

NSF Communication about Automated Compliance Checking and Proposal Submission

Anyone planning to submit an NSF proposal in the future should please read the following announcement concerning NSF's automated compliance checking and proposal submission system:

NSF has implemented new features for automated compliance checking in the FastLane system. NSF strongly encourages FastLane users to check proposals for compliance during the proposal preparation and submission process. The goals are to ensure consistency in NSF's proposal submissions, to enhance the ease of submissions, to reduce the number of submitted proposals that will be returned without review, and to enable a greater number of meritorious ideas to advance. The current complete NSF Proposal Preparation Checklist can be found at

http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf15001/gpg_2.jsp#llex1.

Below please see the most common reasons for return without review for proposals previously submitted to the Engineering Directorate. NSF strongly encourages you to take these requirements into consideration when preparing and submitting proposals.

PROJECT SUMMARY

- Should **ONLY** be uploaded as a PDF if the use of special character is required.
- Must include separate sections labeled "Overview," "Intellectual Merit," and "Broader Impacts" if uploaded as a PDF.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Must include "Results from Prior NSF Support" over the past five years for each PI and Co-PI.
- Must include a section—with a heading—for "Broader Impacts" of the proposed work.