



Research Administration
Contract & Grant Administration

Goodbye FastLane, Hello Research.gov

The End of an Era

Kurt Durlless
Analyst

Cindy Gilbert
Assistant Director

eRA and Records Management

Research Administration Forum

May 12, 2022

A decorative horizontal bar at the bottom of the slide, split into a yellow top half and a blue bottom half.

Introduction

Sept 22, 2020: [Important Notice #147](#)



Important Notice No. 147

Research.gov Implementation Update

Important Notice to Presidents of Universities and Colleges and Heads of Other National Science Foundation Grantee Organizations

successfully migrated important research functions from FastLane to Research.gov including the preparation and submission of annual and final project and outcomes reports, most notifications and requests and award payments. NSF is now taking proactive steps to incrementally move the preparation and submission of all proposals from FastLane to Research.gov with a tentative target date for completion by 2022.

the development of a modern, flexible Research.gov system that reduces administrative burden to meet the current and future needs of researchers, administrators and organizations. As a result, NSF has successfully migrated important research functions from FastLane to Research.gov including the preparation and submission of annual and final project and outcomes reports, most notifications and requests and award payments. NSF is now taking proactive steps to incrementally move the preparation and submission of all proposals from FastLane to Research.gov with a tentative target date for completion by 2022.

Where are we Today?

- Incrementally move proposal preparation and submission functionality from FastLane to Research.gov
- Target date for completion for end of calendar year 2022
- The majority of funding opportunities are currently supported in Research.gov
- Not yet available:
 - Postdoctoral Fellowships (with reference letter required)
 - SBIR/STTR
 - Supplemental Funding Requests

Where are we Today?

- NSF *and* OCGA strongly encourage using Research.gov sooner rather than later
 - Make the transition as smooth as possible
 - Provide feedback between now and the end of the year
- FOAs will give clear guidance on whether Research.gov submission is available and/or required
 - An alert will soon be on all Program Description pages

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REVISION NOTES

This solicitation follows the model set forth by, but does not replace, the [NSF 17-594](#) solicitation, titled "Research Coordination Networks (RCN)".

Innovating and migrating proposal preparation and submission capabilities from FastLane to Research.gov is part of the ongoing NSF information technology modernization efforts, as described in [Important Notice No. 147](#) . In support of these efforts, **research proposals submitted in response to this program solicitation must be prepared and submitted via Research.gov or via Grants.gov, and may not be prepared or submitted via FastLane.**

Any proposal submitted in response to this solicitation should be submitted in accordance with the revised *NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* (PAPPG) ([NSF 22-1](#)), which is effective for proposals submitted, or due, on or after October 4, 2021.

Tips for Using Research.gov

Proposals are not portable between FastLane and Research.gov

- Full proposals must be submitted in the same system as the corresponding LOI or preliminary proposals (i.e., all in Research.gov or all in FastLane)
- Collaborative from multiple organizations must all be prepared in the same system (i.e., all in Research.gov or all in FastLane)
- Proposal file updates (PFUs) and budget revisions must be executed in the same system as the proposal was submitted (i.e., all in Research.gov or all in FastLane)

Advantages of Using Research.gov

- Enhanced user experience
 - Improved look and feel
 - Tips and information available within form pages
- Dynamic interfaces that provide only proposal preparation options specific to the proposal and/or program type
- Improved compliance checking within each form:
 - Error messages (preventing proposal submission)
 - Warning messages (allowing proposal submission, but require thoughtful review)
 - 350 checks in Research.gov versus only 56 in FastLane
 - Reduces the number of proposals returned without review

Advantages of Using Research.gov


- Improved document upload functionality
 - Much faster upload times
 - PDF uploads are not altered by the system
- Easier proposal sharing capabilities – no more Proposal PINs
- Proposal Preparation Demo Site
 - Available to all users with an NSF login
 - All Demo site users have the “PI” role
 - Demo site is replica of the actual production system ... any proposal type that is available in production is also available in the demo site
- Abundance of resources available

A Short Tour of the Demo Site

My Desktop

Proposals

Prepare and Submit Proposals
(Letters of Intent, Preliminary, Full,
Renewal and Postdoctoral
Fellowships)

 [Prepare Proposals in FastLane](#)


[Demo Site: Prepare Proposals
\(Training\)](#)

[Proposal Status](#)

Awards & Reporting

[Notifications & Requests](#)

[Project Reports](#)

 [Award Functions](#)

NSF Public Access Repository (NSF-
PAR):

[Add Research Products](#) 

[Manage Research Products](#) 

Fellowships & Honorary Awards

[Graduate Research Fellowship
Program](#)
(GRFP Officials only)


Manage Financials


[Program Income Reporting](#)

[Grantee Cash Management Section
Contacts](#)


Administration

[User Management](#)

 [Research Administration](#)

 [Look Up NSF ID](#)

Resources

- NSF About Proposal Preparation and Submission [site](#) 
 - FAQs
 - Video tutorials
 - How-to guides
 - Links to other important resources such as the PAPPG
- NSF eRA Forum [site](#)
- Subscribe to NSF eRA Forum list-serv:
send an email to NSF-ERA-FORUM-subscribe-request@listserv.nsf.gov using “Subscribe” in the subject line

Resources

- [NSF You Tube Channel](#)
- Research.gov presentation from May 2022 Federal Demonstration Partnership Meeting
 - Recording will be available by early next week
 - Check the FDP Meeting [website](#)
- Spring 2022 NSF Virtual Grants Conference
 - June 6 – 10, 2022
 - Registration is free
 - View the agenda and register [here](#)

A final thought ...

- 46 – 47% of NSF proposals are submitted via Research.gov*
- UCLA – May 1, 2021 – April 30, 2022
 - Research.gov: 166
 - FastLane: 146
- 53% Research.gov

53% is higher than the average, but we have a long way to go to reach 100%!



**Jeremy Leffler, NSF Updates, FDP Meeting, May 9, 2022*

Upcoming Monthly OCGA Training Calendar Sessions

NSF FastLane/Research.gov

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

9:30 – 11:30 AM

Outgoing Subaward Basics

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

9:30 – 11:00 AM

<https://ocga.research.ucla.edu/training-calendar/>

Any Questions?

Contact Us: erahelp@research.ucla.edu

Visit our Website: <https://ocga.research.ucla.edu/nsf-fastlane/>