



## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)

### Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I Grant General Conditions (SBIR/STTR-I)

Effective July 6, 2020

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Effective July 6, 2020, new NSF Phase I SBIR/STTR grants and funding amendments to existing SBIR/STTR Phase I grants will begin referencing, and are subject to, the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I Grant General Conditions (SBIR/STTR-I) dated 07/06/2020.

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#### **1. Type of Award**

The award notice specifies a pre-determined fixed amount of NSF support for the project described in the referenced proposal. This amount is based upon the budget approved by NSF for the referenced proposal, as amended. NSF anticipates that the full grant amount will be paid without regard to the actual cost subsequently incurred.

Payment of this amount, however, is subject to compliance with the grant terms and conditions, including Article 8 - Project Reporting Requirements, Article 10 - Payments, Article 15 - Allowable Costs and NSF's acceptance of the reports submitted by the grantee under Article 9. On the basis of its review of these reports and/or other pertinent information, NSF reserves the right to suspend or terminate the grant, if NSF determines that such action is appropriate. If estimated total expenditures are significantly less than the grant amount, NSF reserves the right to renegotiate the amount of this grant.

#### **2. Grantee Responsibilities and Federal Requirements**

a. The company (grantee) must identify an Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) who is an officer of the company with financial responsibility, who is the addressee of the award notice and who approves all reports and required certifications.

b. The grantee has full responsibility for the conduct of the project or activity supported under this grant and for adherence to the grant conditions. A minimum of two-thirds of the research and/or analytical effort as measured by the budget must be performed by the grantee on an SBIR grant. On an STTR grant, a minimum of 40% of the research, as measured by the budget, must be performed by the grantee and a minimum of 30% of the research, as measured by the budget, by the collaborating institution.

c. Although the grantee is encouraged to seek the advice and opinion of the Foundation on special problems that may arise, such advice does not diminish the grantee's responsibility for making sound scientific and administrative judgments and should not imply that the responsibility for operating decisions has shifted to the Foundation. The grantee is responsible

for notifying NSF about (1) any allegation of scientific misconduct that it concludes has substance and requires an investigation in accordance with NSF misconduct regulations published at 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 689, and (2) any significant problems relating to the scientific, technical, administrative or financial aspects of the grant.

d. The requirements of this grant are contained in these *SBIR/STTR-I Grant General Conditions* unless otherwise specified in the award notice. The applicable Federal administrative standards are incorporated by reference and are contained in 2 CFR § 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), Subparts C and D. NSF has determined 2 CFR § 200 Subparts C and D also apply to commercial organizations, including small businesses.

e. The grantee is responsible for ensuring that the Principal Investigator(s) (PIs) or Project Director(s) (PDs) receive a copy of the grant conditions, including: the award notice, the budget, these general terms and conditions, any special terms and conditions and any subsequent changes in the grant conditions. These grant conditions are made available to the grantee by NSF in electronic form at [https://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/special\\_conditions.jsp](https://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/special_conditions.jsp), and may be duplicated, copied or otherwise reproduced by the grantee as appropriate. This provision does not alter the grantee's full responsibility for conduct of the project and compliance with all grant terms and conditions. A listing of National Policy Requirements that grantees must adhere to, where applicable, is located at: <https://nsf.gov/awards/managing/rtr.jsp>. Award notices are available to be viewed, printed and/or downloaded electronically via the NSF FastLane system at <https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/fastlane.jsp>.

### **3. NSF Responsibilities**

a. The awardee has overall responsibility for NSF-funded cooperative agreements, including providing award oversight for technical/programmatic, financial, and administrative performance. The cognizant NSF Program Officer may participate in discussions of programmatic, technical, managerial and/or scheduling concerns; provide guidance and/or advice; review and, where required by the Agreement, approve technical or programmatic reports and requests submitted by the awardee; and may schedule desk and/or on-site reviews as necessary to resolve any NSF award questions or resolve follow-up audit issues.

b. The awardee shall submit all requests for prior approval in accordance with the procedures identified in Article 4.b. below.

c. The cognizant NSF Program Officer will only request additional work within the scope of the award; will only issue instructions that do not constitute a project change as defined in Article 10; and will only suggest changes that will not increase or decrease the estimated cost or time required for performance under the Cooperative Agreement (see Article 50 Limitation of Funds).

### **4. Prior Approval Requirements**

Unless otherwise stated in the award notice, grantees must obtain NSF prior written approval as specified in the [NSF Prior Approval Matrix for State and Local Governments and For-Profit Organizations](#). As a service to grantees, the most commonly requested prior approvals are listed below.

