

National Science Foundation ARRA FACTS

<http://www.nsf.gov/recovery/>

- **Does NSF expect to fund any new programs in response to the Recovery Act?**

With the exception of the new Academic Research Infrastructure and Science Masters programs identified in the legislation, the majority of proposals eligible for Recovery Act funding include those that are already in house and will be reviewed and/or awarded prior to September 30, 2009. The Foundation currently anticipates that no other solicitations will be posted that are solely in response to the Recovery Act.

- **What advice can NSF provide to proposers that did not submit earlier this fiscal year and who therefore do not have a proposal already in-house at NSF that may be considered for Recovery Act funding?**

NSF is planning to use the majority of the \$2 billion in Research and Related Activities provided by the Recovery Act for proposals that are already in-house. There are upcoming deadlines, however, to which proposers can still submit for NSF FY 2009 funding.

In addition, NSF plans to post solicitations this spring for the Academic Research Infrastructure program (funded at \$200 million), the Science Masters program (funded at \$15 million) and the Major Research Instrumentation Program (funded at \$300 million). Proposers are invited to review the requirements in these solicitations when they are posted, and, if they meet the criteria, to apply to the program(s).

- **Does NSF expect an increase in proposal submissions from the research and education community and in requests to the community to review proposals in response to the Recovery Act?**

The Recovery Act supplements NSF fiscal year 2009 funding by \$3.0 billion. NSF currently has many highly rated proposals that it has not been able to fund. For this reason, NSF is planning to use the majority of the \$2 billion available in Research and Related Activities for proposals that are already in house and will be reviewed and/or awarded prior to September 30, 2009. In most cases, review arrangements (including establishment of panels, where appropriate) have already been made. Thus, the Foundation does not anticipate a substantial increase in proposal submissions or requests to review proposals beyond what has already been put in place for FY 2009. NSF does not expect to have any of this Recovery Act funding available in Research and Related Activities for expenditure on FY 2010 awards.

- NSF already has many highly rated research proposals in hand to consider for funding with ARRA funds. Some research proposals have already been reviewed and others are in the review process. NSF is planning to use the majority of the \$2 billion available in Research and Related Activities for proposals that are already in house and will be reviewed and/or awarded prior to Sept. 30, 2009.

- NSF will use ARRA funds for awards under the **Robert Noyce Scholarship program and the Math and Science Partnership program** following merit review of proposals already submitted to those programs.

- Funding of **new Principal Investigators** and **high-risk, high-return research** will be a top priority.
- NSF will use ARRA funds to increase the number of **CAREER** and **IGERT** awards. CAREER grants support the research and education activities of junior faculty and IGERT grants support interdisciplinary research and training of graduate students.
- In addition to R&RA grants, the ARRA also allocated funding for NSF's **Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) program** and an **Academic Research Infrastructure (ARI)** program. NSF plans to issue new solicitations for proposals for these programs soon.
- Grants funded under ARRA will be awarded quickly in order to contribute to new job creation and reinvestment.
- All grants issued with Recovery Act funds will be standard grants with durations of up to 5 years. This approach will allow NSF to structure a sustainable portfolio.
- NSF also will consider **proposals declined on or after October 1, 2008**. Reversals of declined proposals will be based on both the high quality of the initial reviews, and the lack of available funding at the time of the original decision. NSF program officers will contact institutions when a reversal is being considered by NS
- NSF is currently working on a solicitation for a Science Masters Program, a new activity created under ARRA.
- **NSF does not intend to provide any supplements to existing grants under ARRA**