Federal Demonstration Partnership - May 24-27, 2021
Grants Policy and Compliance Updates
Revision of Existing Policies & Processes

Proposer’s Guidebook

• GPC released the 2021 edition of NASA Proposer’s Guidebook on February 4, 2021, with an effective date of February 15, 2021. The guidebook outlines policies and procedures award applicants must adhere to when submitting responses to NASA’s Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO).

• Some of the high-level updates include the following:
  • New section: Special Restrictions for non-U.S. organizations under the Submission Requirements and Restrictions
  • New section: Facilities and Equipment
  • Updated section: 1-Step and 2-Step Approach for the NOFO submission process.

• GPC released the May 2021 ed. of the NASA Proposer’s Guidebook on May 6, 2021, to recognize those NASA Research Announcements (NRA) that may result in a contract. No additional instruction; only clarifying language.

• The guidebook is updated annually and is accessible on the GPC External website: https://www.nasa.gov/offices/ocfo/gpc/regulations_and_guidance
Revision of Existing Policies & Processes

Unsolicited Proposer’s Guidebook

• GPC released the 2021 edition of NASA Unsolicited Proposer’s Guidebook on February 4, 2021, with an effective date of February 15, 2021. The guidebook has not been updated since 2016. The guidebook provides guidelines for the preparation of formal unsolicited proposals for those who wish to convey their creative methods or approaches to NASA.

• Some of the high-level updates include the following:
  • Updated the guidebook to correspond with the updates to the 2021 Proposer’s Guidebook.
  • Changed formatting, grammar, and terminology
  • New Section: NASA Research Areas and Other NSPIRES Cover Page Questions

• GPC released the May 2021 ed. of the NASA Proposer’s Guidebook on May 6, 2021, to recognize those NASA Research Announcements (NRA) that may result in a contract. No additional instruction; only clarifying language.

• The guidebook is updated annually and is accessible on the GPC External website: https://www.nasa.gov/offices/ocfo/gpc/regulations_and_guidance
Adoption of New Policies

GIC 21-04 CFR 170 Subaward Reporting Requirements

- February 10, 2021, NASA released GIC 21-04 CFR 170 Subaward Reporting Requirements to remind NASA grant and cooperative agreement recipients of the subaward reporting requirements found in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 170 (2 CFR 170) and amend the NASA Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual (GCAM) to require that Grant Officers review recipients’ subaward reports in the FFATA Subaward Reporting System (FSRS).

- The GIC revises Section 7.6 of the Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual (GCAM) and enhances NASA’s compliance with 2 CFR 170, Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information.

- Per 2 CFR 170, all award recipients that issue subawards greater than $30,000 must submit a report detailing their subawards in the FFATA Subaward Reporting System (FSRS).

- The upcoming revisions to GCAM Section 7.6 will require NASA Grant Officers to ensure that these reports are submitted to FSRS, when applicable, and take corrective action if award recipients fail to comply with 2 CFR 170’s requirements.
Upcoming Policies

Conflict of Interest and Current Pending Support Disclosure Policy

• In response to GAO-21-130, NSPM 33, and the 2021 NDAA, NASA will be updating its COI and current and pending support disclosure policies.

• The forthcoming policy will require award recipients to disclose non-financial COC, such as participation in a foreign talent recruitment program, as well as financial COI.

• Additionally, NASA’s current and pending support disclosure policy will be expanded to require the disclosure of all resources made available to certain individuals in support of their research regardless of:
  • Whether the support is foreign or domestic,
  • Whether the resource is made available through the entity applying for a research and development award or directly to the individual, or
  • Whether the resource has monetary value.

• NASA’s draft policy is currently with the Office of Science and Technology Policy for review, and NASA will post the draft policy to the Federal Register for public comment this summer.
NASA New Resources

NASA New external website

NASA is excited to announce the launch of our newly redesigned Grants Policy and Compliance Branch external website.

• The new website is faster, easier to navigate, and more user-friendly to make information and services easily accessible for the NASA internal and external grants community members.

• Through the website, the Grants Policy and Compliance Branch provides the NASA Grants Community a place to learn about NASA's federal assistance award, who they are, how they work, services they offer and provide the most accurate, up-to-date information.

The old webpage, NASA Sponsored Business Activity, that Grants Policy and Compliance Branch used as its public facing-website has been decommissioned.

Please visit the new Grants Policy and Compliance Branch External website:
https://www.nasa.gov/offices/ocfo/gpc
The NASA Scientific and Technical Information (STI) Program is developing an external submission portal for NASA-funded investigators to submit Accepted Manuscripts and other STI products. The portal is expected to be available summer 2021.

The external portal will be used in place of the National Institutes of Health Manuscripts System (NIHMS), for grant and cooperative agreement recipients. The external portal will provide a more direct and streamlined Accepted Manuscript submission process for recipients. The STI Program will send communications prior to the start date with instructions and reminders.

As part of this transition, an information page about the new portal is available on the STI Program website which will be updated throughout the process: https://sti.nasa.gov/new-external-submission-portal/

The STI Program invites comments and questions about this new external manuscript submission portal via the Research Access Help Desk at https://sti.nasa.gov/sti-contact-form/?RequestType=ResearchAccess.
"Human Exploration Research Opportunities (HERO) 2020"

- **Manual Control Countermeasures** *(80JSC020N0001-HHC)*
  - Develop and test manual control countermeasures, such as vibrotactile assistance vest, and other human factors aids.
  - Step-1 proposals was due April 30, 2021.

- **Computational Brain Modeling to Characterize the Effects of Space Radiation Exposure** *(80JSC020N0001-HHC)*
  - Identify individual susceptibility, monitor molecular/biomarkers and acceptable thresholds, and validate behavioral health and CNS/neurological/neuropsychological performance measures and domains of relevance to exploration class missions.
  - Step-1 proposals was due April 30, 2021.

- **NASA Human Research Program Omnibus Opportunity** *(80JSC020N0001-OMNIBUS3)*
  - Requesting proposals for short-term investigations or technology development projects that provide innovative approaches to any of the 23 HRR risks and associated knowledge gaps contained in the Human Research Program (HRP) Integrated Research Plan (IRP).
  - Step-1 proposals was due April 30, 2021.
University Leadership Initiative (ULI) provides an opportunity for university teams to exercise technical and organizational leadership in proposing unique technical challenges in aeronautics. Research proposals are sought in seven ULI topic areas.

- Safe, Efficient Growth in Global Operations (Strategic Thrust 1)
- Innovation in Commercial Supersonic Aircraft (Strategic Thrust 2)
- Ultra-Efficient Subsonic Transports (Strategic Thrust 3)
- Safe, Quiet, and Affordable Vertical Lift Air Vehicles (Strategic Thrust 4)
- In-Time System-Wide Safety Assurance (Strategic Thrust 5)
- Assured Autonomy for Aviation Transformation (Strategic Thrust 6)
- Zero Emission Aviation

This NOFO will utilize a two-step proposal submission and evaluation process. The initial step is a short mandatory Step-A proposal due June 22, 2021. Those proposers submitting the most highly rated Step-A proposals will be invited to submit a Step-B proposal.
Development, Demonstration, and Infusion – 2021
(SpaceTech-REDDI-2021)

• *Early Stage Innovations (ESI21; 80HQTR21NOA01-21ESI-B2)* – seeks proposals to develop unique, disruptive, or transformational space technologies that have the potential to lead to dramatic improvements for space flight hardware or missions.
  • Proposals *must* respond to one of the topics listed in the appendix.
  • Solicitation Release - April 28, 2021
  • Proposals due – June 28, 2021

• *Lunar Surface Technology Research (LuSTR) Opportunities* – seeks proposals to accelerate the development of groundbreaking technologies for lunar surface activities under Artemis.
  • Solicitation Release – Anticipated Summer 2021

• *NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts (NIAC) Phase 1* – seeks proposals for studying visionary, yet credible, advanced concepts that address national government and commercial aerospace goals.
  • Solicitation Release – Summer 2021
Development, Demonstration, and Infusion – 2021 (SpaceTech-REDDI-2021)

- **Technology Advancement Utilizing Suborbital Flight Opportunities “Tech Flights”** – seeks proposals that will test or demonstrate space technologies in relevant environments through flights on U.S. commercial suborbital rockets, rocket-powered lander vehicles, high-altitude balloons, and aircraft following reduced-gravity flight profiles.
  - Solicitation Release – Summer 2021

- **NASA Space Technology Graduate Research Opportunities (NSTGRO)** – seeks proposals from graduate students who will conduct low TRL space technology research and development.
  - Solicitation Release – September 2021
Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences (ROSES) 2021

- ROSES-2021, at http://solicitation.nasaprs.com/ROSES2021, covers all basic and applied research and technology development in space and Earth sciences supported by SMD.

- Awards to non-governmental organizations are almost exclusively Assistance (grants and cooperative agreements) depending on the nature of the work proposed.

- ROSES comprises about 70 separate calls for proposals (called program elements) each with its own topics and due dates.