- a. NSF prior written approval is required for:
  1. Significant Project Changes
    - (a) Transfer of the project effort (see Article 4. See also 2 CFR § 200.308)
    - (b) Changes in objectives or scope (see Article 4. See also 2 CFR § 200.308)
    - (c) Long-Term Disengagement or change of PI/PD (see Article 4. See also 2 CFR § 200.308)
  - b. Requests for NSF prior written approval specified in the NSF Prior Approval Matrix for State and Local Governments and For-Profit Organizations must be submitted via the use of NSF's electronic systems. Those prior approval requirements that do not already have a specific request type in NSF's electronic systems must be submitted via use of the "Other" category in Research.gov.
  - c. Written approval (e.g., via email) is required from the cognizant NSF Program Director for any project revision that results in a 5% or greater budget reallocation.

## **5. Significant Project Changes**

Consistent with 2 CFR § 200.308, the awardee is required to obtain NSF prior written approval whenever there are changes in the project as stipulated below.

### *a. Transfer of the Project Effort (Subawards)*

1. NSF authorization to transfer a significant part of the research or substantive effort to another organization that has been disclosed in the proposal is not needed unless approval has been specifically withheld in the award notice.
2. If it becomes necessary to transfer a significant part of the research or effort after a grant has been made, notification of this intent should be submitted via use of NSF's electronic systems and must be electronically signed by an Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR). The request shall include a clear description of the work to be performed and a proposed budget (see [PAPPG Chapter VII.B.3](#)<sup>1</sup> for additional information). NSF approval of such changes will be by an amendment to the grant.
3. The grantee remains responsible for monitoring of the activities of the subrecipient as necessary to ensure that the subaward is used for authorized purposes, in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward as outlined in 2 CFR § 200.331. This includes maintaining the necessary documentation on all subawards and making it available to NSF upon request. The grantee shall include subaward activities in the annual and final project reports that are submitted to NSF.
4. Consistent with the guidance in 2 CFR § 200.331, grantees must adhere to the requirements for pass-through entities in establishing and managing subawards issued under the grant. In addition, grantees shall ensure that the following articles, if applicable, flow down to all subrecipients, or are appropriately addressed in the subaward instrument: Articles 7, 10, 11,

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<sup>1</sup> Awardees are not authorized to extend an award that contains a zero balance.

12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 38, 40, 42, 43, and 44. If the grantee issues contracts exceeding \$2,000 for construction, alteration or repair that are within the scope of the Acts found in 2 CFR § 200, Appendix II, “*Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards*,” the appropriate clauses applicable to construction activities also will be included in applicable contracts.

*b. Changes in Objectives or Scope*

A proposed change in the objectives of the project stated in the proposal or agreed modifications thereto should be communicated via use of NSF’s electronic systems. NSF approval of such changes will be by an amendment to the grant.

*c. Long Term Disengagement or Change of Principal Investigator/Project Director*

If a named Principal Investigator/Project Director plans to or becomes aware that he or she will: (1) devote substantially less effort to the work than anticipated in the approved proposal (defined in 2 CFR § 200.308(c)(iii) as a reduction of 25% or more in time devoted to the project); (2) sever his or her connection with the grantee; or (3) be disengaged from the project for a continuous period of more than 3 months, or otherwise relinquish active direction of the project, he or she shall advise the appropriate official at the grantee, who shall initiate action appropriate to the situation in accordance with the guidelines described in [PAPPG Chapter VII.B.2](#).

## **6. Pre-award Costs**

a. Grantees may approve pre-award costs incurred within the ninety-calendar day period before the start date of the grant. Requests for approval of pre-award costs for periods greater than 90 calendar days must be submitted electronically via NSF’s electronic systems.

b. Pre-award costs must be necessary for the effective and economical conduct of the project and the costs must be otherwise allowable in accordance with Article 14.

c. Pre-award expenditures are made at the grantee’s risk. Grantee authority to approve pre-award costs does not impose an obligation on NSF: (1) in the absence of appropriations; (2) if a grant is not subsequently made; or (3) if a grant is made for a lesser amount than the grantee anticipated.

## **7. Subaward Requirements**

It is NSF’s expectation that NSF grantees will use the domestic subrecipient’s applicable federally negotiated indirect cost rate(s). If no such rate exists, the NSF grantee may either negotiate a rate or use a *de minimus* indirect cost rate recovery of 10% of modified total direct costs.

## **8. Consultant Services**

Costs for professional and consultant services, including those who are members of a particular profession or possess a special skill and who are not officers or employees of the performing organization, are allowable when reasonable in relation to the services rendered and when not contingent upon recovery of costs from NSF. If not included in the grant budget, anticipated services must be justified and information furnished on each individual’s expertise, primary organizational affiliation, normal daily compensation rate and number of days of expected service. Consultants’ travel costs, including subsistence, may be included. If requested, the grantee

must be able to justify that the proposed rate of pay is reasonable. The reimbursement rates for consultants are a direct cost that cannot exceed the daily equivalent of the rate paid to an Executive Level IV Federal employee.

## **9. Project Reporting Requirements**

Payment of the grant amount is conditioned upon the grantee's acceptance and compliance with the grant terms and conditions which include expending the approximate person-months proposed and delivery to NSF and its acceptance of required reports. The results of the grantees' efforts under this grant are to be documented in the form of a final report.

