National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

RECENT CHANGES TO NSF PROPOSAL & AWARD POLICIES

New Reporting Requirement: Project Outcomes Report for the General Public

To comply with section 7010 of the America COMPETES Act, NSF implemented a new reporting requirement for new awards and funding amendments made on or after January 4, 2010. This report is submitted by the Principal Investigator (PI) and serves as a brief summary, prepared specifically for the public, on the nature and outcomes of the funded project.

Unlike the annual and final reports, however, this Project Outcomes Report (POR) must be submitted in Research.gov. Also unlike annual and final reports, the POR will not be reviewed or approved by NSF, and will appear on Research.gov's Research Spending and Results exactly as it is submitted by the PI.

PIs will have the ability to save and preview the report before it is submitted. In addition, images and addenda may be added but are not required.

Additional information about the contents of these new reports can be found in Chapter II.E.3 of the Award & Administration Guide in the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide.

Mentoring Plans Required in Proposal Supplementary Documents

To comply with section 7008 of the America COMPETES Act, NSF implemented a requirement that all proposals that contain postdoctoral researchers must also provide a description of the mentoring activities that will be provided to them.

Proposals that request funding to support postdoctoral researchers must also contain a Mentoring Plan as a supplementary document. FastLane will not permit submission of a proposal that includes a postdoctoral researcher but fails to include a mentoring plan.

Additional information about this requirement including examples of mentoring activities can be found in Chapter II.C.2.j of the Grant Proposal Guide of the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide.