New Grant Proposal Guidelines

Source: National Science Foundation

A revision to the NSF Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) (NSF 03-041) that is effective for proposals submitted on or after June 1, 2003 has been published. This revision implements:

- Important Notice 128, dated January 24, 2003, entitled Revision of the NSF Cost Sharing Policy. This Important Notice reinforces the concept that, for unsolicited proposals, proposers should not include cost sharing amounts on Line M of the proposal budget. In cases where a program solicitation specifically requires cost sharing, proposers should not exceed the cost sharing level or amount identified in the solicitation;
- Addition of a Proposal Preparation Checklist to aid in the conduct of an administrative review of proposals prior to submission for compliance with NSF proposal preparation guidelines. The appendices section has been rearranged and re-lettered to accommodate the addition of new documents;
- Reminder to proposers that if both merit review criteria are not addressed separately within the one page Project Summary, the proposal will be returned without review; and
- Modification of the NSF policy on Group proposals to state that, unless stipulated in a specific program solicitation, PIs who wish to exceed the 15 page Project Description limitation must request and receive a deviation in advance of proposal submission.

Other sections have been revised, as appropriate, to update the GPG to ensure consistency with current NSF policies, practices or procedures. A summary of significant changes is provided to assist the user in navigating through these changes.

The GPG is available electronically at http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2003/nsf03041/nsf03_041.pdf. Organizations or individuals unable to access the GPG electronically may order paper copies (maximum of 5 per request) by either of the following means:

- phoning the NSF Publications Clearinghouse at (301) 947-2722 or
- sending a request to pubs@nsf.gov or the NSF Publications Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 218, Jessup, MD 20794-0218.

Please address any questions or comments regarding the GPG to the Policy Office, Division of Grants & Agreements at (703) 292-8243 or by e-mail to policy@nsf.gov.
Grant Update…

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Inviting Applications for a University Value-Added Research Added Grant

Source: Department of Agriculture

Deadline: July 29, 2003

This Notice announces the availability of $300,000 in fiscal year (FY) 2003 to fund a grant for research at a university concerning the effects of projects for value-added agricultural commodities or products on agricultural producers and the commodity markets. Only qualified universities are eligible to apply. This Notice lists the information needed to submit an application for these funds.

This program will be administered by Cooperative Services within the Rural Business-Cooperative Service. The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-171, signed May 13, 2002) authorized the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to award a grant to support research at a university concerning the effects of projects for value-added agricultural commodities or products on agricultural producers and the commodity markets.

The universe of projects studied shall include, but is not necessarily limited to, value-added projects funded by USDA pursuant to section 231 of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note).

- The study must systematically examine, using linked, long-term, global projections of the agricultural sector, the potential effects of the value-added projects identified by the study on (a) the demand for agricultural commodities, (b) market prices, (c) farm income and (d) Federal outlays on commodity programs. The study must include an assessment of the effectiveness of the agricultural innovation centers funded pursuant to section 6402 of the 2002 Farm Bill.
- Grant funds may be used to assess the performance of USDA value-added program grant recipients, including agricultural innovation centers as part of the study.
- Grant funds may be used to assess the requirements imposed by USDA on agricultural innovation centers to determine which have the effect of maximizing the positive effects of the services provided by these centers on (a) the demand for agricultural commodities, (b) market prices, (c) farm income and (d) Federal outlays on commodity programs.
- Grant funds may be used to subcontract component parts of the study with prior USDA written approval.
- Grant funds may be used to develop data series directly related to the research effort, where such data are not otherwise available.

The deadline for receipt of an application is 4 p.m. EST on July 29, 2003. Comments regarding the information collection requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 must be received on or before July 21, 2003.

Contact: Jim Haskell Acting Deputy Administrator Rural Business-Cooperative Service USDA, Stop 3250 Room 4016, 1400 Independence Ave., SW. Washington, DC 20250-3250 Phone: 202-720-8460 Email: james.haskell@usda.gov.

Proposal

Proposals should be submitted to the Small Grants Program in Behavioral Economics, attn: Bindu Chadaga, Russell Sage Foundation, 112 East 64th Street, New York, NY 10021.

The maximum length for the text of a proposal is 1,000 words, excluding budget and bibliography. Proposals should outline briefly the basic rationale of the research, the question under study and the methods and analytic approach to be employed. Continued on page 4
Grant Update…

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Research Studies on Homeownership and Affordable Lending

Source: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Deadline: July 21, 2003

The purpose of this NOFA is to fund technical studies that will guide development of public policy to increase affordable lending, reduce down payment constraints, and promote homeownership, especially for low- and moderate-income and minority families and in geographical areas which have been underserved by the mortgage finance system. HUD particularly seeks studies that will provide empirical basis for its regulation and monitoring of two Government-Sponsored Enterprises (GSEs)—Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, including the effects of such regulation and monitoring on affordable lending in the primary mortgage market. Specific topics of interest include:

Homeownership
- Factors underlying the increase in homeownership during the 1990s and policy implications for the current decade;
- Accounting for the remaining income and racial disparities in homeownership rates, and policy approaches that could remove barriers for prospective low-income and minority homeowners; and
- Supply constraints and regulatory barriers that impact homeownership opportunities and could potentially impair the effectiveness of affordable lending programs.

Affordable Lending
- Determinants of problems faced by low-income and minority families in accessing mortgage credit;
- Determinants of down payments;
- The role of major mortgage market institutions such as Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, the Federal Housing Administration, and depository institutions in increasing credit access for low- and moderate-income and minority families and their communities; and
- Effects on targeted populations of setting alternative levels of the GSE affordable housing goals and defining the goals in alternative ways.

Available Funds: $570,000 from HUD's FY 2002 research and technology appropriation. HUD anticipates funding 15 to 20 studies on these topics; studies will be funded through cooperative agreements, up to a maximum of $40,000.

Contact:
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Financial Institutions Regulation Division
Office of Policy Development and Research
451 Seventh St., SW., Room 8212
Washington, DC 20410


Target All-Around Scholarships

Source: Target Corporation

Deadline: November 1, 2003

Each year, the Target Corporation awards more than 2,100 All-Around Scholarships — including four $10,000 national scholarships and two smaller scholarships for each Target store — to high school seniors and college students age 24 and younger. Scholarships recognize volunteer work as well as academic achievement.

Eligibility requirements:
High school seniors, high school graduates and current undergraduate college students (age 24 and under) who are legal U.S. residents are eligible to apply.
- Applicants must enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study no later than the fall term of the 2004–2005 school year at an accredited two—or four—year college, university or vocational—technical school in the U.S.
- Employees of Target Corporation and past recipients of Target All—Around Scholarships are not eligible to apply.
- Program is not offered in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or outside the United States.

How scholarship recipients are chosen:
Target All—Around Scholarship recipients are selected by an outside organization, independent of the Target Corporation. The Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America, Inc. (CSFA) chooses recipients based on:
- Number of community volunteer service hours
- Volunteer leadership awards and honors
- Appraisal form completed by volunteer supervisor or leader
- Essay on volunteer service
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher (C average)

Grant Update…
Continued from page 2

Budget

The maximum budget is $5,000.

Representative categories of expenditure include acquisition of data, the purchase of data sets, research assistance (but not including payment to any researchers who will be co-authors on the project), payment to subjects in experiments, miscellaneous expenses (such as duplicating, telephone, postage). No funds will be granted for researchers' time.

A budget that appears to be excessive will be grounds for rejecting a proposal.

No more than $2,500 of a grant can be used to pay subjects in experiments. No more than $500 can be allocated to miscellaneous expenses. No funds can be spent on computer hardware or software.

Eligibility

Applicants must be advanced doctoral students or junior (non-tenured) faculty members who have been out of graduate school for two or fewer years. There is a $5,000 lifetime limit of support under the Behavioral Economics Program. All applicants must be nominated by their faculty advisor. This nominating letter can be submitted with the proposal or sent separately.

Doctoral students should submit a graduate transcript with their application and, if support for dissertation research is requested, a letter of recommendation from the thesis supervisor should also be included. Junior faculty should submit an updated CV.

Members of the Behavioral Economics Roundtable will not be eligible for grants directly. Their students and/or collaborators may receive grants, and members can be co-authors of papers produced under grants. Grants will be accepted or rejected with no possibility of subsequent negotiation. Since the amounts of money involved are small, explanations will not be given when grants are denied, and information will not be given on revisions that might make a proposal acceptable.

Administrative Procedures

The award will be administered by the grantees' university which will act as the fiscal agent. The Russell Sage Foundation will pay the entire award in advance.

At the conclusion of the grant period, investigators must send a final substantive report of up to 1,000 words to the Foundation along with an official financial report from the fiscal agent and copies of all research papers supported by the award.

For complete information please visit http://www.russellsage.org/programs/proj_reviews/behavioral.htm

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

Source: Institute of International Education

Deadline: October 21, 2003

The Institute of International Education (IIE), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, is pleased to announce the launch of the 2004-2005 Fulbright U.S. Student Program competition. Interested applicants should visit the Fulbright U.S. Student Program Web site at www.iie.org/fulbright/us for additional information. All applications must be received by IIE by the October 21, 2003 national deadline.

Students currently enrolled at an institution of higher learning should contact their campus Fulbright Program Adviser for application forms and further information. Applicants not currently enrolled in a college or university can obtain materials from IIE regional centers in Chicago, Denver, Houston and San Francisco, as well as the Fulbright U.S. Student Program headquarters in New York. Contact information is available at www.iie.org.

For more information please visit http://www.iie.org/FulbrightTemplate.cfm?Section=U_S_Student_Program

For more than 56 years, the U.S. Government-sponsored Fulbright U.S. Student Program has provided future American leaders with an unparalleled opportunity to study and conduct research in other nations. Fulbright student grants aim to increase mutual understanding among nations through educational and cultural exchange while serving as a catalyst for long-term leadership development.

The U.S. Student Program awards approximately 1,000 grants annually and currently operates in over 140 countries worldwide. Fulbright full grants generally provide funding for round-trip travel, maintenance for one academic year, health and accident insurance, and full or partial tuition. Fulbright travel-only grants are also available to limited countries.

Applicants to the Fulbright U.S. Student Program must be U.S. citizens at the time of application and hold a bachelor's degree or the equivalent by the beginning of the grant. In the creative and performing arts, four years of professional training and/or experience meets the basic eligibility requirement. (Non-arts applicants lacking a degree but with extensive professional study and/or experience in fields in which they wish to pursue a project may also be considered.) Students currently enrolled at an institution of higher learning should contact their campus Fulbright Program Adviser for application forms and further information. Applicants not currently enrolled in a college or university can obtain materials from IIE regional centers in Chicago, Denver, Houston and San Francisco, as well as the Fulbright U.S. Student Program headquarters in New York. Contact information is available at www.iie.org.
**Call for…**

**Papers on The Use of Stock and Stock Options in Employee Incentive Plans**

**Source:** Journal of Management Accounting Research

**Deadline:** July 31, 2003

In the last decade, there has been a shift towards greater use of stock and options to provide compensation and incentives throughout the organization. Most research in this area has focused on testing economic agency models using U.S. top executives. This research forum seeks to broaden research on equity-based incentives by publishing studies using both traditional economic models and methods and less traditional perspectives and research settings. The use of alternative theories (e.g., psychology, sociology) and research methods (e.g., experiments, field research), that focus on lower-level employees, and/or the use of non-U.S. data is encouraged. Papers that address the following questions are of particular interest:

- What are the limitations of economic models that follow the linear-exponential-normal framework? Are there alternative economic, behavioral, or other models that better predict variation in incentives and performance measure use?
- Why is top executive wealth so highly concentrated in firm equity? Do incentive payments based on accounting and non-financial performance motivate executives and managers with large equity portfolios? If so, why? If not, why are they used?
- How do psychological and/or sociological factors influence the use and incentive consequences of options and stock grants?
- How do firms choose whether or not to grant options to lower-level employees? When a firm begins granting options to lower-level employees, how do existing incentive, performance measurement, and control systems change?

- How do options compare to more traditional methods (e.g., signing bonuses and deferred compensation) for attracting and retaining employees?
- What are the actual decision processes companies use to determine the magnitude of stock and option grants? What roles do the compensation committee and compensation consultants play in these decisions? How closely do these decision processes match economic or non-economic theories of granting behavior?

Papers should be submitted to Harry Evans (JMAR editor) according to the instructions on the *Journal of Management Accounting Research* website. Please note that the paper is being submitted for this research forum.

**Contact:**
Professor John Harry Evans III
Editor, Journal of Management Accounting Research
Katz Graduate School of Business
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Phone: 412-648-1714
Fax: 412-648-1693
Email: jhe@katz.pitt.edu

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**Special Request for Applications: U.S. – Middle East University Partnerships Program**

**Source:** The Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development (ALO)

**Deadline:** July 1, 2003

The Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development (ALO) is pleased to announce the release of a Special Request for Applications, "U.S. - Middle East University Partnerships Program."

The RFA may be downloaded from ALO's website: [http://www.aascu.org/ALO/RFPs/RFPMain.htm](http://www.aascu.org/ALO/RFPs/RFPMain.htm)

The deadline for receipt of applications is July 1, 2003, 5:00 pm EDT. ALO, in cooperation with USAID and the U.S. Department of State, is issuing a call for applications for the U.S. - Middle East University Partnerships Program. ALO will conduct a peer-reviewed competition to award up to eight grants of up to $100,000 each to implement cooperative partnerships between higher education institutions in the United States and Arab universities located in Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, the West Bank and Gaza, and Yemen. Applications for higher education partnerships to strengthen Arab universities' programs should focus on one of the following disciplines: (1) American Studies; (2) Business and Economics; (3) Education; (4) Information and Communication Technologies; and (5) Media and Journalism.

**Contact:**
Tony Wagner
Communications Coordinator
Voice: 202-478-4704
Email: wagnera@aascu.org

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Call for…

Proposals Related to Changes in Health Care Financing and Organization

Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Deadline: None, applications accepted year-round

Changes in Health Care Financing and Organization (HCFO) is an initiative of The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) that supports policy analysis, research, evaluation and demonstration projects. It is administered by AcademyHealth, which serves as the National Program Office (NPO). Funded projects should provide public and private decision leaders with usable and timely information on health care policy and financing issues.

In July 2002, RWJF reauthorized this initiative for $15 million over three years. This Call for Proposals is intended to stimulate projects that:

• Examine significant issues and interventions related to health care financing and organization and their effects on health care costs, quality, and access.

• Develop and test new ways to finance health care that have the potential to improve access to more affordable and higher quality health services.

The results of these projects should be timely and useful for public and private policy-makers.

Two sizes of grants are available: small grants for projects requiring up to $100,000 and projected to take 12 months or less; and large grants for projects requiring more than $100,000 and/or projected to take longer than 12 months. Grants are awarded on a rolling basis.

Three types of projects will be considered for funding:

• Policy analyses and research to design and analyze major health care financing strategies, including strategies where financing and organization are integrally related.

• Evaluations of major financing strategies already in place.

• Demonstrations to test new financing strategies.

All projects must emphasize how current public and private mechanisms for financing health care or proposed major changes in those mechanisms will affect health care costs, access, or quality. No particular interventions or issues are prescribed. Proposals will be evaluated based on their potential to inform health care policy. Of particular interest are proposals that examine the profound changes taking place in the public and private health care markets, especially increasing costs, erosion of the safety net, the use of payment incentives to drive quality, and the movement toward consumer-directed health care.

Examples of possible projects include:

• evaluations of changes in premium cost-sharing or of inpatient and outpatient coinsurance and deductibles

• evaluations of state or pharmaceutical company efforts to increase access to prescription drugs for seniors

• analyses of the impact of changes in premiums on employer offerings and consumer choice

• evaluations of changes in state and private coverage programs

• examinations of the impact of cost- or quality based payments to providers

• explorations of cost- and accountability-shifting among public and private payers

• studies of the financing and organization of long-term care and care for those at the end of their lives

Projects may be initiated from within many disciplines, including health services research, economics, sociology, political science, public policy, public health, public administration, and law and business administration. RWJF encourages researchers who are just beginning their careers to apply under this initiative.


Contact:
Changes in Health Care Financing and Organization
Phone: 202-292-6700
Email: hcfo@academyhealth.org

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