other Forms of Harassment: Non-gender or non-sex-based harassment of individuals protected under federal civil rights laws, as set forth in organizational policies or codes of conduct, statutes, regulations, or executive orders.

Finding/Determination: The final disposition of a matter involving sexual harassment or other form of harassment under organizational policies and processes, to include the exhaustion of permissible appeals exercised by the PI or co-PI, or a conviction of a sexual offense in a criminal court of law.

Administrative Leave/Administrative Action: Any temporary/interim suspension or permanent removal of the PI or co-PI, or any administrative action imposed on the PI or co-PI by the recipient under organizational policies or codes of conduct, statutes, regulations, or executive orders, relating to activities, including but not limited to the following: teaching, advising, mentoring, research, management/administrative duties, or presence on campus.

The recipient is required to notify NSF of: (1) Any finding/determination regarding the PI or any co-PI¹⁰ that demonstrates a violation of recipient policies or codes of conduct, statutes, regulations, or executive orders relating to sexual harassment, other forms of harassment, or sexual assault; and/or (2) if the PI or any co-PI is placed on administrative leave or if any administrative action has been imposed on the PI or any co-PI by the recipient relating to any finding/determination or an investigation of an alleged violation of recipient policies or codes of conduct, statutes, regulations, or executive orders relating to sexual harassment, other forms of harassment, or sexual assault.¹¹ Such notification must be submitted by the AOR to NSF's Office of Equity and Civil Rights at www.nsf.gov/harassment within ten business days from the date of the finding/determination, or the date of the placement of a PI or co-PI by the recipient on administrative leave or the imposition of an administrative action, whichever is sooner.¹²

Each notification must include the following information:

- NSF Award Number;
- Name of PI or co-PI being reported;¹³
- Type of Notification: Select one of the following:
 - Finding/Determination that the reported individual has been found to have violated recipient policies or codes of conduct, statutes, regulations, or executive orders relating to sexual harassment, other forms of harassment, or sexual assault; or
 - Placement by the recipient of the reported individual on administrative leave or the imposition of any administrative action on the PI or any co-PI by the recipient relating to any finding/determination or an investigation of an alleged violation of recipient policies or codes of conduct, statutes, regulations, or executive orders relating to sexual harassment, other forms of harassment, or sexual assault.

¹⁰ If a co-PI is affiliated with a subrecipient organization, the Authorized Organizational Representative of the subrecipient must provide the requisite information directly to NSF, as instructed in this paragraph.

¹¹ Recipient findings/determinations and placement of a PI or co-PI on administrative leave or the imposition of an administrative action must be conducted in accordance with organizational policies and processes. They also must be conducted in accordance with federal laws, regulations, and executive orders.

¹² Such notification must be provided regardless of whether the behavior leading to the finding/determination, or placement on administrative leave, or the imposition of an administrative action occurred while the PI or co-PI was carrying out award activities.

¹³ Only the identification of the PI or co-PI is required. Personally identifiable information regarding any complainants or other individuals involved in the matter must not be included in the notification.

- Description of the finding/determination and action(s) taken, if any; and
- Reason(s) for, and conditions of, placement of the PI or any co-PI on administrative leave or imposition of administrative action.

The recipient, at any time, may propose a substitute investigator if it determines the PI or any co-PI may not be able to carry out the funded project or activity and/or abide by the award terms and conditions. The recipient is reminded of its responsibility to obtain prior written approval from NSF in the event the investigator will be disengaged from the project for a period greater than three months. See [PAPPG Chapter VII.B.2.a](#) for additional information.

In reviewing the notification, NSF will consider, at a minimum, the following factors:

- a. the safety and security of personnel supported by the NSF award;
- b. the overall impact to the NSF-funded activity;
- c. the continued advancement of taxpayer-funded investments in science and scientists; and
- d. whether the recipient has taken appropriate action(s) to ensure the continuity of science and that continued progress under the funded project can be made.

Upon receipt and review of the information provided, NSF will consult with the AOR, or designee. Based on the results of this review and consultation, the Foundation may, if necessary, assert its programmatic stewardship responsibilities and oversight authority to initiate the substitution or removal of the PI or any co-PI, reduce the award funding amount, or where neither of those previous options is available or adequate, to suspend or terminate the award.

Other personnel supported by an NSF award must likewise remain in full compliance with recipient policies or codes of conduct, statutes, regulations, or executive orders relating to sexual harassment, other forms of harassment, or sexual assault. With regard to any personnel not in compliance, the recipient must make appropriate arrangements to ensure the safety and security of other award personnel and the continued progress of the funded project. Notification of these actions is not required under this article.

40. Post-award Disclosure of Current Support and In-Kind Contribution Information

If an organization discovers that a PI or co-PI on an active NSF award failed to disclose current support or in-kind contribution information¹⁴ as part of the proposal submission process (see [PAPPG Chapter II.D.2.h\(ii\)](#)), the AOR must submit the following information within 30 calendar days of the identification of the undisclosed current support or in-kind contribution through use of the Notification and Request Module in Research.gov.