The Phase I final report (due within 15 days following the end date of the grant) must be submitted to the cognizant NSF Program Officer for review and acceptance using the SBIR/STTR Report Cover Page and in accordance with <https://seedfund.nsf.gov/resources/awardees/phase-1/reporting/>. Grantees shall submit final reports electronically via Research.gov. The Project Report system may be accessed at: <https://www.research.gov>. The final report should 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 company will provide a final total project expenditure chart as part of the Phase I final report.

If the Phase I grantee elects to submit a Phase II proposal prior to the completion of the Phase I award, the grantee will provide a Phase I interim report that will be submitted with the Phase II proposal.

No later than 120 days following the end date of the grant, a project outcomes report for the general public must be submitted electronically via Research.gov. This report serves as a brief summary, prepared specifically for the public, of the nature and outcomes of the project. This report will be posted electronically by NSF exactly as it is submitted. For information about the content of the report, see [PAPPG Chapter VII.D.3](#).

## **10. Payments**

SBIR/STTR grantees are required to request payments electronically through the NSF's Award Cash Management Service (ACM\$). Payments will be made by NSF as follows: The initial drawdown, for all but \$25,000 of the award amount, can be made after the start date of the grant and the final \$25,000 upon receipt and acceptance by NSF of a satisfactory final report and financial certification (included on the SBIR/STTR Report Cover Page).

To receive payment, SBIR/STTR grantees must register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov/>. NSF will use the grantee company name, address and electronic funds transfer information from SAM to register the official address and banking information for payments. Next, the grantee should follow the instructions to register in ACM\$ at: [ACM\\$ Information](#). Failure to submit an acceptable final report will result in withholding of payment and may be grounds for suspension or termination of the grant.

## **11. Rights in Technical Data**

The grantee may retain rights in technical data, including software developed under this grant, except that the Government shall have the right to use such data for Governmental purposes. The final report delivered under this grant, including technical data, may be made available to the public by the Government, except for that portion of the report containing technical data properly

identified and marked as set forth below. To the extent permitted by law, the Government will not release properly marked technical data (such as data relating to an invention or software) outside the Government, except for evaluation purposes, for a period of four years from the expiration of the Phase II grant or of the Phase I grant, when no Phase II grant is made, without approval of the grantee. The grantee must properly identify such data and set it off on a separate page in any submission to the Foundation. Such data must be clearly labeled as proprietary and marked with a legend similar to the following:

*"The following is information which (name of grantee) requests not be released to persons outside the Government, except for purposes of evaluation, for a period of four years from the end date of Grant No. (the NSF grant number) or the end date of a follow-on Phase II grant if awarded, whichever is later."*

In addition to the rights vested in the Government to use such technical data during the four year period mentioned above, the Government shall retain a royalty free, irrevocable, world-wide license to use the data after the conclusion of the four year period whether or not the grantee has sought or obtained patent protection or claimed copyright protection.

## **12. Copyrighted Material**

### *a. Definition*

Subject writing means any material that:

1. is or may be copyrighted under Title 17 of the USC; and
2. is produced by the grantee or its employees in the performance of work under this grant.

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

### *b. Copyright Ownership, Government License*

Except as otherwise specified in the grant or by this paragraph, the grantee may own or permit others to own copyright in all subject writings. The grantee 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 US 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.

### *c. Grants Affected by International Agreements*

If the grant indicates it is subject to an identified international agreement or treaty, NSF can direct the grantee 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 Patents Rights 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.

*d. Grantee Action to Protect Government Interests*

The grantee 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 grantee 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.

**13. Publications**

*a. Acknowledgment of Support*

The grantee is responsible for assuring that an acknowledgment of NSF support:

1. is made in any publication (including World Wide Web pages) of any material based on or developed under this project, in the following terms:

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

2. is orally acknowledged during all news media interviews, including popular media such as radio, television and news magazines.

*Disclaimer*

The grantee is responsible for assuring that every publication of material (including World Wide Web pages) based on or developed under this grant, 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 National Science Foundation."

*b. Copies for NSF*

The grantee 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 grant, clearly labeled with the grant number and other appropriate identifying information, promptly after publication.

**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.C.2.g\(iv\)](#)) who are in travel status on business related to an NSF- supported project are allowable as prescribed in the governing cost principles.



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. Use of US-Flag Air Carriers*

1. In accordance with the Fly America Act (49 USC 40118), any air transportation to, from, between, or within a country other than the US 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 US-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 US flag air carrier's designator code and flight number.

2. For the purposes of this requirement, US-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 US being performed by a foreign-flag air carrier:

(d) a US-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.

(e) if a US-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 US flag air carrier.

*c. 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 US-flag air carrier would double the travel time.

