

Tips for preparing NSF Current & Pending Support (C&P)

Within the 2020 Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide, NSF provided clarification of their “longstanding requirements regarding submission of current and pending support information”. NSF uses the information submitted in the current and pending support section to assess the capacity of the individual to carry out the research as proposed as well as to help assess any potential overlap / duplication with the project being proposed. A separate current & pending support (C&P) document must be provided for each individual designated as [Senior Personnel](#) on the proposal.

Requirement

In accordance with the NSF 20-1 [Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide](#):

- C&P support must be separately provided using an [NSF-approved format](#) for each individual designated as senior personnel on the proposal.
- C&P support includes all resources made available to an individual in support of and/or related to all of his/her research efforts, regardless of whether or not they have monetary value.
- C&P support also includes in-kind contributions (such as space, equipment, supplies, employees, students). All in-kind contributions available to a researcher in support of their research endeavors must be reported even if they are not intended for use on the project being proposed. In-kind contributions not intended for use on the project/proposal being proposed also must be reported. If the time commitment or dollar value is not readily ascertainable, reasonable estimates should be provided.
- C&P support information must be provided for this project, for ongoing projects, and for any proposals currently under consideration from whatever source, irrespective of whether such support is provided through the proposing organization or is provided directly to the individual.
 - Examples of sources include Federal, State, local, foreign, public or private foundations, non-profit organizations, industrial or other commercial organizations, or internal funds allocated toward specific projects.
- The total award amount for the entire award period covered (including indirect costs) must be provided, as well as the number of person-months (or partial person-months) per year to be devoted to the project by the individual.

Support Categories

[Grants, Contracts, Cooperative Agreements, and Awards](#)

[Gifts](#)

[In-Kind Resources](#)

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Grants, Contracts, Cooperative Agreements, and Awards

Include:

- all current and pending sponsored projects
- all University research awards
- any internal funds allocated towards specific projects

Gifts

NSF does not require the reporting of a gift. A gift “by definition is given without expectation of anything in return. An item or service given with the expectation of an associated time commitment is not a gift and is instead an in-kind contribution and must be reported to NSF.”

“A gift includes any gratuity, favor, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance, license, special access, equipment time, samples, research data, or other item having monetary value. A gift also includes services as well as gifts of training, transportation, local travel, lodging, meals, research hours, whether provided in-kind, by purchase of a ticket, payment in advance, or reimbursement after the expense has occurred.”

As additional examples, the C&P **should include** items or services:

- Received in support of project and with a requirement to submit a report of accomplishments.
- Where the donor will receive a benefit in return for the gift (e.g. access to research result, students, facilities).
- Received in support of an agreement in where entities are offered benefits (e.g. access to research results, access to faculty/students, access for visiting scholars).

In-Kind Resources

Include in-kind contributions available to a researcher in support of their research, even if not intended for use on the proposed project, but does have an associated time commitment. This is a time commitment for a specific period, not only effort. NSF provides guidance regarding where to report the in-kind contributions in the proposal based on the following criteria:

- Include in the C&P document “if the in-kind contribution is not intended for use on the project/proposal being proposed to NSF, but has an associated time commitment”. Examples include:
 - Research-related travel costs paid by an external party
 - Honoraria or other payments for research-related activities paid by an external party
 - External funding to support individuals working on an investigator’s research endeavors including staff, students, fellows, and visiting scholars
 - Awards made directly to project personnel
- Include in the Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources section “if there will be an in-kind contribution intended for use on the proposal being submitted to NSF”. Examples include:
 - Data sets
 - Biological or chemical materials
 - Office/laboratory space
 - Equipment or supplies

If the time commitment or dollar value is not readily ascertainable, reasonable estimates should be provided.

In-kind contributions can be excluded only if:

- not intended for use on the proposed project and
- have no associated time commitment

Start-Up Packages

Start-up packages do not need to be included.

Consulting Agreements

Include any consulting performed as part of an investigator's appointment. Independent external consulting occurring outside of an investigator's appointment does not need to be included.

Positions and Appointments

The NSF requires the following domestic and foreign appointments to be included in the [Biographical Sketch](#) of senior personnel: "A list, in reverse chronological order by start date of all the individual's academic, professional, or institutional appointments, beginning with the current appointment. Appointments include any titled academic, professional, or institutional position whether or not remuneration is received, and whether full-time, part-time, or voluntary (including adjunct, visiting, or honorary)."

Talent Programs

The NSF provides the following guidance: "Participation in a thousand talents program should be disclosed as part of the individual's Current and Pending Support in the proposal submission process." Thousand talents program is a general term and is not specific to any given country, so involvement with any similar programs from any country should be included.

Updating Previously Submitted Documents

The NSF provides the following guidance: "If an organization discovers that a Principal Investigator (PI) or co- Principal Investigator (co-PI) on an active NSF award failed to disclose current support as part of the proposal submission process, the [Authorized Organizational Representative] should provide written notification to the cognizant grants officer advising NSF of the situation. 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 and consultation, the Foundation will determine the impact of the new information on the NSF-funded award, and, where necessary, take appropriate action." Contact the Office of Sponsored Programs for further guidance.

Reference Materials

- NSF 20-1 [Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide](#) (PAPPG)
- NSF [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on Current & Pending Support
- [Significant Changes and Clarifications](#) to the PAPPG