



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION UPDATE
Significant changes to the “Agency Specific Requirements” of
the NSF Research Terms & Conditions
Effective February 1, 2012

Effective February 1, 2012, Significant changes, additions and clarifications will be found in the *Research Terms & Conditions* dated June, 2011 and the *NSF Agency Specific Requirements* dated February 1, 2012. Unless otherwise noted in a specific article, the NSF Agency Specific Requirements apply to all new NSF grants and funding amendments to existing NSF grants awarded on or after 1 February 2012. Note: The *Research Terms & Conditions* will not be applied to NSF cooperative agreements or to NSF fellowship awards made to individuals.

- **Travel, Article 14**, has been updated to incorporate revised circumstances under which use of a foreign-flag air carrier is permissible. The Article provides information on recent modifications to the “Open Skies” Agreement with the European Union, and includes a link to the General Services Administration website for additional information.

- **Academic Technology Transfer and Commercialization of University Research, Article 19**, is a new Article which requires higher education institutions that have NSF research support and at least \$25,000,000 in total Federal research grants in the most recently completed Federal fiscal year to submit to NSF the URL that contains information on their transfer of technology and commercialization of research results efforts.

Clarifications and Other Changes to the NSF Agency Specific Requirements to the Research Terms and Conditions, dated 02/12

- **Expenditure Reports, Article 9**, has been modified to reflect that all Federal Financial Reports must now be submitted through Research.gov.
- **Indirect Costs, Article 11**, is a new Article reminding awardees subject to OMB Circular A-21

that they must use the indirect cost (F&A) rate(s) approved by the cognizant Federal negotiating agency that are in effect at the time of the initial award, throughout the life of the award, unless otherwise specified in the award notice.

- **Grantee Responsibilities and Federal Requirements, Article 12**, has been supplemented with a web link to a listing of the National Policy Requirements.

- **Intangible Property, Article 25**, has a footnote added to it stating that, while the Article remains unchanged at this time, NSF is assessing how best to implement revisions given the Stanford vs. Roche Supreme Court decision.

The full text of the **Research Terms & Conditions** and **Agency Specific Research Terms & Conditions** can be found at:
<http://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/rtc.jsp>

Contact your contract administrator in the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) for questions about how these changes relate to your grants and future proposals.





DID YOU KNOW?

Dear Colleague Letters

Dear Colleague letters are intended to provide general information to the community, clarify or amend an existing policy or document, or inform the NSF proposer community about upcoming opportunities or special competitions for supplements to existing awards. In addition, they are often used to draw attention to an impending change in NSF policies or programs.

Check the **OSP Weekly Funding Bulletin** each week for new DCLs listed under **Notices from NSF**.

HAVE YOU SEEN?

Dear Colleague Letter Describes the Conduct of Science in the Information Age (NSF 12-010)

Directorate for Social, Behavioral, & Economic Sciences (SBE)

http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2012/nsf12010/nsf12010.jsp?WT.mc_id=USNSF_25&WT.mc_ev=click

SUMMARY: New digital technologies and datasets are transforming the practice of science. Science is now increasingly computational, data-intensive, and collaborative because digital technologies provide new ways for scientists to identify and contact key research partners to begin collaborations; to create scientific information, data, and knowledge; and to disseminate, replicate, and reuse it.

US science agencies are being asked to use evidence to inform policy and operational decisions: developing data sets, measuring outcomes, and evaluating performance. One way in which these goals can be advanced is to change the way in which scientists document their activities and resulting outcomes by using new technologies and incentive structures.

The purpose of this Dear Colleague Letter is to advise you about **funding opportunities for the research community to propose research workshops that identify and develop data, models, and tools** to help inform this effort.

Workshop proposals that address these research issues are particularly encouraged:

- Advancing scientific communication both nationally and internationally by: fostering the replication of scientific research; ensuring attribution for the intellectual contributions of researchers; enabling the location and identification of collaborators across disciplines; and developing platforms that facilitate the reporting and dissemination of scholarly activities and outputs.
- Advancing the measurement of scientific activity both nationally and internationally by: identifying sources of information about researchers' productivity and impact, and developing ways in which researchers' scientific activity can be automatically captured and validated.

Workshop proposals that include domain scientists in any science or engineering field, as well as Science of Science and Innovation Policy (SciSIP) researchers, are strongly encouraged. Investigators should follow the guidelines of the SciSIP program description. Proposals are due August 9, 2012.