**15. Allowable Costs**

a. The allowability of costs<sup>2</sup> and cost allocation methods for work performed under this grant,

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<sup>2</sup> Consistent with 2 CFR § 200.453, for computing devices, charging as a direct cost is allowable for devices that are essential and allocable, but not solely dedicated, to the performance of the grant.

up to the amount specified in the grant, shall be determined in accordance with the governing cost principles as specified below and must conform with NSF policies, grant special provisions and grantee internal policies in effect on the start date of the grant.

b. The cost principles applicable to for-profit organizations can be found in the Federal Acquisition Regulation, 48 CFR Part 31.

c. Certain prior approval requirements contained in the governing cost principles have been modified by Article 3.

## **16. Information Collection**

Information collection activities performed under this grant are the responsibility of the grantee, and NSF support of the project does not constitute NSF approval of the survey design, questionnaire content or information collection procedures. The grantee 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.

## **17. 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 USC 1862o-1) NSF requires that grantees must have a plan in place to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research (RECR) to undergraduates, graduate students and postdoctoral researchers who will be supported by NSF to conduct research. Training plans are subject to review, upon request.

Grantees must designate one or more persons to oversee compliance with the RECR training requirement. Grantees are responsible for verifying that undergraduate students, graduate students and postdoctoral researchers supported by NSF to conduct research have received training in the responsible and ethical conduct of research, in accordance with the plan the grantee has put in place for their organization.

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

## **18. Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation**

The URL referenced in b.2.(a) below has changed to: <http://www.sam.gov>.

In accordance with the Office of Management and Budget guidance published in the Federal Register (FR) September 14, 2010 on Requirements for Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Implementation, awardees must comply with the following award term, contained in 75 FR 22705:

Reporting of first-tier subawards

i. Applicability. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, you

must report each action that obligates \$25,000 or more in Federal funds that does not include Recovery funds (as defined in section 1512(a)(2) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. 111-5) for a subaward to an entity (see definitions in paragraph e of this award term).

ii. Where and when to report

(a) You must report each obligating action described in paragraph a.1. of this award term to [www.fsrs.gov](http://www.fsrs.gov).

(b) 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.)

iii. What to report. You must report the information about each obligating action that the submission instructions posted at [www.fsrs.gov](http://www.fsrs.gov) specify.

#### Reporting Total Compensation of Recipient Executives

i. 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:

(a) the total Federal funding authorized to date under this award is \$25,000 or more;

(b) in the preceding fiscal year, you received—

(i) 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

(ii) \$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

(c) 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 <https://www.sec.gov/fast-answers/answers-execomphm.html>).

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

(a) As part of your registration profile at [www.ccr.gov](http://www.ccr.gov).

(b) By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter.

#### Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives

i. Applicability and what to report. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, for each first-tier subrecipient under this award, you 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:

(a) in the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—

(i) 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

(ii) \$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

(b) 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 <https://www.sec.gov/fast-answers/answers-execomphm.html>).

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

(a) To the recipient.

(b) 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.

#### 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.

#### Definitions

For purposes of this award term:

i. Entity means all of the following, as defined in 2 CFR part 25:

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

A foreign public entity;

A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;

A domestic or foreign for-profit organization;

A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.

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

iii. Subaward:

(a) 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.

(b) 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 § 200.330).

## **19. System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements**

**The Central Contractor Registration (CCR) has become the System for Award Management (SAM). The URL has changed to: <https://www.sam.gov>. All requirements related to CCR mentioned in the Article below apply to and must be completed in SAM.**

In accordance with the Office of Management and Budget guidance published in the Federal Register (FR) September 14, 2010 on *Financial Assistance Use of Universal Identifier and Central Contractor Registration*, grantees must comply with the following award term, contained in 75 FR 22706:

a. *Requirement for Central Contractor Registration (CCR).* Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 CFR 25.110, you as the recipient must maintain the currency of your information in the CCR until you submit the final financial report required under this 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 award term.

b. *Requirement for Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) numbers.* If you are authorized to make subawards under this 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 unless the entity has provided its DUNS number to you.

2. May not make a subaward to an entity unless the entity has provided its DUNS number to you.

c. *Definitions.* For purposes of this award term:

1. Central Contractor Registration (CCR) means the Federal repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the CCR Internet site (currently at <http://www.ccr.gov>).

2. Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number means the nine-digit number established and assigned by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. (D&B) to uniquely identify business entities. A DUNS number may be obtained from D&B by telephone (currently 866-705-5711) or the Internet (currently at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>).

3. Entity, as it is used in this award term, means all of the following, as defined at 2 CFR part 25, subpart C:

(a) A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;

(b) A foreign public entity;

(c) A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;

(d) A domestic or foreign for-profit organization; and

(e) A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.

4. Subaward:

(a) 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.

(b) 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 § 200.330).

(c) A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you consider a contract.

5. Subrecipient means an entity that:

(a) Receives a subaward from you under this award; and

(b) Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.

## **20. Unpaid Federal Tax Liability**

Article 20 applies only to grantees that are corporations.