¹⁴ The post-award disclosure requirement applies to current support (including in-kind contributions) that was active as of the date the proposal was submitted to NSF. See [NSTC Pre-award and Post-award Disclosures Relating to the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending \(Other\) Support](#) which has been developed to assist users in determining the types of activities that must be disclosed.

Post-award Disclosure of Project Support Information

- PI/co-PI Name:
- Project Title:
- Award Number (if available):
- Source of Support:
- Primary Place of Performance:
- Project Start and End Date:
- Total Award Amount (including Indirect Costs): \$
- Brief Description of the Major goals of the project:
- Description of any Overlap/Duplication of the project with the NSF award:
- Impact on the ability of the PI/co-PI to carry out the NSF award:
- Person-Month(s) (or Partial Person-Months) Per Year Committed to the Project:
 - Enter the applicable year (e.g., 2024, 2025):

Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

- Enter the applicable year (e.g., 2024, 2025):

Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

- Enter the applicable year (e.g., 2024, 2025):

Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

- Enter the applicable year (e.g., 2024, 2025):

Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

- Enter the applicable year (e.g., 2024, 2025):

Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

Post-award Disclosure of In-Kind Contribution Information

- PI/co-PI Name:
- Source of Support:
- Primary Place of Performance:
- Summary of In-kind Contributions:
- Description of any Overlap/Duplication of the project with the NSF award:
- Impact on the ability of the PI/co-PI to carry out the NSF award:
- Person-Month(s) (or Partial Person-Months) Per Year Committed to the Project:
 - Enter the applicable year (e.g., 2024, 2025):

Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

- Enter the applicable year (e.g., 2024, 2025):

Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

- Enter the applicable year (e.g., 2024, 2025):

Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

- Enter the applicable year (e.g., 2024, 2025):

Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

- Enter the applicable year (e.g., 2024, 2025):

Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

- Dollar Value of In-kind Contribution: \$

Upon receipt and review of the information provided, NSF may consult with the AOR, or designee, if necessary. Based on the results of this review, the Foundation will determine the impact of the new information on the NSF-funded award, and, where necessary, take appropriate action.

41. Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program Certification

Pursuant to Section 10632 (42 U.S.C. § 19232) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022, each PI and co-PI identified on a proposal submitted or due on or after May 20, 2024, that results in an award, must certify annually in Research.gov, for the duration of the award that such individual is not a party to a malign foreign talent recruitment program.

These certifications shall not apply retroactively to proposals submitted prior to May 20, 2024.

False representations may be subject to prosecution and liability pursuant to, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. §§ 287, 1001, 1031 and 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733 and 3802.

42. Postaward Additions of Postdoctoral Scholars or Graduate Students

If a recipient rebudgets funds to support a postdoctoral scholar or graduate student and the original proposal included a mentoring plan, no further documentation is necessary. If the original proposal did not include a mentoring plan, then the recipient must email the cognizant NSF Program Officer the requisite mentoring plan, as described in [PAPPG Chapter II.D.2.i\(i\)](#).

If supplemental funding is requested to support a postdoctoral scholar or graduate student and the original proposal did not include a mentoring plan, then the supplemental funding request must include the requisite mentoring plan, as described in PAPPG Chapter II.D.2.i(i). The plan should be uploaded to the “Other Supplementary Documents” section of the Research.gov Supplemental Funding Request module.

In all cases, a PI or co-PI must report on the mentoring activities provided to the individual in the annual and final annual project reports.

43. Individual Development Plans for Postdoctoral Scholars and Graduate Students

In accordance with Section 10313 (42 U.S.C. § 18993) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022, for each NSF award that provides substantial support to postdoctoral scholars and graduate students, each individual must have an individual development plan, which is updated annually, that maps the educational goals, career exploration, and professional development of the individual. NSF defines “substantial support” as an individual that has received funding for one person month or more during the annual reporting period under the NSF award. See also Article 8.d for the annual certification requirement.

44. Termination and Enforcement

a. Any suspension or termination action taken by NSF must be issued by a cognizant NSF Grants and Agreements Officer and will be in accordance with this article, 2 CFR § 200.340, and [PAPPG Chapter XII.A](#).

b. The award may be suspended or terminated in whole or in part in any of the following situations:

1. By NSF, if the recipient fails to comply with the terms and conditions of a Federal award;

2. By NSF, to the greatest extent authorized by law, if an award longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities;

3. By NSF, with the consent of the recipient, in which case the two parties must agree upon the termination conditions, including the effective date and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated;

4. By the recipient upon sending to NSF written notification setting forth the reasons for such termination, the effective date, and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated. However, if NSF determines in the case of partial termination that the reduced or modified portion of the NSF award will not accomplish the purposes for which the NSF award was made, NSF may terminate the Federal award in its entirety;

5. By NSF, pursuant to termination provisions included in the NSF award; or

6. By NSF, when ordered by the Deputy Director under NSF’s Regulation on Research Misconduct [45 CFR § 689].

c. Normally, action by NSF to suspend or terminate an award will be taken only after the recipient has been informed by NSF of any deficiency on its part and given an opportunity to correct it. NSF, however, may immediately suspend or terminate the award without notice when it believes such action is reasonable to protect the interests of the Government.

d. No costs incurred during a suspension period or after the effective date of a termination will be allowable, except those costs which, in the opinion of NSF, the recipient could not reasonably avoid or eliminate, or which were otherwise authorized by the suspension or termination notice, provided such costs would otherwise be allowable under the terms of the award and the governing cost principles.

e. Within 30 days of the termination date, the recipient will furnish a summary of progress under the award and an itemized accounting of costs incurred prior to the termination date or pursuant to d, above. Final allowable costs under a termination settlement shall be in accordance with the terms of the award, including this article, and the governing cost principles, giving due consideration to the progress under the award. In no event will the total of NSF payments under a terminated award exceed the award amount, or the NSF pro rata share of the total project costs when cost sharing was anticipated, whichever is less.

f. When an NSF award is terminated or partially terminated, both NSF and the recipient remain responsible for compliance with the requirements in 2 CFR §§ 200.344 and 200.345.

g. A notice of termination other than by mutual agreement and/or the final settlement amount may be subject to review pursuant to Article 45.

h. NSF will report award terminations to the OMB-designated integrity and performance system in accordance with Federal regulation, but only after the recipient has had an opportunity to exhaust the review procedures contained in [PAPPG Chapter XII.B](#). See also Article 8.g for additional information on FAPIIS.

45. Termination Review Procedure

a. A request for review of a notice of termination or settlement should be addressed to the Division Director, Division of Grants and Agreements, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA, 22314. It must be postmarked no later than 30 days after the date of the letter notifying the recipient of the termination or settlement.

b. The request for review must contain a full statement of the recipient's position with respect to the disputed matter and the facts and rationale that support the recipient's position.

c. Review of a notice of termination or settlement will be conducted in accordance with [PAPPG Chapter XII.B.3](#).

d. Pending resolution of the request for review, the notice of termination shall remain in effect.

46. Resolution of Conflicting Conditions

- a. If the *Research Terms and Conditions (RTCs)* and *NSF Agency Specific Requirements to the Research Terms and Conditions* are silent on a specific area covered by 2 CFR § 200, the requirements specified in 2 CFR § 200 must be followed.
- b. Should there be any inconsistency between the RTCs and *NSF Agency Specific Requirements*, and the *NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide*, the RTCs and *NSF Agency Specific Requirements* govern.
- c. Should there be any inconsistency between any special condition(s) specified in the award notice and RTCs and *NSF Agency Specific Requirements*, the special conditions in the award notice shall govern.
- d. Should there be any inconsistency between the RTCs and *NSF Agency Specific Requirements* and any NSF solicitation cited or incorporated by reference in the award notice, the matter should be referred to the cognizant NSF Grants and Agreements Officer for guidance.

Other Considerations

47. Liability

NSF cannot assume any liability for accidents, bodily injury, illness, breach of contract, any other damages or loss, or any claims arising out of any activities undertaken pursuant to the award, whether with respect to persons or property of the recipient or third parties. The recipient is advised to insure or otherwise protect itself or others, as it may deem desirable.

48. Sharing of Findings, Data, and Other Research Products

- a. NSF expects significant findings from research and education activities it supports to be promptly submitted for publication, with authorship that accurately reflects the contributions of those involved. It expects investigators to share with other researchers, at no more than incremental cost and within a reasonable time, the data, samples, physical collections, and other supporting materials created or gathered in the course of the work. It also encourages the recipient to share software and inventions or otherwise act to make the innovations they embody widely useful and usable.
- b. Adjustments and, where essential, exceptions may be allowed to safeguard the rights of individuals and subjects, the validity of results, or the integrity of collections or to accommodate legitimate interests of investigators.

49. Government Permits and Activities Abroad

a. For awards that include activities requiring permits from appropriate Federal, state, or local government authorities, the recipient should obtain any required permits prior to undertaking the proposed activities.

b. The recipient must comply with the laws and regulations of any foreign country in which research is to be conducted. Areas of potential concern include: (1) requirements for advance approval to conduct research or surveys; (2) special arrangements for the participation of foreign scientists and engineers; and (3) special visas for persons engaged in research or studies. NSF does not assume responsibility for recipient compliance with the laws and regulations of the country in which the work is to be conducted.

c. The recipient also should assure that activities carried on outside the U.S. are coordinated as necessary with appropriate U.S. and foreign government authorities and that necessary licenses, permits or approvals are obtained prior to undertaking the proposed activities.