- The HTML Tables due dates, organized by due date and by science Division respectively are at http://solicitation.nasaprs.com/ROSES2021table2 and http://solicitation.nasaprs.com/ROSES2021table3.

- Keep track of the release of program elements (and all types of amendments) by:
  1. Subscribing to the SMD mailing lists (create & log into an account at http://nspires.nasaprs.com/ and check the appropriate boxes under "Account Management" and "Email Subscriptions")
  2. Using the ROSES-2021 due date Google calendar. "How to Subscribe to the ROSES-2021 Due Date Calendars" at: https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/sara/library-and-useful-links.
  3. Checking the ROSES-2021 Blog at https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/sara/grant-solicitations/roses-2021/

- Direct technical questions concerning the individual "program element" within ROSES to the POCS listed at http://science.nasa.gov/researchers/sara/program-officers-list/ and at the end of the "program element"

- Send questions about policies and procedures or other high-level questions about ROSES to Dr. Max Bernstein, Senior Lead for Research, sara@nasa.gov.
New Since January’s FDP: Recent Draft and Final Announcements of Opportunity (AO) and Partnership Opportunity on https://nspires.nasaprs.com

- Community review and comment for draft Geospace Dynamics Constellation (GDC) Program Element Appendix (PEA) letter TBD for the Third Stand Alone Missions of Opportunity Notice (SALMON-3). NSPIRES Number NNH21ZDA009J. Find the latest information on GDC (including answers to questions) at the NASA Science Office for Mission Assessment's GDC webpage. Email for the POC: jared.s.leisner@nasa.gov

- Partnership Agreement Related to the Astrobiology Science Conference AbSciCon NSPIRES number NNH21ZDA014K provides a forum for reporting on new discoveries, sharing data and insights, advancing collaborative efforts and initiating new ones, planning new projects, and educating the next generation of astrobiologists. SMD is seeking to partner with one or more private and/or non-profit educational, scientific, and/or research organization(s) on a non-reimbursable (no-exchange-of-funds) basis to coordinate planning, logistics, etc. for the Astrobiology Science Conference (AbSciCon) for five years. Due Date: July 7, 2021. Propose via NSPIRES. Questions? Email POC: rebecca.l.mccauleyrench@nasa.gov
Life and Physical Sciences Research & News from SMD’s Science Office for Mission Assessments (SOMA, at NASA Langley Research Center)

• August 18–19, 2021 --The Biological and Physical Sciences (BPS) Division will host a virtual Lunar Surface Science Workshop (LSSW) on fundamental and applied research on reduced gravity; lunar environmental effects in physical sciences for sustained lunar human habitation and in preparation for human exploration to Mars. Attendance requires a no-fee registration by August 13th, via creation of a user account at: https://www.hou.usra.edu/meeting_portal/registration/index.cfm?mtg=lunarsurface10.

• September 2021 – February 2022 Virtual Space Biosciences Training Course: STAR (Spaceflight Technologies, Application, and Research) NNH21ZDA011L. Applications are due May 28th. The STAR course will cover both fundamental and applied aspects of the field of biology, as well as practical aspects of preparing for, conducting, and analyzing the results of spaceflight experiments. See https://science.nasa.gov/biological-physical/programs/star for more information.

• On May 12th a Third Community Announcement (NNH20ZDA016L) estimated a two-year release delay for a potential New Frontiers 5 (NF5) Announcement of Opportunity. The New Frontiers Program conducts Principal Investigator (PI)-led space science investigations in SMD’s planetary programs under a not-to-exceed cost cap for the PI-Managed Mission Cost. Email Questions and feedback to curt.niebur@nasa.gov. For past and future announcements visit the Program Acquisition Page https://newfrontiers.larc.nasa.gov/NF5/.
On April 20, 2021, Thomas H. Zurbuchen, Associate Administrator for NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD) and his leadership team held a community town hall meeting to discuss updates to NASA's science program and share current status of SMD activities. Download the slides for the April and prior townhalls at: https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/virtual-townhall and/or watch https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8LZdbzHsfZo

Recognizing the need for SMD-funded researchers to balance their research lives and non-work lives a new web page describes wellness resources and leave options that may be available at https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/work-life-balance

Research Programs within the Planetary Science Division with No Due Date (NoDD) or Rolling Submissions https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/nodd

Dual-Anonymous Peer Review (DAPR): Do’s & Don’t & ROSES-21 https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/dual-anonymous-peer-review

Volunteer to review for SMD at https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/volunteer-review-panels. (Note: SMD periodically updates this page to remove or add opportunities.)
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