In accordance with the *Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2012*, the grantee affirms that the corporation has no unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or lapsed, and

that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability.

## 21. Criminal Convictions

### **Article 20 applies only to grantees that are corporations.**

In accordance with the *Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2012*, the grantee affirms that the corporation has not been convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law.

## 22. Patent Rights<sup>3</sup>

The following Patent Rights article (implementing the Bayh-Dole Act, [35 USC § 200 et seq.] shall apply to all awards for scientific or engineering research unless special provisions have been negotiated. The awardee 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 USC, to any novel variety of plant which is or may be protected under the Plant Variety Protection Act (7 USC § 2321 et seq.).

2. SUBJECT INVENTION means any invention of the awardee 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 Pub. L. 85-536 (15 USC 632) and implementing regulations of the Administrator of the Small Business Administration. For the purpose of this clause, 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

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<sup>3</sup> Awardees are reminded that, in view of the US 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 of patented inventions.



education or an organization of the type described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (26 USC § 501(c)) and exempt from taxation under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 USC § 501(a)) or any domestic non-profit scientific or educational organization qualified under a State nonprofit 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 USC 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 awardee may retain the entire right, title and interest throughout the world to each subject invention subject to the provisions of this Patent Rights clause and 35 USC Part 203. With respect to any subject invention in which the awardee 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 US the subject invention throughout the world. If the award indicates it is subject to an identified international agreement or treaty, the National Science Foundation (NSF) also has the right to direct the awardee 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 Awardee*

1. The awardee will disclose each subject invention to NSF within two months after the inventor discloses it in writing to awardee 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, 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 awardee 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 awardee.

2. The awardee 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 publication, on sale, or public use has initiated the one-year statutory period wherein valid patent protection can still be obtained in the US, 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 awardee 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 US after a publication, on sale, or public use. If the awardee 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 awardee 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 granted 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 awardee co-inventors, where NSF determines that it would be in the interest of the government, pursuant to 35 USC 207(a)(3), to file an initial patent application on the subject invention, NSF, at its discretion and in consultation with the awardee, may file such application at its own expense, provided that the awardee retains the ability to elect title pursuant to 35 USC 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 an awardee has requested an extension for filing a non-provisional application after filing a provisional application, a one-year extension will be granted unless NSF notifies the contractor within 60 days of receiving the request.

d. *Conditions When the Government May Obtain Title*

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

1. if the awardee 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 awardee fails to file patent applications within the times specified in paragraph c. above, provided, however, that if the awardee has filed a patent application in a country after the times specified in paragraph (c) of this clause, but prior to its receipt of the written request of NSF, the awardee shall continue to retain title in that country;

3. in any country in which the awardee 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 Awardee*

1. The awardee will retain a non-exclusive royalty-free license throughout the world in each subject invention to which the Government obtains title, except if the awardee fails to disclose the subject invention within the times specified in paragraph c. above. The awardee's license extends to its domestic subsidiaries and affiliates, if any, within the corporate structure of which the awardee is a party and includes the right to award sublicenses of the same scope to the extent the awardee 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 awardee's business to which the invention pertains.

2. The awardee'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 Part 404. This license will not be revoked in that field of use or the geographical areas in which the awardee 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 awardee, 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 awardee a written notice of its intention to revoke or modify the license, and the awardee will be allowed thirty days (or such other time as may be authorized by NSF for good cause shown by the awardee) after the notice to show cause why the license should not be revoked or modified. The awardee has the right to appeal, in accordance with applicable regulations in 37 CFR Part 404 concerning the licensing of Government-owned inventions, any decision concerning the revocation or modification of its license.

f. *Awardee Action to Protect Government's Interest*

1. The awardee 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 awardee 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 awardee 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 awardee each subject invention made under this award in order that the awardee can comply with the disclosure provisions of paragraph c. above, to assign to the awardee 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 awardee 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 US or foreign statutory bars.

3. For each subject invention, the awardee 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 US Patent and Trademark Office, including but not limited to post-grant 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 US Patent and Trademark Office, including but not limited to a pre-issuance submission, a post-issuance submission, and supplemental.

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

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

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

g. *Subawards*

1. The awardee will include this Patent Rights clause, suitably modified to identify the parties, in all subawards, regardless of tier, for experimental, developmental or research work. The subawardee will retain all rights provided for the awardee in this Patent Rights clause, and the awardee will not, as part of the consideration for awarding the subaward, obtain rights in the subawardees' 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, subawardee and contractor agree that the mutual obligations of the parties created by this Patent Rights clause constitute a contract between the subawardee and the Foundation with respect to those matters covered by this Patent Rights clause.

h. *Reporting on Utilization of Subject Inventions*

The awardee 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 awardee 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 awardee and such other data and information as NSF may reasonably specify. The awardee also agrees to provide additional reports in connection with any march-in proceeding undertaken by NSF in accordance with paragraph j. of this Patent Rights clause. As required by 35 USC § 202(c)(5), NSF agrees it will not disclose such information to persons outside the Government without the permission of the awardee.

