

Important NSF Policy Updates

LINK: <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/summary-changes>

- **Synergistic Activities:** Now required as a separate attachment for each senior/key person. No longer a section in Biographical Sketch.
- **Mentoring Plan Requirements:** Expanded to include all supported postdoctoral researchers and graduate students. Still one page max for entire proposal and includes prime and subaward.
- **Individual Development Plans (IDPs):** IDPs will be required for each NSF award that provides substantial support (at least one person month) to postdoctoral scholars and graduate students. The IDPs must be updated and certified annually.
- **(ROA)(PUI) Research Opportunity Award / Primarily Undergraduate Institution:** Now a type of proposal selection, no longer a separate solicitation. Prior approval from PO required and has special instructions.
- **Safe and Inclusive Working Environment:** Any proposal that conducts research off-campus or off-site must have a Safe and Inclusive Working Environment Plan written by the PI.
 - Off-campus and 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.”
 - Does not always have to be submitted with proposals but must always be in place and submitted to RTT for your proposal to be complete and able to be submitted to NSF.
- **Enhanced Guidelines for Foreign Collaborations:** Proposals involving foreign collaborators must now include detailed justifications, clarifying the necessity and benefits of international collaboration.
 - **PIs must also certify that they are not involved in the Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program (MFTRP):** PIs must do this once annually in research.gov on their account.
- **Use of Generative AI:** If used in proposal preparation, the extent and manner of AI involvement must be disclosed.
- **Tribal Nations Impact:** Proposals affecting Tribal Nations require prior written approval from the tribal nation, with new documentation requirements.