i. *Preference for United States Industry*

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Patent Rights clause, the awardee agrees that neither it nor any assignee will grant to any person the exclusive right to use or sell any subject invention in the US 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 US. However, in individual cases, the requirement for such an agreement may be waived by NSF upon a showing by the awardee 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 US or that under the circumstances domestic manufacture is not commercially feasible.

j. *March-in Rights*

The awardee 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 NSF regulations at 45 CFR § 650.13 to require the awardee, an assignee or exclusive licensee of a subject invention to grant 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 awardee, assignee or exclusive licensee refuses such a request, NSF has the right to grant such a license itself if NSF determines that such action is necessary:

1. because the awardee 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 awardee, assignee, or their licensees;
3. to meet requirements for public use specified by Federal regulations and such requirements are not reasonably satisfied by the awardee, assignee, or licensee; or
4. because the agreement required by paragraph i. of this Patent Rights clause has not been obtained or waived or because a licensee of the exclusive right to use or sell any subject invention in the US is in breach of such agreement.

k. *Communications*

All communications required by this Patent Rights clause must be submitted through the [iEdison Invention Information Management System](#) maintained by the National Institutes of Health unless NSF prior written permission for another form of submission is obtained from the Patent Assistant at [patents@nsf.gov](mailto:patents@nsf.gov) or at Office of the General Counsel, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314.

## **23. Program Income**

a. *Definition*

The following provisions implement applicable portions of 2 CFR § 200.307. Program income means gross income earned by the grantee that is directly generated by a supported activity or earned as a result of the grant during the period of performance. Program income includes, but is not limited to, income from fees for services performed, the use of rental or real or personal property acquired under the grant, the sale of commodities or items fabricated under the grant, license fees and royalties on patents and copyrights and principal and interest on loans made with grant funds. Interest earned on advances of Federal funds is not program income. Except as otherwise provided in Federal statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of the grant, program income does not include rebates, credits, discounts and interest earned on any of them. Note that registration fees collected under NSF-supported conferences are considered program income.

b. *NSF Policy*

1. *Standard Treatment*

Unless otherwise specified in the grant, program income received or accruing to the grantee during the period of the grant is to be retained by the grantee, added to the funds committed to the project by NSF, and thus used to further project objectives. The grantee has no obligation to NSF with respect to program income received beyond the period of the grant. The grantee 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 a grant (see [PAPPG Chapter VIII.D.4](#)). However, Patent and Trademark Amendments (35 USC 18) shall apply to inventions made under a grant. See also FAQ 200.307.1 of the [Frequently Asked Questions for The Office of Management and Budget's Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at 2 CFR § 200](#) regarding Fees and Royalties and Bayh-Dole.

Efforts should be made to avoid having unexpended program income remaining at the end of the grant. Program income earned during the project period should be expended prior to requesting reimbursement against the grant. In the event a grantee has unexpended program income remaining at the end of the grant, it must be remitted to NSF by crediting costs otherwise chargeable against the grant. 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.

## 2. *Special Treatment*

In exceptional circumstances, NSF may approve use of a special grant provision to restrict or eliminate a grantee's control of income earned through NSF-supported activities if it determines that this would best serve the purposes of a particular program or grant. 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 grant terms and conditions program income is designated for deductive treatment, it must be remitted to NSF by crediting costs otherwise chargeable against the grant. Program Income in excess of the grant will be remitted to NSF electronically or by check payable to the National Science Foundation.

### c. *Records Retention*

The grantee is required to retain appropriate financial and other records relating to program income earned during the grant 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, grantees are required to submit a Program Income Reporting Worksheet to NSF in order to report program income earned/expended for any of their grants during the previous twelve months or to validate that they did not earn/expend program income for any of their grants 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](#).

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

## **24. Audit and Records**

Financial records, supporting documents (including documentation of personnel expenses), statistical records and other records pertinent to this grant must be retained by the grantee for a period of three years from grant financial closeout as described in [PAPPG Chapter VIII.E](#), except as noted in 2 CFR § 200.333.

## **25. Site Visits**

NSF, through authorized representatives, has the right, at all reasonable times, to make site visits to review project accomplishments and management control systems and to provide such technical assistance as may be required. If any site visit is made by NSF on the premises of the grantee or a subrecipient under a grant, the grantee shall provide and shall require its subrecipients to provide all reasonable facilities and assistance for the safety and convenience of the NSF representatives in the performance of their duties. All site visits and evaluations shall be performed in such a manner that will not unduly delay the work.

## **26. Suspension or Termination**

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

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

1. NSF when the grantee fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant;

2. NSF when the Foundation has cause;

3. NSF when ordered by the Deputy Director under NSF's Regulation on Research Misconduct [45 CFR Part 689];

4. mutual agreement of NSF and the grantee; or

5. the grantee on written notice to NSF setting forth the reasons for such action, the effective date, and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated or suspended (with the understanding that if NSF determines that the unterminated portion will not accomplish the purposes of the grant, it may suspend or terminate the entire grant).

c. Normally, action by NSF to suspend or terminate a grant will be taken only after the grantee has been informed by NSF of any deficiency on its part and given an opportunity to correct it; but NSF may immediately suspend or terminate the grant 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 grantee 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 grant and the governing cost principles.

e. Within 30 days of the termination date, the grantee will furnish a summary of progress under the grant 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 grant, including this article, and the governing cost principles, giving due consideration to the progress under the grant. In no event will the total of NSF payments under a terminated grant exceed the grant amount, or the NSF pro rata share of the total project costs when cost sharing was anticipated, whichever is less.



f. When an NSF grant is terminated or partially terminated, both NSF and the grantee remain responsible for compliance with the requirements in 2 CFR §§ 200.343 Closeout and 200.344 Post-closeout adjustments and continuing responsibilities.

g. A notice of termination other than by mutual agreement and/or the final settlement amount may be subject to review pursuant to Article 26.

h. NSF will report grant terminations to the OMB-designated integrity and performance system in accordance with Federal regulation, but only after the grantee has had an opportunity to exhaust the review procedures contained in [PAPPG Chapter XII.B](#).

## **27. 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 (DGA), 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 grantee of the termination or settlement.

b. The request for review must contain a full statement of the grantee's position and the pertinent facts and reasons in support of such position.

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

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

## **28. Reporting Classifiable Information**

NSF grants are intended for unclassified, publicly releasable research. The grantee will not be granted 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 a grant, the 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 should promptly notify the cognizant NSF Program Officer.

## **29. Animal Welfare**

a. Any grantee performing research on vertebrate animals<sup>4</sup> shall comply with the Animal Welfare Act [7 USC §§ 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 vertebrate animals held or used for research, teaching or other activities supported by Federal grants. The grantee is expected to ensure that the guidelines described in the National Academies of Science, 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*

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<sup>4</sup> In addition to vertebrate animals covered by the Animal Welfare Act, the requirements specified in this Article also are extended to rats, birds, and mice.

*Animals* (included as Appendix D to the NASEM Guide). Further guidance on the use of vertebrate animals in NSF funded projects can be found in the [PAPPG Chapter XI.B.3](#).

b. Effective October 1, 2015, grantees 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 should be notified.

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

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

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), US 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/>.

### **30. Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules**

If this grant supports research involving recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules, the grantee agrees to comply with the [Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules](#) (NIH Guidelines), including the procedural requirements and any subsequent revisions as they are published in the Federal Register. Further information on research grants that involve recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules can be found in the [PAPPG Chapter XI.B.2](#).

### **31. Clean Air and Water**

(Applicable only if the grant exceeds \$150,000, or a facility to be used has been the subject of a conviction under the Clean Air Act [42 USC § 7413(c)(1)] or the Clean Water Act [33 USC § 1319(c)] and is listed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or the grant is not otherwise exempt.)

The grantee agrees as follows:

a. To comply with all the requirements of Section 114 of the Clean Air Act [42 USC § 7414] and Section 308 of the Clean Water Act [33 USC § 1318], respectively, relating to inspection, monitoring, entry, reports and information, as well as other requirements specified in Section 114 and Section 308 of the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act, respectively and all regulations and guidelines issued thereunder before the issuance of the grant.

b. That no portion of the work required by the grant will be performed in a facility listed on the Environmental Protection Agency List of Violating Facilities on the date that the grant was issued unless and until EPA eliminates the name of such facility or facilities from such listing.

c. To use its best efforts to comply with clean air standards and clean water standards at the facility in which the grant is being performed.

d. To insert the substance of the provisions of this article into any nonexempt subaward.

### **32. Human Research Subjects**

The grantee is responsible for the protection of the rights and welfare of any human subjects involved in research, development and related activities supported by this grant. The grantee agrees to comply with the NSF regulation, entitled, "*Protection of Human Subjects* [45 CFR Part 690]."

### **33. Investigator Financial Disclosure Policy**

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

See also FAQ 200.112-1 of the [Frequently Asked Questions for The Office of Management and Budget's Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at 2 CFR § 200](#) regarding Conflict of Interest.

### **34. Whistleblower Protection**

Grantees are notified of the applicability of 41 USC § 4712, as amended by P.L. 112-239, providing protection for whistleblowers.

### **35. State Sales and Use Taxes**

Grantees are reminded that the governing cost principles cited in Article 14 limit the allowability of taxes to those the organization is required to pay. Grantees must avail themselves 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 grant funds.

### **36. Resolution of Conflicting Conditions**

Should there be any inconsistency between any special conditions contained in the award notice and these General Conditions, the special conditions in the award notice shall control.

Should there be any inconsistency between any special conditions contained in the award notice, these General Conditions, and any NSF solicitation cited or included by reference in the award notice, the matter should be referred to the cognizant NSF Grants Officer for guidance.

### **37. Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters**

Recipients shall fully comply with the requirements stipulated in [Appendix XII to Part 200](#) of 2 CFR § 200, entitled "*Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters*." See also Article 25 of these terms and conditions for NSF's responsibilities regarding reporting award terminations to the OMB-designated integrity and performance system in accordance with Federal regulation.

### **38. Debarment and Suspension**

Recipients shall fully comply with the requirements stipulated in Subpart C of 2 CFR Part 180, entitled "[Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions](#)" as supplemented by NSF's regulations at 2 CFR Part 2520.

The recipient is responsible for ensuring that any lower tier covered transaction, as described in Subpart B of 2 CFR Part 180, entitled "*Covered Transactions*," includes a term or condition requiring compliance with Subpart C. The recipient also is responsible for further requiring the inclusion of a similar term or condition in any subsequent lower tier covered transaction. The recipient acknowledges that failing to disclose the information required under 45 CFR § 180.335 may result in the termination of the grant, or pursuance of other available remedies, including suspension and debarment.

### **39. Public Access to Copyrighted Material**

**NSF's Public Access Policy applies to awards, funded in whole or in part, as a result of proposals submitted, or due, on or after January 25, 2016. NSF's Public Access Policy may be viewed at [https://www.nsf.gov/news/special\\_reports/public\\_access/](https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/public_access/)**

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, awardees 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 reports with a persistent identifier.

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

### **40. Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern (DURC)**

This Article applies to all research, for which NSF grant funds may be used, that potentially falls within the scope of the [US Government Policy for Institutional Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern](#) as published in September 2014, hereafter referred to as the "Policy". See also [PAPPG Chapter XI.B.5](#).

Grantees are responsible for monitoring the research progress and for implementation of all appropriate biosafety and biosecurity risk mitigation measures including compliance with all applicable laws and regulations related to that implementation, including the Policy specified above. (See also <https://osp.od.nih.gov/biotechnology/dual-use-research-of-concern/> for Frequently Asked Questions, case studies and other educational materials on DURC.)

#### **41. Breach of Personally Identifiable Information**

Grantees that use or operate a Federal information system or create, collect, use, process, store, maintain, disseminate, disclose, or dispose 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. Grantees will notify NSF upon learning that a breach of PII within the scope of an NSF award has occurred.

#### **42. 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 information as part of the proposal submission process (see PAPPG Chapter II.C.2.h), 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 "Other Request" category in the Notification and Request Module in Research.gov.

Post-award Disclosure of Project Support Information:

1. PI/co-PI Name:
2. Project Title:
3. Award Number (if available):
4. Source of Support:
5. Primary Place of Performance:
6. Project Start and End Date:
7. Total Award Amount (including Indirect Costs): \$
8. Brief Description of the Major goals of the project:
9. Description of any Overlap/Duplication of the project with the NSF award:
10. Impact on the ability of the PI/co-PI to carry out the NSF award:
11. Person-Month(s) (or Partial Person-Months) Per Year Committed to the Project:
  - a. Enter the applicable year: (e.g., 2020, 2021):
    - i. Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):
  - b. Enter the applicable year: (e.g., 2020, 2021):
    - i. Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):
  - c. Enter the applicable year: (e.g., 2020, 2021):
    - i. Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):
  - d. Enter the applicable year: (e.g., 2020, 2021):
    - i. Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):
  - e. Enter the applicable year: (e.g., 2020, 2021):
    - i. Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):

Post-award Disclosure of In-Kind Contribution Information

1. PI/co-PI Name:
2. Source of Support:
3. Primary Place of Performance:
4. Summary of In-kind Contributions:
5. Description of any Overlap/Duplication of the project with the NSF award:
6. Impact on the ability of the PI/co-PI to carry out the NSF award:
7. Person-Month(s) (or Partial Person-Months) Per Year Committed to the Project:

- a. Enter the applicable year: (e.g., 2020, 2021):
    - i. Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):
  - b. Enter the applicable year: (e.g., 2020, 2021):
    - i. Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):
  - c. Enter the applicable year: (e.g., 2020, 2021):
    - i. Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):
  - d. Enter the applicable year: (e.g., 2020, 2021):
    - i. Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):
  - e. Enter the applicable year: (e.g., 2020, 2021):
    - i. Enter the number of person-month(s) (or partial person-months):
8. 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.

## **Other Considerations**

### **43. 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 grant, whether with respect to persons or property of the grantee or third parties. The grantee is advised to insure or otherwise protect itself or others, as it may deem desirable.

### **44. Government Permits**

For grants that include activities requiring permits from appropriate Federal, State or local government authorities, the grantee should obtain any required permits prior to undertaking the proposed activities.

### **45. 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 grantees 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.